



VIII INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES SEMINAR

SUSTAINABILITY AND TECHNOLOGY
MÉRIDA, YUCATÁN OCTOBER 21 TO 23, 2026



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OCTOBER 21-23, 2026
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Welcome Message



The Mexican Society of Civil Engineering (AMIVTAC), through its Technical Committee on Bridges, has the honor of inviting the technical, academic and professional community from the sector to participate in the Eighth International Bridge Seminar, which will be held next October in the city of Mérida, Mexico.

Throughout its previous editions, this seminar has established itself as one of the most important technical meetings in the country in terms of design, construction, rehabilitation, conservation and resilience of bridges, bringing together specialists, researchers and professionals from Mexico and abroad to exchange knowledge, experiences and best practices.

On this occasion, the event will feature the valuable participation of PIARC (World Road Association), particularly the Technical Committee 4.2 “Bridges,” which will enrich the technical dialogue with international perspectives on the most recent advances in inspection, management, innovation and bridge rehabilitation.

The program will include keynote conferences, technical presentations and debate spaces, with the participation of leading experts from countries in road infrastructure, who will share current trends and innovative solutions to address the challenges in the sector.

This seminar represents an excellent opportunity to strengthen professional ties, update knowledge and participate in a high-level technical event, focused on the development of more safe, sustainable and resilient road infrastructure.

We look forward to seeing you in Mérida, Mexico, for this important international event.



M.I. Juan José Orozco y Orozco
President
XXVI AMIVTAC Board of Directors



Technical Committee for Bridges AMIVTAC

The Technical Committee for Bridges of the Mexican Association of Road Engineering, A.C. (AMIVTAC) is one of the specialized technical committees of the association and brings together professionals from the public, private and academic sectors dedicated to the analysis and development of design, construction, inspection, conservation and rehabilitation of road bridges.

This committee is a reference space for the engineering community of bridges in Mexico, promoting technical excellence, innovation and the resilience of road infrastructure. Its work is focused on fostering the exchange of knowledge, the diffusion of best practices and collaboration between specialists in the field, contributing to the strengthening and modernization of the country's bridge infrastructure.

Among its main activities are the organization of specialized seminars, technical forums and the preparation of technical articles and publications, such as the Bridge Design and Construction Manual and the Bridge Foundation and Drainage Manual, documents that have been developed into valuable tools for professionals in the sector.

The committee also maintains a close collaboration with PIARC (World Road Association), through its Technical Committee 4.2 "Bridges," an international group that brings together experts from different countries to analyze issues related to design, structural evaluation, inspection, management and the rehabilitation of road bridges. This committee works in the generation of technical reports, recommendations and comparative studies that serve as a reference for road administrations and professionals around the world.

The collaboration between both organizations is strengthened thanks to the AMIVTAC being part of the Mexican National Committee of PIARC since 2005, which allows it to incorporate international experiences, global standards and technological advances in events, seminars and technical publications of the association.



Technical Committee 4.2 PIARC

Bridge owners and managers are facing an increasing number of bridges. The bridges are aging and are sometimes in conditions and operational environments more severe than those for which they were originally designed. Furthermore, some design approaches or design codes used in the present are limited to the time of accommodating or adapting these bridges to new causes of deterioration or damage in a partially or completely routine manner, and pay special attention to the design of structures or routes that are not redundant. This is the case of deterioration and damage due to the loads on the bridges. Therefore, this is the reason why the Technical Committee 4.2 "Bridges" will be the subject of special attention in this cycle.

