Summary

Research project: Analysis of research and development results with regard to implementation in a new timber design code DIN 1052 on the basis of the partial factor code format.

In order to develop a new draft of the German national design code for timber structures "DIN 1052" new research and development results from Germany and abroad were analysed with regard to their suitability for implementation in the new code. Here, the partial factor code format was taken as a basis for the code draft, which was developed in close contact with the timber industry. At the same time, a close cooperation was required with the code committee 'civil engineering' of the German standardisation institution DIN (Normenausschuss Bauwesen NABau des Deutschen Instituts für Normung DIN) in order to ensure that the project results could immediately be incorporated in the timber design code to be published.

In December 1996 a new code committee 'NABau AA 04.09.00 DIN 1052 neu' was established with representatives from industry associations, scientists and building officials permitting all interested parties to influence the content of the new code draft.

The analysis of recent research and development results, the harmonisation of the discussion results of several sub-committees and the drafting of discussion papers and code rules was accomplished by a small project team. The project team reported regularly to the code committee 'NABau AA 04.09.00 DIN 1052 neu' where the contributions of the project team were debated.

The result of the work of both, the project team and the code committee, is the new draft of the German national design code for timber structures "DIN 1052". Contrary to the existing national timber code, the partial factor format was incorporated in the new draft in order to make the timber design code compatible to the steel and concrete codes. Consequently, the new draft is also compatible with the Eurocodes. Once the draft is officially published by NABau in DIN, the interested public once again has the opportunity to evaluate and comment on the new design rules. After the evaluation period the final conversion work starts, leading to the official code version replacing the existing design code.

After the introduction by the German building authorities the engineers in practice and the timber industry can use the new code to design and execute timber structures taking into account new research and development results published since the present code was introduced in 1988. The present draft of DIN 1052 also represents the final report of the research project 'analysis of research and development results with regard to implementation in a new timber design code DIN 1052 on the basis of the partial safety factor code format'.