



## **SMOPYC 2008 OBTAINS THE BEST FIGURES IN ALL ITS HISTORY**

**SMOPYC 2008 again beat its own records for attendance and participation in its XIV edition, with 2.014 exhibitors and over 100,000 visitors. The Fair continues to climb in the ranking and is now among the first fairs in the world for machinery used in public works, construction and mining.**

**The Technical Innovations Contest held among the exhibitors, the important work meetings held by professional associations and meetings of commercial missions from 40 countries, as well as interesting technical sessions which completed the exhibitiv offer of the contest.**

The last 14th edition of SMOPYC, the International Public Works, Construction and Mining Fair, which was held at the Zaragoza Fair from April 22 to 26 this year, unanimously classified as a huge success. The 2008 edition achieved the best figures ever and, in the opinion of the experts, it has become definitively consolidated as the second most important fair in its speciality at international level, second only to the German Bauma. The triennial holding of the event has been very positive as, despite the slowdown in the sector, SMOPYC managed to grow in all areas. The response and the massive support received were evident in the number of exhibitors, over 2,000, which launched their products and innovations there and over 100,000 visitors who transformed the Zaragoza Fair into the centre of attention of the public works machinery sector. The deployment of the media was another outstanding aspect, with more than 120 journalists accredited, who provided specific information on the events of each day, from the inauguration day, which was attended by the Prince and Princess of Asturias. This 2008 edition, which coincided with an uncertain economic climate, generated much expectation among the companies, which did not wish to miss this event, as the SMOPYC has become the best barometer and the most suitable forum for knowing where the market is going and its medium term tendencies.

### The figures of SMOPYC 2008

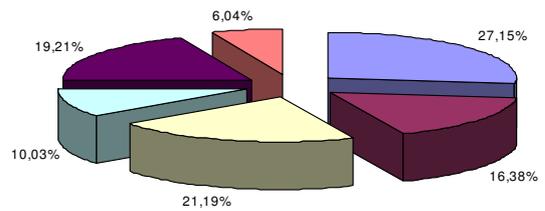
2,014 exhibiting companies from 44 countries from all over the world participated in SMOPYC 2008, which provided 400 square metres, in eleven pavilions, an extensive outdoor area and the large demonstration zone, in order to exhibit their innovations. As regards the visitors, the data obtained by the organisation is also spectacular, as these amounted to 101,623, 9,177 of whom were foreigners. The breakdown of the firms attending by countries also shows the notable international nature of the Fair. Thus, of the 2,014 companies mentioned, 764 were Spanish and the rest were foreign. By continents, 1,807 companies were European; 134 American; 68 Asian; 4 from Oceania, and 1 African.

The countries with greater representation were, from greater to lesser, the following: Italy, with 394 companies; Germany with 262; the United States with 113; the United Kingdom with 98, followed by France with 71 companies. There were also Dutch firms (44), Swedish (34), Austrian (23), Portuguese (19), Belgian (18) Danish (14), Swiss (11) and Turkish (5). China and Japan were also present with 24 firms from each of these countries; South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand and others also attended with more modest numbers of firms.

### Percentage breakdown by exhibition sectors

The new sector distribution of the Fair already established as an improvement in the previous edition, as well as the visual organisation by colours, contributed to greater comfort and efficiency as regards the time of professional visits. The breakdown was as follows:

Earth moving and roads	27.15%
Aggregate and concrete	16.38%
Lifting and Maintenance	21.19%
Industrial and transport vehicles	10.03%
Auxiliary construction equipment	19.21%
Components, spare parts, accessories and services	6.04%



<span style="color: blue;">■</span> Movimiento de Tierras y Carreteras	<span style="color: purple;">■</span> Áridos y Hormigón
<span style="color: cyan;">■</span> Elevación y manutención	<span style="color: grey;">■</span> Vehículos Industriales y Transporte
<span style="color: purple;">■</span> Equipos Auxiliares para la Construcción	<span style="color: red;">■</span> Componentes, Repuestos, Access.



## **An edition with an abundance of prizes**

At this edition, in addition to the traditional Technical Innovations Contest among the exhibitors, there was the First Stand Presentation Contest, which was a big success. The Technical Innovations Contest awarded prizes in each of the following categories: New Developments in Machinery, Innovations in Component Equipment and Auxiliary Resources and Services for Application to Construction. In the first category the gold award was for a transport platform for shuttering presented by the company SALTEC. The machine consists of a specially designed platform for efficiently and safely transporting shuttering systems between floors, minimising the use of the tower crane on site. Its main characteristic is that it can be mounted on the ground or be fixed to the concrete structure of the building.