VIII International Bridge Seminar

*Subject to changes

Time		October 20, 2026	
Start	End		
 16:00	19:00		Registration
 19:00	22:00		Welcome Cocktail
October 21, 2026			
 08:00	14:00		Registration
 09:00	09:30		Inauguration Ceremony / Local Authorities' Speeches
 09:30	10:15		Opening Speaker of the Mexican Secretary of State, Jesús Antonio Esteva Medina
 10:15	10:30		Rubén Frías Aldaraca (Mexico) National Technical Committee Presentation
 10:30	10:45		Nicolás Bardou (France) International Committee Presentation
 10:45	11:00		Emanuela Stocchi (Italy) PIARC President
 11:00	11:30		Opening and Expo Walkthrough
 Technical Session 1: Long-span Bridges, Rehabilitation, and Drainage			
 11:30	12:15		Zhu Yan (China) Innovation and Practice of Future-Oriented Sustainable Bridge Technology
 12:15	13:00		Nicolás-Trotin (France) Pathology of Prestressed Concrete Exterior and Interior and Post-tensioned Bridges: Case Studies
 13:00	13:45		Anaidna Gómez Hernández (Mexico) Excavation in Mexico's Bridges: causes, mechanisms and challenges for infrastructure resilience
 13:45	14:30		Break with canapés
 Technical Session 2: Artificial Intelligence, Monitoring and Inspection			
 14:30	15:15		Juan Antonio Quintana (Mexico) Experience in the implementation of the Mexican Artificial Bridge Data Management System
 15:15	16:00		Farhad Ansari , (EE.UU.) Artificial Intelligence applied to bridge monitoring data
 16:00	16:45		Steve Denton (UK) EUROCODIGO Bridges Standard
 16:45	17:30		Shahid Islam (EE.UU.) Innovative Post-tensioning Systems for Bridges in our infrastructures
 17:30	17:45		Break
 17:45	18:15		Discussion Forum 1
 18:15	20:00		Exhibitors' Hall / Cocktail

Time		October 22, 2026	
Start	End		
 Technical Session 3: Resilience, Redundancy, Forensic Engineering, Bridge Strengthening, Low-Carbon Materials			
 09:00	09:30		Nicolás Bardou (France) Bridge Maintenance in France
 09:30	10:00		Heungbae Gil , (South Korea) AI and Monitoring in Korea
 10:00	10:30		Kazuo ENDO (Japan) Reduction of the Carbon Footprint in Bridges
 10:30	11:00		Pierre Gilles (Belgium) - Martín Pollimeni (Argentina) Presentation of Case Studies in Forensic Engineering
 11:00	11:30		Marta Pertierra (Spain) - Emilio Criado Morán (Spain) Bridge Management in Spain
 11:30	12:00		Matei Kusar (Slovenia) Corrosion in Post-Tensioned Bridges
 12:00	13:00		Coffee Break with Canapés
 Technical Session 4: Seismic Engineering, Climate Change, Durability and Standardization			
 13:00	13:45		José C.Matos (Portugal) Using novel technologies and tools towards the increase of the resilience of existing bridges
 13:45	14:30		Luis Pinto Carvalho (Portugal) Operational resilience in bridges through displacement and energy control
 14:30	15:15		Darío Rivera Vargas (Mexico) Basic aspects to consider in the development of a regulation for bridge design and construction
 15:15	16:00		Andrés Torres Acosta (Mexico) The Dilemma of green cement for low-carbon concrete, ¿Durability at Risk?
 16:00	16:30		Discussion Forum 2
 16:30	16:45		Presentation of the “Modesto Armijo Mejía” Award
 16:45	17:30		Closing Ceremony / Closing Remarks by Local Authorities
 18:00	20:00		Closing Dinner
 October 23, 2026			
 09:00	10:00		Transfer to Progreso
 10:00	12:00		Technical Visit to the Progreso Viaduct
 12:00	13:00		Return to Mérida



Ruben Frias Aldaraca (Mexico)

President of the AMIVTAC National Technical Committee on Bridges



Civil Engineer from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and specialist in Applied Geotechnics for Land Transportation Infrastructure. Throughout more than four decades of professional experience, he has become one of the main references in Mexico in the field of inspection, conservation and management of bridges.

He developed most of his career at the Ministry of Communications and Transport (SCT), where he held various technical and management positions, standing out as Head of the Bridge Department and later as Deputy Director of Studies and Projects at the General Directorate for Highway Conservation. Among his most relevant contributions is the coordination of the implementation and operation of the Bridge System of Mexico (SIPUMEX), a fundamental tool for the management of bridges in the national highway network.

