



The Origins of the Light Weight Armour Group – LWAG

More than a decade ago, Dr. Erhardt Lach from the ISL, Prof. H.P. Degischer from the Technical University of Vienna and Dr. Schepp from FEMS decided that it was a good idea to form a new dynamic properties organization. They had a grant of 10,000 EUR to help with this. They asked me if I was prepared to help set up the organization. After some initial meetings it became clear to Dr. Lach and I that a group looking into armour and allied topics may be successful. I started by traveling to see a number of researchers whom I thought may be interested in a new group concentrating on armour. Dr. Lach and I decided to call the organization the Light Weight Armour Group, so we are the original co-founders of this Group. After discussing with some colleagues from Coimbra and Aveiro (Portugal), Ljubljana (Slovenia) and several other countries, we had the first three or four meetings in the UK, Portugal and Slovenia, the number of attendees increased to about 50, which we thought was very good.

It was decided in 2009 to change the name of LWAG to be “Light-Weight Armour for Defence & Security”. This was done to widen the scope of the organization and also we recognized that Defence and Security were becoming very important subjects in the area.

I was the first President of the LWAG, followed by Erhardt Lach (ISL) and Filipe Teixeira-Dias (DAPS, Portugal). Since then we have had meetings in London, Coimbra, Ljubljana, Madrid, Haifa, Coburg, Aveiro, Delft.

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