The silver prize was awarded to the company LEBRERO for its "Economizer" project which incorporates electronic control to the mono-cylindrical compacters, transforming them into eco-efficient machines, as it reduces the emission of greenhouse effect gases and the consumption of fuel. The bronze prize in this first category was for the self-loading caterpillar Mini-dumper HS400 Battery, presented by the company HINOWA, S.P.A. In this case, the innovation also opted for energy efficiency and respect for the environment, as the machine is battery powered with 6 hours autonomy, therefore, it does not emit smoke or toxic gases from diesel combustion and is extremely quiet.

In the category "Innovations in equipment, components and auxiliary resources, the gold prize went to the company CAPOTEX 2000 for an innovative downpipe for aggregates valid for any installation and which does not consume any water or energy. It is made up of a number of identical exchangeable gills connected with each other forming a perfectly closed geometry which opens from below upwards due to the internal pressure of the accumulated material, permitting the material to exit without the air entering.

The silver prize was awarded to a prop (EUROPROP A3) presented by the company ENCOFRADOS ALSINA, which optimises the productivity of the existing models and improves safety. The bronze prize in this category was obtained by a multi-functional anchoring device, presented by SISTEMAS DE PROTECCIÓN GARBEN, whose main contribution was the improvement in safety, as well as its rapid, simple installation and its polyvalence as regards anchoring individual protection equipment, and the anchoring lines for collective protection.

In the third category of awards, services for application to construction, there were only two awards. The gold prize went to new software for determining the transfer of loads between slabs during the process for the construction of a building with several floors (the DESCIM Programme). This was presented by ULMA C. y E. S. Coop. The silver prize was awarded to a new cutting technology, consisting of a diamond placed precisely with original technology (DOCTO).presented by the company AGUILA DIAWERK, S.L.

## **Commercial Missions, Sector Meetings and Technical Sessions**

As usually happens at the SMOPYC, the Commercial Missions were the main players in the important international meetings held by companies. Organised by ANMOPYC these missions included the participation of more than a hundred delegations from 40 countries. The opening up of new markets and trade with other economies are the strong points of the certamen, thus, the Commercial Missions have a powerful capacity to attract the most important international firms.

At SMOPYC 2008 an analysis was made of the sector at international level through high level professional meetings, such as the meeting of the FIEC (Fédération de l'Industrie Européenne de la Construction) held for the first time at the Zaragoza Fair and which brought together representatives of delegations from Italy, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Bulgaria and Spain. Also within the framework of the SMOPYC there was a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Committee for European Construction Equipment Diamant Building (CECE), an organism which groups together the European equipment manufacturers.

Other sector meetings held within the framework of the Fair were the Meeting of the Federación de Áridos (FdA) [Federation of Aggregates] and the National Meeting of Renters, Suppliers and Subcontractors, organised by ASEAMAC (Asociación Española de Alquiladores de Maquinaria para la Construcción e Industria sin Operador) [the Spanish association of Self-Operated Machinery for Construction and Industry]

In addition, congress activity at this edition was especially relevant, with several very interesting technical sessions organised by the Asociación Ibérica de Fabricantes y Comerciantes de Transmisiones Oleohidráulicas y Neumáticas (AIFTOP) [Iberian association of manufacturers and dealers in Oil-Hydraulic and pneumatic Transmissions] where the Results of the European project PROHIPPO on hydraulic cylinders, design, experimentation, safety and regulations were presented.

Outstanding among the technical sessions was the session dedicated to "Innovation in Construction", organised by the Ideconsa Chair. Universidad de Zaragoza and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which dealt with the current situation in R&D&i in the sector as well as the technological tendencies in construction machinery and the financing of research business projects in this sector.

Although it entailed a very different line of business, another technical session which attracted numerous participants was the one organised by the Asociación Nacional de Fabricantes de Cales y Derivados de España (ANCADE) [Spanish National Association of Manufactures of Lime and its Derivatives] on the "Stabilisation of paving with lime, on roads and high speed rail lines", which, among other subjects, dealt with lime and its action on terrain, with examples of work carried out and machinery for stabilisation with lime.

### **Next meeting: SMOPYC 2011**

A few days after the closure of the Fair, the preparations for the next edition of the SMOPYC began, which, on the same day as the Fair closed, the Organisers announced would take place from April 5 to 9 in 2011. The success was such that some companies have already reserved areas for the next edition, trusting that the crisis will have passed in three years, as the signs indicate. Expectations again seem to be perfect for the fifteenth edition of the SMOPYC, in 2011 which, as the Organisers have said, will again be the grand meeting of professionals in the sector of construction, public works and mining machinery and the magnet of business in the sector at international level.

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