He has participated in numerous bridge inspection, rehabilitation and reconstruction projects, both in the public and private sectors, and is the author of several specialized technical works. He has also developed an outstanding academic career as a professor of Soil Mechanics and Foundations at UNAM, as well as an instructor in professional development courses in bridge engineering and infrastructure.

He is a member of the Mexican College of Civil Engineers and the Mexican Association of Road Engineering (AMIVTAC), where he has served as President of the Technical Committee on Bridges. His career has contributed significantly to the development of bridge conservation and management in Mexico.

Emanuela Stocchi (Italy)

PIARC President



President of PIARC, the World Road Association, since January 2025. She has held various positions within PIARC, including member of the Executive Committee, Chair of the Promotion of Gender Equality and Diversity Task Force, and French-speaking Secretary of the Terminology Committee. She is also Managing Director and International Affairs Director at AISCAT, the Italian Association of Motorway Concession Companies. She has an outstanding international career.

She has worked at the European Association of Motorway Concession Companies, where she gained solid and comprehensive knowledge of EU public affairs, while at the same time expanding her international network in the field of transport. Emanuela has held several positions within IBTTA, the global tolling operators association, and companies providing toll-related services; in addition, she was President of IBTTA in 2017.



Nicolas Bardou (France)
Chair of the PIARC Technical Committee on Bridges
Presentation: Bridge Maintenance in France



Chair of the PIARC Technical Committee TC4.2 Bridges. Technical Director of the planning department at Vinci Autoroutes - Vinci Groupe, Cofiroute Network, France. From 2000 to 2011, Project and Design Engineer for airports, highways and high-speed railways in France and Portugal. Since 2012, he has been in charge of the civil engineering department at the Cofiroute Network (Vinci Autoroutes), being responsible for the bridge program. In addition, he has been responsible for the bridge asset management system, overseeing more than 1,300 bridges and 13 km of tunnels. Likewise, he is responsible for bridge policies regarding inspection, maintenance and research on damage assessment and scour. Since 2018 he is the CTO of the asset management strategy at Vinci Autoroutes.

Yan Zhu (China)
Presentation: Innovation and Practice of Future-Oriented Sustainable Bridge Technology



Professor, researcher and Distinguished Engineer who has been recognized with the First and Second Prizes, with special grade, of the Award for Progress in Science and Technology from the China Highway and Transportation Society. He has developed multiple patents and contributed to the development of national and local industrial standards in China.

He is currently President of the Jiangsu RunyangYangtze River Bridge Development Co., Ltd., and of the Jiangsu Changtai Bridge Co., Ltd., Director of the Mao Yisheng Memorial Hall & Mao Yisheng Bridge and of the Tunnel Science and Technology Museum.

With more than 30 years of experience in construction, maintenance and operation of highways and bridges, he has been a promoter of the integrated concept of construction and maintenance of bridges and of innovations for sustainable bridge applications.



Nicolas Troitin (France)

Presentation: Pathology of Externally and Internally Prestressed Concrete and Strengthening with External Prestressing: Case Studies



Industrial engineer with a specialization in construction. With 20 years of experience at Freyssinet, he is a principal engineer in the Technical Department in Spain and an expert in cable-stayed structures. His professional career has focused on the development of construction methods for new works and the rehabilitation of cable-stayed and post-tensioned bridges, as well as on the inspection and maintenance of these structures in Spain and Latin America. He has participated in projects such as the El Carrizo Bridge in Mexico and the third bridge over the Panama Canal, providing his experience in bridge engineering, construction techniques and structural evaluation.

