

## From the Chairman

From May 2002 I took over as the EAC-Chairman. I spoke about the following goals in my inaugural speech:

*I want to expand the exam for the European treeworker to include working with an aerial lift (European treeworker platform).*

The EAC annual general meeting agreed with the new examination regulation for the European treeworker platform on June 2003 in Warsaw. The European treeworker handbook still has to be updated. The first examinations have already taken place and we have successful certified European treeworker platform!

*I want to expand the exam for the European treeworker to include the necessary rescue measures via rope.*

We have to discuss this in our next annual general meeting in Maastricht and we have to add our curriculum and exam. Because of safety reasons, I think this is very necessary!

*I want to establish the European treeworker as a permanent part of the European arboricultural education. Each EAC member should offer and organise at least one if not more exams every year. We should request our national companies to select candidates for certification, we should appeal to our customers to only place orders with certified European treeworkers!*

1. Good news: we have more than 460 successful certified European treeworker all over Europe!
2. But: Some European countries haven't offered an examination in the last two years, while others offered six certifications. How can we help France, UK, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Finland, Belgium, Switzerland to spread and to establish the idea of the European treeworker in the future? In September I was invited to a meeting of the French SFA and I tried to convince the SFA, that Europe, that all countries need the European treeworker! If somebody needs my support - please let me know!

*I would like to establish the European tree technician!*

Latvia wrote a successful application for the Leonardo-da-Vinci-project concerning the European tree technician and is receiving funds from the EU-Commission to create the European tree technician. I'm sure that the partners of this project will develop good results within the coming years!

*I would like to initiate new projects and am always open for suggestions. I would like to receive sponsorship, for example for the European tree technician or for other ideas such as Arbornet. Maybe we can achieve this - via the LEONARDO DA VINCI programme, which is familiar to us, or via other programmes - in Brussels*

One year ago, the EAC was asked by Andris Spaile, Latvia, about our experience with the first Leonardo-project AWEB I and if would like to be a partner of the new „Arborist“-project - of course we agreed to this! I also contacted some German ministeries and the ELCA to request support/funds for new projects and to improve the image of the European arboriculture.

The seven working groups of the EAC are doing a good job, the second edition of the safety guide is already printed, the planting and pruning guide will be ready soon - my thanks to all members of the working groups, especially to their chairmen.

The movement of the EAC-secretariat from London to Bad Honnef is completed, we are of course so grateful for all of Jean Leslies work in the EAC office.

Last but not least I wish you Merry Christmas and a good, successful New Year 2004.

Yours

**Dietrich Kusche**  
Chairman

## Jean Leslie dead

Jean Leslies death has shocked and saddened all members of the EAC. It was with deep regret that we learnt of the loss of Jean. She was someone who was greatly respected by all members of the EAC for her accomplishments. She will be sadly missed. Our sincere condolences to her family.

Jean Leslie was awarded with a diploma in June 2003, when the European Arboricultural Council thanked her for her long-standing work and engagement in the EAC-office from 1993 – 2002 and expressed its respect for her contribution to the development of the European arboriculture.

Dietrich Kusche  
EAC-President  
November 2003

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# News from the EAC

## About the European Arboricultural Council

The European Arboricultural Council (EAC) is a forum where delegates from various arboricultural organizations throughout Europe meet with the object of elevating the status and advancing the profession by liaising on matters ranging from research and education to successful tree establishment and improvement of working practices.

This will lead to healthier and longer living trees in towns, parks, gardens, or where trees are grown to beautify Europe.

The European Arboricultural Council (EAC) is needed to put the necessary pressure on the appropriate governing institutions and individuals.

## Objectives

Through the profession of Arboriculture to improve the health and care for trees of environmental importance.

The European Arboricultural Council especially wishes to improve:

- The profession
- Research on urban trees
- Education and training in Arboriculture
- Safety practices with pruning tools and chain-saws
- Tree management
- Disease and pest control
- Tree planting in urban conditions
- Harmonization in tree care procedures in Europe

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Information now available  
in English, French  
and German at ...

[www.eac-arboriculture.com](http://www.eac-arboriculture.com)

The names of all Certified  
European treeworkers  
(more than 460!!)  
are listed on our website



## EAC Secretariat

The EAC secretariat moved from the United Kingdom to Germany in 2003, the office is now located in

Haus der Landschaft,  
European Arboricultural Council  
Alexander-von-Humboldt-Str. 4,  
53604 Bad Honnef, Germany  
Tel.: 0049 – 22 24 – 77 07 49  
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Email: [secretary@eac-arboriculture.com](mailto:secretary@eac-arboriculture.com)



# News from the EAC

## The Executive Committee

- Dietrich Kusche, Germany, Chairman
- de Gourèt Litchfield, Sweden, 1st Vice-Chairman
- Thaale Roosien, Netherlands, 2nd Vice-Chairman
- Glen Read, Norway, Immediate Past Chairman
- William Matthews, United Kingdom, First Chairman

## Secretary and Treasurer

Wolfgang Gross, Germany

## EAC Working groups

Seven working groups investigate intensively any matter relevant to arboriculture.

