Japan hosts the 75th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference 2022

After two years of the pandemic that forced the last two editions of the IIW Annual Assembly and International conference to be held online, this year is a happy return to almost normality. The last two years have strengthened the relations of the IIW community to continue its relentless work, resulting in the great success of the first hybrid edition of the IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference in Tokyo, Japan from 17 to 22 July 2022. More than 800 participants were registered, with about 600 attending in presence and more than 250 joining the sessions online, thus allowing their participation despite applicable restrictions limiting the possibility to travel to Japan.

In Summary

- Meetings of IIW Working Units took place 17-21 July, with up to 18 sessions offered each day.
- All sessions were held between 08:30 and 18:00 Japanese Time (JST), with real-time participation and interaction from online attendees.
- The IIW International Conference titled ‘Innovative Welding and Joining Technologies to achieve Carbon Neutrality and promote Sustainable’ was held on 17 July with outstanding experts presenting the results of their scientific work and study, and more than 200 attendees online and others accessing the recording on-demand
- Social events included: the IIW Opening and Awards Ceremony, Young Professionals Ice Breaking event, Welcome Reception, Japanese Evening, Young Professional Evening, the cocktail reception to celebrate the success of the IIW Journal “Welding in the world”, and the Closing Ceremony at the Gala Banquet,
- Sponsors met the welding professionals at the exhibition area, with videos, product presentations and displays
- The “Artistic Soul of Welding 2022 Digital Collection” was launched.

Running the Event

The 75th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference was hosted by the Japanese member societies of Japan (JWES and JIW), with the support of the IIW Secretariat and IAB Management Team.
Registration started on 8th April 2022 and the conference centre was officially opened on 17 July, facilitating the participation of over 850 people.

The 75th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference in Tokyo

IIW is grateful to the organizations that sponsored the event for their support to the event:

- **PLATINUM**: Daihen Corporation, Iwatani Corporation, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Nippon Steel Corporation, Panasonic Connect Co., Shimazu Corporation.
- **GOLD**: German Machinery Trading Co., IHI Corporation, The Japan Welding Material Association, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, KISWEL.
- **SILVER**: ClassNK (Nippon Kaiji Kyokai), Dengensha Toa Co., JFE Steel Corporation, Kobe Steel, Nissan Tanaka Corporation, Yaskawa Electric Corporation.
At the end of the event, IIW is proud to announce that the 75th Annual Assembly and International Conference has been a great success with great participation globally, and significant and prolific technical output:

- 43 IIW Member Countries represented
- 166 hours of meetings in 67 sessions of different Working Units
- 170 scientific papers, standards and IIW position, best practice and guideline documents presented, discussed and developed.
- 11 – 192 participants per session
- 387 Professors, Doctors, Engineers and professionals
- 208 Young Professionals and students
- 191 Attendees to the International Conference only

![Number of attendees in each IIW Working Unit](image)
As usual, participants were grouped in delegations managed by the participating IIW Member Countries and their national welding organizations, with 43 represented at the 75th IIW Annual Assembly:

Prestigious Awards

During the Assembly the announcement of the IIW Prizes and Awards recognized individuals for their outstanding contributions to welding, joining and allied processes and their support for the work of the organization:

- FELLOW OF THE IIW, awarded to Prof. Dorin Dehelean, Mrs. Teresa Melfi, Prof. John C. Lippold, Dr. Zheng Sun;
- ARTHUR SMITH AWARD, awarded to Dr. Warren Miglietti
- ANDRE’ LEROY PRIZE, awarded to Dr. Nick Peterson
- CHRIS SMALLBONE AWARD, awarded to Mr. Dan Tadic
- TOMAS MEDAL, awarded to Mr. Bruce Cannon
- GUERRERA PRIZE, awarded to Dr. Zhang Jinwen
- HALIL KAYA GEDIK AWARD awarded to Mr. Tomoyuke Ueyama
- HENRY GRANJON CATEGORY A AWARD, awarded to Dr. Jun Xiao
- HENRY GRANJON CATEGORY B AWARD, awarded to Dr. Anna Regensburg
- HENRY GRANJON CATEGORY C AWARD, awarded to Dr. Mitchell R. Grams
- The HOUDEMONT LECTURE AND LECTURER awarded to Dr. Eng. Eisaku Ito

Welded Art Exhibition

The 2022 Exhibition resulted from the very successful initiative launched at the IIW Annual Assembly in 2019 in Bratislava, Slovakia. IIW has now held three IIW Welded Art Photographic Exhibitions and due to the outbreak and continuing risks of Covid-19, both the 2020 and 2021 exhibitions were held as very successful downloadable digital collections. More than 100 masterpieces were featured with 60 different artists from 15 countries.

It is important to note that these exhibitions were neither competitions nor a selection of the best in the world of welded art but were intended to be an informal and pressure-free platform for people to show their abilities and artistic expression. In addition, they were held to encourage as many people as possible to take up the art, trade, or profession of welding.

A key objective was to also encourage other organizations including IIW Members to hold such exhibitions and competitions in their own countries. The 2022 outcomes, click the link below, demonstrate its excellent success.

Click here to view The Artistic Soul of Welding 2022 Digital Collections

Future IIW Events

IIW is looking forward to gathering the welding, joining and associated processes community together at upcoming Regional and International Congresses and associated events held in cooperation with its partners, and in particular the 76th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference on Welding and Joining will take place at Asia’s leading destination for business, leisure and entertainment, Marina Bay Sands Hotel and Convention Centre, SINGAPORE, from 16 to 21 July 2023.
The 76th Annual Assembly of the IIW and the International Welding and Joining Conference will take place at the Marina Bay Sands Hotel and Convention Center, SINGAPORE, July 16-21, 2023