Anadiana Gómez Hernández (Mexico)

Presentation: Bridge Scour in Mexico: Causes, Mechanisms and Challenges for Infrastructure Resilience



Civil Engineer from the Faculty of Engineering at UNAM with Honorable Mention from the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Since 2015 she has been in charge of the hydrology, hydraulics and drainage area at Euro Estudios, where she has developed various hydrological and hydraulic projects and studies for bridges, drainage projects in viaducts, embankments, highways and railways, flood studies, calculations and design of scour protection for different bridges. Among these projects are hydrological, hydraulic and scour studies for the Papaloapan Bridge in the state of Veracruz, the Arce Bridge in El Salvador, the San Antonio Bridge in Durango, the El Quelite Bridge in Sinaloa, and the El Tornillo bridge on the Mitla-Tehuantepec highway, among others; she has also participated in the review of studies for 60 structures on the Mitla-Tehuantepec highway, a drainage project on the embankments of the bridges for the Santa María Dam spillways, among others. Since 2022 she has been a member of the AMIVTAC Bridges Committee, where she has participated as author of the hydrology chapter of the Bridge Design Manual and as co-author of Booklet 3 of the Bridge Scour Manual.



Juan Antonio Quintana Rodriguez (Mexico)

Presentation: Experience in Instrumentation of Mexican Bridges



Head of the Vehicle Performance and Materials Laboratories Division at the Mexican Institute of Transport. Specialist in instrumentation, evaluation and structural monitoring, load testing and dynamics for structural diagnosis and prognosis of bridges. He has more than 20 years of experience in research and has developed projects to evaluate bridges such as the Río Papaloapan Bridge, Mezcala, El Carrizo, Quetzalapa, Grijalva, among others, and has collaborated in the development of non-destructive inspection methodologies and damage detection using acoustic emissions, ultrasound and vibrations.

Farhad Ansari (USA)

Presentation: Artificial Intelligence applied to bridge structural monitoring data



Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he holds the Christopher B. and Susan S. Burke Endowed Chair. He is a specialist in monitoring the structural health of bridges, dams, buildings and tunnels. His professional career is notable for his participation in the evaluation of the Brooklyn Bridge and in the design of monitoring systems for various bridges in China. He currently develops artificial intelligence technologies to achieve agile, precise and cost-effective monitoring, optimizing structural evaluation.

Steve Denton (UK)

Presentation: EUROCODIGO bridge standard



Director of Civil Engineering at WSP UK, where he has led a group of more than 750 engineers and specialists. His experience and area of expertise cover engineering, strategic consulting, research and construction. Additionally, his skills and roles have focused on business development and project leadership, maintaining a high level of technical involvement in complex projects. He has a broad international recognition in bridge engineering and is a global leader in the development and application of design standards. He chairs the CEN/TC 250 international committee, which is responsible for all matters related to structural Eurocodes, developing the second generation of these codes. He is a Vice President of the Royal Academy of Engineering and a Permanent Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers and the Institution of Structural Engineers in the United Kingdom. He is also a professor at the University of Bath.



Shahid Islam (USA)

Presentation: Innovative Post-tensioning Systems for Bridges in our infrastructures



Technical Director at DYWDAG for the Americas, where he has been working since 2008. He is a specialist in the design, analysis and inspection of post-tensioning and cable-stayed bridge systems, as well as in structural rehabilitation and instrumentation of structures. He has participated in major projects such as the Susquehanna River Bridge in Maryland, the Penobscot Narrows Bridge in Maine and the Sixth Street Viaduct in Los Angeles, among other infrastructures. He is an active member of ACI, ASBI, PTI and ASTM technical committees. Among his recognitions, he received the 2020 ASBI Leadership Award.

Heungbae Gil (South Korea)

Presentation: AI and Monitoring in Korea



Director of research and researcher at the Korea Expressway Corporation (ICT Research Institute), specialized in bridge safety and intelligent infrastructure. He has experience in long-term structural health monitoring based on IoT for the evaluation of cable-stayed bridges, development of AI-based applications and intelligent inspection using drones and autonomous vehicles. He promotes the application of digital twins and risk management for the diagnosis and management of road infrastructure.

Kazuo Endo (Japan)

Presentation: Reduction of the Carbon Footprint in Bridges



Representative of Japan and distinguished member of the PIARC Technical Committee on Bridges, specialist in climate change and sustainability of bridges.