- **The "education" Working group**  
The "education" working group has developed the training and further education program which leads to the qualification of "European tree-worker" (AWEB project) and is discussing the development of the European tree technician.
- **The "safety" Working group**  
The "safety" working group has published its own safety guide, which is available as a pdf-file too.
- **The "pruning" Working group**  
The "pruning" working group has developed a European tree pruning guide.
- **The "planting" Working group**  
The "planting" working group is discussing a planting guide, first results will be available in 2003.
- **The "European treeworker" Working group**  
The European treeworker working group is offering an annual meeting of the EAC supervisors and is updating the examination rules and the curriculum.
- **The "European treeworker-platform" Working group**  
The European treeworker-platform working group has created the new certification in cooperating the use of aerial lift.
- **The "European tree technician" Working group**  
The "European tree technician" working group is developing a new certification on a higher level compared to the the European treeworker and is partner of the Leonardo da Vinci project "Arborist" under the leadership of Latvia.

## European Treeworker Certification very successful

Ten countries offered 16 ETW certification in the year 2003. The certification is getting more and more established in Europe. The United Kingdom and Austria will organize a certification in 2004, too. All places and dates of the certifications can be found at: [www.eac-arboriculture.com](http://www.eac-arboriculture.com).



## Announcement:

### Supervisors-Meeting 2004

The second international European Treeworker Supervisors-Meeting will take place on 27.-29. February 2004 in Venice, Italy.

Invitations have already been circulated, more information from the EAC-secretary.

# News from Member Countries

## Report from Finland

### Action

The year 2002 started with a change to association's name. Starting from 14<sup>th</sup> of February Puunhoidon Ystävä ry is now known as Suomen Puunhoidon Yhdistys ry (in English; Finnish Tree Care Association). This change, which was greatly appreciated by the Finnish landscape industries, resembles the process of Finnish arboricultural profession in becoming established and more professional. Our new name is more serious, not just a second job for income.

During the year our board gathered 10 times. Our AGM was held in Tuusula the 15<sup>th</sup> May.

A major event of the whole year was the Viherympäristö Exhibition held in Marketta Park in Espoo just near Helsinki during the 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> May. The exhibition is run annually by the Finnish Association of Landscape Industries, Viherympäristöliitto (VYL, [www.vyl.fi](http://www.vyl.fi)). We organised a 2-day workshop on advanced climbing, rigging and aerial rescue. We had specialized trainers from Germany; Knut Foppe, Christine Engel, Ronny Epple and Thilo Beeker. A total of 25 arborists participated in the workshop. At the same time the audience of the exhibition was free to follow it from a distance. In all the seminar was a big success and at the same time we attended good publicity. Within Finnish landscape industry our association is the smallest and the youngest (est. 1996) and this kind of action is hard to arrange.

We arranged an aerial rescue training day the 14<sup>th</sup> September for the first time in Espoo. Over 20 arborists participated (of app. 30 arborists in all in Finland in 2002). This day is ment to be organised two times a year starting 2003.

An internal seminar for members was held the 18<sup>th</sup> October in Helsinki. The subject was decay in trees with around 20 participants. The speaker was professor Tuomo Niemelä from Helsinki University.

Our annual Arboricultural Seminar was held during the 29<sup>th</sup> November in Hyvinkää. The subject was trees pruned in form. This time we had two international speakers; Thale Roosien (Holland) and Dan Haubo (Sweden). The seminar was a success and had around 80 participants. With this seminar we found out how difficult it is to spread arboricultural knowhow to designers and decision makers within the industry. All of them were invited by the chairman by contacting them via emails; 1 came! This aspect is a challenge to us in the near future.

### Education

During the year 2002 no new arborists were educated in Finland. However, a new course did start and this includes 14 students from Helsinki city Park Department as bought adult education. The students are their own regular and experienced gardeners. The year 2003 will see their examination. During late October another "commercial" course started its education. All arborists will be educated in Uusimaa College for Rural Development in Hyvinkää in Southern Finland. They will also examine in late 2003.

Helsinki's students will be certified along the principles of English LANTRA (formerly FASTCo). They will be the last ones and all future arborists will attend a Finnish practical test. In addition an international certificate will also be considered and ETW is a very strong contender. Future will tell more.

