

NAFEMS EASTERN EUROPE ACTIVITY SUMMARY 2018

Dr. David Felhos, Chairmen of the Eastern Europe Steering Committee



In the following we would like to inform you about the activity of NAFEMS in the Central Eastern Europe region. NAFEMS is the international association for the engineering modelling, analysis & simulation community, which already has local regional groups in many places of the world. The establishment of the Eastern Europe NAFEMS region was initiated 2 years ago. The last two years have been spent on organizational work and thanks to this, we have already reached the stage where it is worth stopping for a moment to take a look at our results. Due to the fact that NAFEMS presence in the region is new, it may be that you are not really familiar with us, therefore the following links to our website could help you get to know us better. nafems.com/east

Origins of the Group

We started the discussion with NAFEMS about the creation of an Eastern Europe NAFEMS region in 2016. In 2017 we started to organize a first meeting in Budapest, Hungary with the aim of checking whether there is an interest in the community and whether the local community is large and active enough to invest efforts in this project. We chose Budapest because my company Knorr-Bremse Rail Systems Budapest offered the venue and catering for free for this purpose and because we thought that somehow Budapest's location seems to be optimal for the Central Eastern Europe region. I must confess I was devilishly excited about our first event. How many attendees will register; how many of them will attend; will they achieve what they envisaged; and will everything work properly?

A day before the event Tim Morris, CEO of NAFEMS, and Jo Davenport, our NAFEMS representative arrived in Budapest and we set the room up in the evening. I was a bit more relaxed having them both on board. They were so professional and calm. Slowly I believed that it would really happen - that we were organizing a NAFEMS event in Eastern Europe. The next morning, as we started the event and I saw the numerous attendees, I knew it - we must do it - we must establish the NAFEMS Eastern Europe group. And it actually happened.

We organized a further event in November 2017, again in Budapest, where the Steering Committee of the region was created and where we decided what we would do and how we would progress in the region. In 2018 we have already had 3 events here in Central Eastern Europe (Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary) and all of them were successful. But this is just the beginning.

Eastern Europe Plans for 2019

To continue the involvement of the countries in the region, we have events in Croatia, Slovakia and Romania next year. We hope this way all engineers will have the opportunity to get in contact with us and become part of an international technological community. For more details please check our website nafems.com/east

- **25 March 2019**
Benefits of Simulation Seminar, Zagreb, Croatia
- **11 June 2019**
New Trends in Lightweight Structure Design, Zilina, Slovakia
- **November 2019**
Simulation in the Automotive Industry, Bucharest, Romania

The Region

We decided to involve 10 countries to cover the Central Eastern Europe region (see the picture on the right). We can be certain that our region is the most colourful amongst the existing NAFEMS regions, which also have their advantages and challenges. It is most important that the countries in the region have similar aims, developing economies having similar industries even if they are not homogenously. Therefore we have very similar goals and needs, and this provides an excellent basis for cooperation. It is interesting also to see the facts about the region.

There are more than 100 million people living here and we have a total GDP of \$3,092 billion (Germany has \$4,373 billion, UK has \$3,028 billion). Bearing these facts in mind, it is strange that until now we have not had a working simulation community. Moreover, based on an independent study, the simulation sector grows annually about 11%, so we can be confident that the sector will boom in the coming years, in the region, so this was really the most beneficial time to establish our regional NAFEMS group.

To overcome the obvious difference - namely we speak different languages - we use English to communicate with each other within the region. Our goal is to be present in all countries of the region which is why the event's location changes each time. We also aim to build up and enhance the communication between specialists in Central Eastern Europe. We believe that there is a large potential to develop these connections so that the economies of the region are growing dynamically, which we would like to support and in this way we would like to give stakeholders an opportunity to take part in this economic growth.



Country	Population (Mio.)	GDP (billion \$)	Flag
Pl - Poland	~38.5	~1.202	
Sk - Slovakia	~5.4	~191	
Hu - Hungary	~9.8	~308	
Ro - Romania	~20	~517	
Sl - Slovenia	~2	~76.1	
Hr - Croatia	~4.1	~107	
Ba - Bosnia and Herzegovina	~3.5	~47	
Rs - Serbia	~7	~113	
Cz - Czech Republic	~10,6	~368	
Bg - Bulgaria	~7.2	~163	
Sum→	~108.1	~3092	←Total

How does the group work?

As with every regional group within NAFEMS, we are led by the Steering Committee (SC). This committee consists of enthusiastic volunteers from the engineering simulation sector. We try to keep a balance so that every country delegates at least one member to the committee. The main goal of a local SC member is to create a bridge between NAFEMS and the local simulation community. Her/his main role is to contact local stakeholders, NAFEMS members, potential members, industry, academia, software vendors and software producers. At local events our main organisers are of course the SC members who assist us with finding suitable venues for the seminars and in contacting the local media to advertise the event. The SC has regular meetings online and on site, also mainly at the events. In the steering committee we do our best to organize specific events which are useful for the local simulation community, and to deliver valuable information and knowledge to simulation engineers and to industry. If you feel that you could make a contribution to the SC work - don't hesitate - just send us an email with your CV!

NAFEMS Eastern Europe: easturope@nafems.org

Get Involved

You are also asked to spread the news about NAFEMS in Eastern Europe. Your help would be appreciated in order to create an active simulation community. You can contribute to this work by forwarding this document to your contacts who are interested in engineering simulation and therefore to whom the activities of NAFEMS could be of interest. And of course, needless to say, we would be very pleased to see you at our events and to have your company among our members!



NAFEMS Mission Statement

Our mission is to: **"Provide knowledge, international collaboration and educational opportunities for the use and validation of engineering simulation"**

NAFEMS, established in 1983, is the only independent, not-for-profit, international organization that is dedicated to engineering simulation technology. Our stakeholders include the simulation end users across all industry sectors who are engaged with all aspects of single domain, multi-physics, and multiscale simulations, including simulation technology providers, researchers, and academia that are engaged in this area for the development, manufacture, and lifecycle support and management of systems and subsystems.

For more information about NAFEMS, just look at the website nafems.org, where you can find the very detailed introduction to the community, and the short summary of its history.

If you would like to cooperate with the best experts in special technical fields, check the NAFEMS technical working groups subpages. You have the opportunity to contribute to those works that you always read and hear about!
nafems.org/about/technical-working-groups

You can find numerous technical publications on the NAFEMS on-line library: nafems.org/publications/ and you find information about NAFEMS invaluable training and courses for your development at **nafems.org/professional_development/nafems_training**

Finally, you can check all the upcoming NAFEMS events worldwide and online at **nafems.org/events**