Pierre Gilles (Belgium)

Presentation: Case Studies in Forensic Engineering



General Inspector of the Department of Structures and Geotechnical Expert at the Public Service of the Wallonia Region (Wallonia), Belgium, responsible for bridges, geotechnical studies and the maintenance of the road network, canals and rivers in that region. He is currently President of the Belgian Road Research Centre. He has worked at the Civil Engineering Laboratory of the Catholic University of Louvain, in the Canals Division of Mons, for fourteen years, and at the Division of Evaluation and Bridge Management of Wallonia, which he went on to direct. Within his technical and academic production, he has several publications in specialized journals and has given lectures at conferences around the world. At the Catholic University of Louvain he participates as a guest professor and at the University of Liege he is a scientific collaborator. Within PIARC, since 2008 he has served as French-speaking secretary of the PIARC Technical Committee on Bridges, where he has developed multiple specialized works, currently notable for his studies on forensic engineering of bridges.

Martín Pollimeni (Argentina)

Presentation: Case Studies in Forensic Engineering



Civil Engineer from the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Buenos Aires with more than 25 years of experience in Structural and Forensic Engineering. Professor of Master's and Postgraduate programs at the Department of Construction and Structures of the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Buenos Aires. Member of the Permanent Commission on Steel Structures of CIRSOC. Lead member of the drafting team for the CIRSOC 803 regulation – Steel Bridges. Plenary member and member of the Executive Committee, in various periods, of the Argentine Association of Structural Engineers (AIE) and current President of the 28th Argentine Conference on Structural Engineering. President of the Argentine Group of IABSE. Member of the IABSE Academy Committee and of the team of professors on Forensic Engineering of said Academy. Author of Chapter 12, "Point Pleasant 'Silver' Bridge," of the publication "Case Studies on Failure Investigations in Structural and Geotechnical Engineering" and winner of the award for the Notable Structure, Eng. José Luis Delpini, 2021–2022 – Argentine Association of Structural Engineers. Project Director for several major infrastructure works.



Marta Pertierra (Spain)

Presentation: Bridge Management in Spain



Managing Partner of the Resilience, Climate Change and AI projects at INES Ingenieros Consultores, Spain. Specialist in artificial intelligence algorithms, digital twins, and, in general, advanced techniques and technologies for bridge inspection, development of management systems and their use to demonstrate practical value in improving bridge inspection and maintenance processes.

Matej Kušar (Slovenia)

Presentation: Corrosion in Post-Tensioned Bridges



Civil engineer with extensive professional and academic experience in bridge engineering, management and maintenance. He heads the Department of Bridges and Concrete Structures at DRI Investment Management, the largest consulting and engineering company in Slovenia. He is also a professor at the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering of the University of Ljubljana, the oldest and largest university in the country.

He holds a PhD in bridge management and is an active member of various national and international professional associations, such as Eurostruct and IALCCE. He participates especially in PIARC activities related to bridge management and maintenance.

José António Silva Carvalho Campos e Matos (Portugal)

Presentation: Use of Innovative Technologies and Tools to Increase the Resilience of Existing Bridges



Associate Professor with habilitation in the Department of Civil Engineering at the School of Engineering of the University of Minho. Member of the IISSE (Institute for Sustainability and Innovation in Structural Engineering), where he leads the Risk Management and Civil Infrastructure Assets cluster (RAMCI). Current Director of the HUB for Mobility and Transport at the University of Minho (TMOB-HUB). Specialist in the analysis of the reliability and risk of existing structures. Author or co-author of more than 400 publications in international conferences and scientific journals, in areas such as risk analysis and resilience, operation and maintenance of civil infrastructures, quality control procedures, among others. He has also been a tutor and supervisor of numerous postgraduate students and has participated in more than twenty research projects.

Member of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE), where he currently serves as Vice President of Commission 5; the International Federation for Structural Concrete (FIB), where he chairs Commission 8; and EuroStruct, which he founded and currently chairs. He is also President of IABSE Working Group 5.2, focused on quality control of civil infrastructures.



Luis Pinto Carvalho (Portugal-Mexico)

Presentation: Operational resilience in bridges through displacement and energy control



He has ten years of experience at Mexpresa, where he served as Project Manager, participating in the design, review and construction of numerous bridges, including the Vidalta Bridge. After years of practice as an independent consultant in numerical modeling, he currently heads the MAURER branch in Mexico, overseeing seismic protection projects for bridges and buildings. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mexican Society of Seismic Engineering (SMIS) 2024-2025, and is part of Subcommittee 7 of the Complementary Technical Standards of Mexico City.

