



**Albert De Kreij**

**President (The Netherlands)**

Albert de Kreij was born in Rotterdam, the Netherlands on 15 August 1964. He studied Business Economics at Erasmus University in Rotterdam and following his graduation in 1989, he joined family company Hadek Protective Systems BV. In the years after 1989, Hadek started to specialize in the internal protection of power station flue gas ducts and chimneys and in 1992, Hadek started to introduce the Pennguard Block Lining System to its customers in this field.

Albert de Kreij is now Sales Director at Hadek and in this function, he is responsible for the research and development, the marketing work and the sales work surrounding the Pennguard technology. He has worked together with experts from the chimney industry to develop new, cost effective chimney designs and he has also been very active studies on wet stacks, and the effects of technical designs on wet stack behavior. Albert is also frequently involved with practical questions concerning the application of Hadek's products on projects around the world.

Albert has been a frequent presenter to CICIND meetings, attending nearly all CICIND meetings since the spring 1998 meeting in Bruges. Most of his presentations to CICIND were made in cooperation with established chimney builders or design experts, and these presentations covered subjects such as chimney design options, chimney (flue) erection methods, wet stack operation, modification of existing chimneys and fire safety.

Albert and his wife Catherine live in Rotterdam. They have one daughter, Poppy (11) and Catherine has three sons from her first marriage; Stan (22), Charles (21) and Elliot (19). As a CICIND Governing Body Councilor, Albert wants to contribute to finding new areas of research and discussion within CICIND, to ensure that the organization continues to appeal to owners, builders and other parties as a source of knowledge for tall structures.



**Dr.- Ing. Andreas Harling**

**Vice President (Germany)**

The German Governing Body member Andreas Harling was born in April 1971.

Since 1996 he is employed in the company Exponent first as Project Engineer and later as Principal Engineer. Since 2000 he is the head of antenna mast group in Exponent. Since 2013 Andreas Harling is Office Director of Exponent.

Andreas Harling is specialized in structural engineering with an emphasis on failure investigations and maintenance activities (inspection, acceptance) of antenna masts since 1995. His experience includes investigations related to the flaws and failures of all kinds of antenna masts, in detail concrete towers (large TV-towers / radio towers), prestressed centrifugally concrete masts, steel masts (lattice and tube).

He is also an expert for the special requirements of the extension of existing tower structures (chimneys, wind power stations) with antennas. His background is based on numerous static calculations, design reviews and assessment of structural behaviour of tower structures using nonlinear static and dynamic analysis techniques. In 2016 he received his PhD in Civil Construction with a thesis about:

Design of centrifugally concrete masts close to reality limitation of cracking and deformation” at the Technical University Dortmund, Germany. Since 2009 he is also state registered expert for masts and towers (public appointed and sworn by the “Ingenieurkammer Bau NRW”, Chamber of Building Engineers in North-Rhine Westphalia, March 2009).

From 2020 he is managing the engineering company CONSTRUCTURE GmbH with subsidiaries in Dortmund, Ratingen, Hamburg and Berlin.



**Prof. Dr.-Ing Reinhard Harte      Member (Germany)**

Reinhard Harte was born in Dortmund, Germany, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1952. Together with his wife Annette he has two daughters, Lilian and Aline, who both are married and have increased the Harte-family by four grandchildren.

The scientific career of Reinhard Harte started in 1975, researching on geometrically nonlinear shell theory and finite element formulations for shell structures, and receiving his PhD in 1982. Together with Hermann Beem, Ulrich Eckstein and Wilfried Krätzig he then founded the Krätzig & Partner Engineering Consultancy, where he worked till 1997 as CEO. He was responsible for outstanding civil engineering projects, like:

- the reconstruction of the concrete shell-roof of the Berlin congress hall,
- the design and proof of a pre-stressed concrete tank for cryogenic ethylene,
- the design and proof of pre-stressed concrete towers for wind-energy turbines,
- the design and proof of natural draught cooling towers, especially the 200m-tower in

Niederaussem. In 1995 he was certified by the Building Ministry as “Prüfingenieur für Baustatik”, a qualification, which is only awarded to about 600 outstanding civil engineering experts in Germany. Later, he was nominated by the Chamber of Civil Engineers to act as a Certified Expert for Structural Stability and Fire Safety. Because of these outstanding projects and his excellent professional experience, he was called in 1997 on the chair for “Statics and Dynamics of Structures” at the University of Wuppertal, where he succeeded to Karl-Hans Laermann, former German Minister for Education and Science. In March 2018 he retired, but is still engaged in finishing research projects. He was succeeded by Prof. Dr.-Ing. Arndt Goldack, as well a shell expert, whose PhD-thesis dealt with the stability of high-rise concrete solar chimneys.

Reinhard Harte’s research work over the past 20 years of university career as Full Professor is characterized by the development of numerical tools for the analysis of large-size buildings for power generation, like cooling towers, tanks, chimneys, wind-turbine towers. Due to his practical and scientific experience, he is involved in National and International Expert Boards, like:

- Chairman of Working Group 3 – Cooling and Solar Updraft Towers – IASS International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures
- Member of the Scientific Board for Smoke Stacks and Cooling Towers, VGB PowerTech
- Member of the Scientific Board for Structural Design of Cooling Towers, VGB PowerTech
- Member of the Scientific Board for Wind Energy Turbines, DIBt – Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik
- Vice-Chairman of VDI Expert Board “Building technology”
- Chairman of VDI-Expert Commission on Standard VDI 6201 “Software-Based Structural Analysis”
- Chairman of VDI-Expert Commission on Standard VDI 6210/9 “Demolition Structural Design”
- Chairman of Engineering Academy West, the Educational Institute of the Chamber of Civil Engineers
- Member of Parliament of Chamber of Civil Engineers
- Honorary expert of Grant Agency of Czech Republic GACR, of National Research Foundation NRF, South Africa, of Tyrolean Science Foundation, Austria, and of German Research Foundation DFG.