After all, the year 2002 proved to be full of volunteer job. It was a hectic year but very eventfull at the same time. We did receive much positive comments. As a result the number of members is rising steadily. A negative result is that because of many vital acquisitions our economical situation could be better. This will affect our activity during the year 2003.

**Aki Männistö**  
**Finnish Representative**

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## French report

The SFA is a non profit making Organisation which has gathered momentum in the last few years and our President, Fabrice Salvatoni was pleased to announce that it now accounted for more than 500 members (which is, however, globally speaking, a small representation on potential numbers in the profession).

Either waged or self-employed tree workers and small company managers constitute over half our membership roll and the other half includes teachers, instructors, students, researchers, landscapers, experts, managers, municipal, regional and national tree officers, forestry commission officers, as well as a few non professional 'tree lovers' and members of other organisations or unions. Suppliers, insurance companies, chambers of commerce and administrative authorities also sponsor the SFA.

This increased interest in our activities is partly due to the newly perceived importance of trees in our daily life, in particular for safety reasons (following the 1999 storms, and because of the implementation of new road safety regulations) but also because trees, as we well know, are a great asset to enhance public and private grounds.

Concurrently, French Arboricultural and Horticultural schools have set-up advanced courses for tree workers which generated a great demand, as well as job offers at the outset from landscaping firms, arborists and Cities Parks & Gardens departments, (many students will also become self-employed subsequently to obtaining their qualification diploma, a Specialist Certificate in tree pruning or tree management).

However, many believe that the trade would benefit from the implementation of the European Tree Worker certification, that would allow candidates to broaden the extent of their skills and increase their level of competence in some domains (i.e.: diagnosis, inventories, or tree climbing techniques).

# News from Member Countries

Unfortunately, no certification examinations have recently been organised in France, mostly due to lack of funding.

Dedicated members of the SFA run a number of regional climbing competitions and other events, such as educational days. Each year the national championship for climbers as well as seminars on chosen topics are organised alongside the general meeting.

Study groups also work towards gathering information on new safety measures, the implementation of new training courses, climbing gear and new diagnosis methods (i.e.: SIA) to compare them with existing methods (i.e.: visual analysis).

The SFA also publishes a very informative quarterly newsletter.

**Bruno Reynal,**  
**SFA representative, France**

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## German Report

### Arboriculture:

The ZTV Baumpflege (an important body of written rules within German arboriculture) was revised and rewritten in 2001. There are several points, however, which are still being discussed and which have led to some argumentation between professionals.

For example, there is some discussion on the topic of wound treatment in the case of damage from cars and other vehicles to trees. The newer method in Germany is to apply a plastic film over the wound (set a small distance away from the damaged wood) as quickly as possible after the damage has occurred (the method becomes redundant after a certain period of time has elapsed). This has shown good results and callus has been shown to grow successfully when using this method. There are still some professionals though who claim that the method of applying a full coat of wound dressing/sealant to the damaged area has better results. Further research is needed, but the point has been taken up and an amendment was made to the ZTV in which the use of wound dressing/sealant was included.

Another point of discussion between many arborists concerns the figures printed in the ZTV manual concerning the strengths and breaking points of cabling systems (see Figure 1 in the ZTV). According to these figures, a cable with a breaking point of 3 or 4 tons should be enough for a branch with a diameter of 50-90cm (at the height of cable insertion)! How do our European neighbours regulate such cases? What do they recommend on this matter?

### Educational opportunities within arboriculture:

We are pleased to report positive trends in the area of educational opportunities and qualifications:

The participation level for the European Treeworker has been very high. Private and state institutions are offering courses in various shapes and forms (i.e. group teaching, modules, weekend sessions), which helps to respond to the various needs of the modern would-be arborist.

The European Treeworker is seen by German arborists as a useful and necessary basic training. The European Treeworker Platform course has been particularly well received as much work is carried out in Germany from platforms. An increasing amount of employers expect employees to have certification before operating platforms now.

Since the legalisation of climbing with a chainsaw in Germany many climbing schools have been opened. We now have 12 schools running about 30 courses a year.

There will also be more schools offering the Fachagrarwirt/in Baumpflege und Baumsanierung (which translates roughly to an English tree technician qualification) in the future.

In September 2003, Hildesheim College will begin offering a degree course in arboriculture. This will be the first of its kind in Germany. The course will run four years and will be comprehensive. Its main points of emphasis will be in tree care and maintenance, tree protection and planning and development of green areas within the city.

