

BSI and The British Embassy jointly organised a seminar on Eurocodes in March 2006 which was attended by over 100 engineers and key decision makers in Damascus. One of the principal speakers at the event was Professor R S Narayanan, F.R.Eng.



As Chair 2002-5 of the CEN (European Standards Body) committee TC 250/SC2, Professor Narayanan, has led the team responsible for all the structural Eurocodes on Concrete.

He has been closely involved in Eurocodes for the past 16 years or so and sits on a number of committees of the British Standards Institution (BSI), including that which is responsible for BS8110 (Structural use of concrete).

He is the author of a number of books and manuals on Eurocode 2 (on concrete) and is also the chairman of the committee which drafted the 'Green Book' for BS 8110 and the ENV EC2 (Manuals for reinforced concrete building structures) produced by the Institution of Structural Engineers. He has lectured widely on structural Eurocodes in Asia and the Middle East.

Professor Narayanan, who is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering and a visiting Professor at the University of Leeds, is a consulting engineer with over 40 years of experience. He is currently a consultant to Clark Smith Partnership, London.

Who is British Standards?

BSI was the world's first national standards-making body (NSB) and is number one in the world today.

Independent of government, BSI is globally recognized as an impartial body serving both the private and public sectors. BSI works with manufacturing and service industries, businesses, governments and consumers to facilitate the production of British, European and international standards. As the UK's National Standards Body (NSB), BSI represents UK

interests across all of the European and international standards organizations and through their committees.

BSI British Standards, part of BSI Group, has a close working relationship with the British government, primarily through the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The commitments and intentions of both are set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU provides a framework for BSI and the government to meet

the challenges to the UK's standardization infrastructure. Together the Royal Charter and the MoU outline the BSI's role in the development of standards for public use, the promulgation of standards, the voluntary nature of standards and their relationship with legislation.

BSI is a non-profit distributing organization, which means that any profits are reinvested into the products and services it provides.

History of British Standards

In 1901 the Institutions of Civil Engineers, Mechanical Engineers, Naval Architects and the Iron and Steel Institute created a committee to standardize iron and steel sections for bridges, railways and shipping.

The committee succeeded in cutting the production of different tram rails from 75 down to five. This saved the industry about £1 million a year!

By 1929, the committee became the British Engineering Standards Association and was granted a Royal Charter, which defined the Association's objectives. A year later the Association became the British Standards Institution (BSI).

In 1946, in the aftermath of the Second World War, BSI was a founder member the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and some years later, in 1964, was a founder member of the