Since 2010 Reinhard Harte is member of CICIND, and since May 2017:

- Member of the Governing Body of CICIND

In 2012 he organized the 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Cooling Towers ISCT2012 in Cologne/Germany. Many delegates were from CICIND and asked him to intensify his co-operation with CICIND. Together with Klaus Kaemmer he successfully organized two Joint Conferences on Industrial Chimneys and Cooling Towers, ICCT2014 in Prague and ICCT2016 in Rotterdam. Based on the big success of those conferences, CICIND awarded Reinhard Harte by funding three research projects dealing with the different behaviour of chimneys and cooling towers and with the different treatment in their structural design.



**Denis Radecki      Member    (USA)**

Denis is a Senior Structural Engineer with Commonwealth Dynamics, Inc. (CDI) of Portsmouth, New Hampshire (US). CDI provides design, construction and maintenance services for the utility, petrochemical, oil & gas, manufacturing and other industrial markets, specializing in concrete chimneys, steel stacks, combustion turbine exhaust systems, concrete silos and other tall structures.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. He earned his Professional Engineer license in 1979.

Denis has been involved in the concrete chimney and steel stack industry for over 44 years. He has designed tall concrete chimneys, steel stacks and concrete silos as well as specialized equipment and rigging required to construct tall structures. He has also been the structural engineer for many repair and modification projects.

Other professional memberships include the American Concrete Institute (ACI), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures (IASS), and the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE). He has been a member of ACI committee 307 (Code Requirements for Reinforced Concrete Chimneys) for 14 years and is currently the committee chair.

Denis and his wife Suzanne live in Terre Haute, Indiana. They have two adult children.



**Guillermo Alvarez**                      **Member (USA)**

Guillermo Alvarez is the Director of Tall Structures of the Global Dominion Access Group. Very wellknown brands in the Chimney Industry belong to this group including Karrena, Beroa, ICC, Commonwealth, CRI, Bierrum, Altac, Bygging India and Steelcon.

Guillermo was born in Bilbao in 1970 but grew up in Madrid, where his parents moved in 1974. He went to College in Pamplona to University of Navarre where he graduated in Business Administration in 1993. He started his professional career in Brazil in 1994 and joined the Karrena group (a company his father and some other investors bought in 1997) in 1999 as General Manager of Karrena Venezuela in Puerto Ordaz.

He still works in the same group, renamed Beroa first and now Global Dominion Access, spending time in Brazil, Germany and since 2004 in Buffalo, NY.

Guillermo and Patti are together since 2006 and live in Buffalo NY with Patti's three kids from her firstmarriage: Hannah, Gabby and Jack.

Guillermo has been a CICIND Member for years and hopes to continue contributing to the organization as a member of the Government Body.



**Rob Ernst**                                      **Member (The Netherlands)**

Rob Ernst was born in the city of Gouda, The Netherlands, on the 18th of May 1966. He started his career as mechanical engineer and developed his skills in the field of management and business administration with the growth of his company Array Industries B.V.

Array Industries was founded in 1990, originally providing engineering services only. In 1995 Array Industries started designing CHP installations for reciprocating engines. From that moment Dutch subsidiaries of Jenbacher, MWM and Caterpillar along with Dutch utility companies found their way to Array Industries. By acquiring several related companies, including manufacturing facilities, Rob shaped today's Array Industries with a well skilled engineering team and a state of the art workshop.

In 2018 the company changed focus towards Industrial Emission Control. Array Industries offers a broad range of Emissions Control systems for Noise, Pollution, Odor and or Heat challenges for industrial customers. The projects are designed, built and installed onsite by Array Industries employees.

Rob has been a member of CICIND since the conference in Esbjerg in September 2007. During the years Rob presented several papers related to controlling emissions and saving the environment.



**Hermann Hoffmeister**

**Secretary (Germany)**

Hermann Hoffmeister was born in 1952 and is a German citizen. Hermann graduated in Civil Engineering at the Technical University in Berlin and started his professional life in 1981 in the Central Engineering Office of Babcock Bau GmbH as a civil engineer working on structural analysis. After 5 years he became a team leader. In 1994, he joined KARRENA as a Project Manager for national and international chimney activities and became Technical Director of the Chimney Department in 1996.

In 2003, he was appointed Chimney Director of KARRENA/BEROA with its main office in Ratingen, Germany and Chimney Business Leader of the BEROA Technology Group.. As a Director of the Board of BIERRUM, UK, he started a partnership to construct Cooling Towers for KARRENA and later for BEROA. He was MD for BEROA Chile to build chimneys in a high-risk earthquake zone. Hermann was active in the South African market for more than 20 years. To be the Project Director of BEROA for four, three-flue, chimneys in Medupi and Kusile Power Plants (4800 MW each) was one of his most exciting tasks. He completed his business life as Director of BEROA with the two 185m Cooling Towers in Opole.

For many years he has been engaged in different committees of the German Society for Refractories and Chimneys and has given lessons for construction managers of the German Construction Industry. He is married to Eva and they have two sons, Julian and Klaus.

Hermann joined CICIND in 2003 after his first CICIND meeting in Amsterdam. He has written and presented several technical papers about the construction of chimneys. He has served for many years as a member of the Governing Body.

After his retirement in December 2017, he was appointed as Secretary of CICIND commencing on 1st January 2018.