Darío Rivera Vargas (Mexico)

Presentation: Basic aspects to consider in the development of a regulation for bridge design and construction



Civil Engineer with an Honorable Mention from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) with a PhD in Structural Engineering. He has conducted research stays at the European School for Advanced Studies in Seismic Risk Reduction in Pavia, Italy, at the National Center for Research on Seismic Engineering in Taipei, Taiwan, and at the Mexican Petroleum Institute in Mexico. He was a researcher at the National Center for Disaster Prevention, in the area of Structures and Geotechnics. He is currently a "C" Full Professor at the Acatlán Faculty of Higher Studies, UNAM. He has 25 years of experience in research and development in Seismic Risk, Seismic Design of Buildings, Bridge Engineering, Structural Health Monitoring, Natural and Anthropogenic Risks. He is currently the coordinator of the Subcommittee of the Complementary Technical Standards for the Design and Construction of Urban Bridges of the Government of Mexico City.

Andrés Antonio Torres Acosta (Mexico)

Presentation: The dilemma of green cement for low-carbon concrete, a risk to durability?



Civil Engineer from the Autonomous University of Yucatán with postgraduate studies at the University of South Florida, USA. Professor/Researcher/Consultant at the Monterrey Institute of Technology, Querétaro Campus, specializing in materials and structures: new products for construction materials; design of concrete, steel and timber structures; durability of construction materials; electrochemical methods for the characterization of construction materials; detailed inspection of concrete structures with corrosion problems; materials for the restoration of historically important buildings; history of constructions, especially virgin roads and bridges. He belongs to the Technical Committees of ONNCCE for Concrete and Aggregates and of Cements; INYN (Research and Standardization) and ITYS (Technological Innovation and Sustainability) of ANIPPAC; and Concrete Structures and Sustainability of the SMIE.

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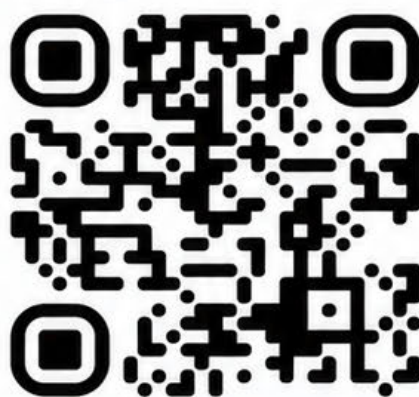
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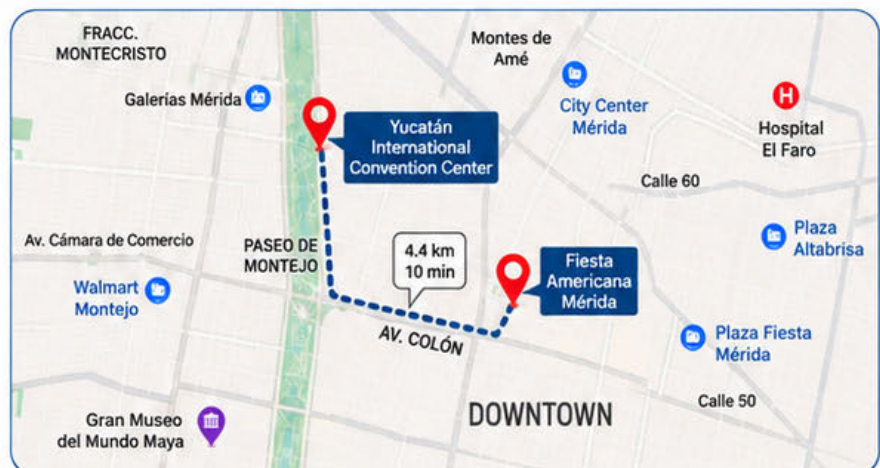
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VIII International Bridge Seminar





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