It is hoped and expected that the level of teaching is similarly good on all of the courses now offered here in Germany and moreover that the higher number of courses will result in a higher standard of arboriculture in our streets, parks and gardens.

### ISA Germany

The German chapter of the ISA has been restructured. The new committee will be more active than before and will involve itself wherever the well being of urban trees are at stake.

The new board of directors is:

- Carsten Venzke (President)
- Hans-Herman Stoeteler (Vice President)
- Frank Rinn (Executive Director)
- Wilhelm Scheidt (Treasurer)

In support of the committee a number of assistants have been elected. These changes have been greeted enthusiastically by among professionals.

The "new" ISA Germany has been well received at the many congresses which it has attended this year and has gathered support and many new members. ISA Germany has also merged with the Community of German Arborists (IDB) and will pursue their aims and objectives as their own from now on.

### German Climbing Championships

The 2002 Championships took place on Mainau Island on Baron and Baroness Bernadottes' estate. An experienced team led by Knut Foppe set up an interesting and challenging course that was enjoyed by both climbers and spectators alike.

The winners were:

Women's event:  
Master Challenge

1. Anja Ueberschaer
2. Bernd Strasser
3. Patrick Zuercher
4. Mark Bridge
5. Michael Hansch
6. Helmut Schwengels

# News from Member Countries

Later on in the year, Bernd Strasser and Patrick Zuercher went on to become 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively in the "ITCC 2002".

The Championships will take place in Kassel this year. They will run at the same time as the EAC AGM in Warsaw.

## New Directives

Many directives have been revised or created anew. Under the jurisdiction of the Research Society for Landscape Development and Landscape Architecture there have been some developments. Alongside the amendments made to the ZTV – Baumpflege (see above), changes have also been made to the Directive Concerning Tree Value and the Quality Standards for Nursery Stock. These will be published at the end of the year. Other groups will also work on directives on tree control, avenue trees and tree site/location matters.

The RAS LP4 was also republished and the DIN 18920 is currently being amended (both of which regulate procedures concerning trees on construction sites).

**Thomas Ludwig**  
IDB, Germany

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## News from the United Kingdom

Arboriculture continues to progress in the UK. The Arboricultural Association has taken a new lease of life and is becoming more involved with the profession at all levels. The Arboricultural Association is currently engaged in the long-overdue revision of the British Standards for Tree work (BS3998) and Trees in Relation to construction (BS5837). We have felt for some time that professional arborists should be better recognised, particularly in the major media, the reports of which could politely be called 'varied'. However the professional route for arborists towards chartered status with the Institute of Chartered Foresters is now more accessible than ever with a number of arborists gaining chartered status in 2002.

Commercial arborists in the UK continue to be very busy. This is a result on the one hand of a good economic situation and on the other a reflection of the increasing concern of the public about new tree planting and the need to maintain mature trees in a safe and healthy condition. Several accidents (some fatal) involving large trees have accentuated the need for municipal authorities in particular to have properly conducted annual tree surveys. The consequences of accidents now, with an increasing litigious public, can be very serious indeed.

Municipal tree officers are now veering away from the Compulsory Competitive Tendering system to a new policy called 'Best Value' which is designed to take greater account of the quality of the service provision. Sometimes for the spectator, it is difficult to distinguish between the two. In most instances, regardless of the official scheme for instructing tree work, it still in many instances comes down

to acceptance of the lowest price. This is particularly misguided as so often tree work, unlike many other things, is usually irrevocable and the skill and quality of the work undertaken should not be governed entirely by price.

Municipal tree officers are also anxious about the proposed hedgerow legislation, which intends to bring in legal requirements to control the nuisance caused by rapidly growing trees in adjoining properties. The ubiquitous Leyland Cypress is usually the cause of trouble where, unfortunately, lack of maintenance is usually the fault rather than the growth rate of this particular tree. The hedgerow legislation has not yet been finalised, but will obviously bring a great deal more responsibility to municipal tree officers.

The UK state forest service is now working much more closely with arborists, and has recognised that we cover a much wider spectrum of the community tree world which foresters, working on a more limited canvas would be less likely to see. This is encouraging as the sooner potential epidemics are seen the more likely it is that they can be controlled.

In arboriculture and horticulture, the difficulty of finding and training young people is still a great concern. The condition that prospective college students should have at least a year's practical experience prior to starting the course has largely disappeared. Practical experience not only shows a potential graduate what the job entails at the 'sharp end' but also has a profound effect on their attitudes and potential to stay in the profession. Funding for colleges and for students has been drastically reduced and colleges need to have enough students to remain a viable enterprise. Colleges are reacting to this by offering practical additional qualifications to full time students to build up their portfolio of competence based certificates and by retaining the placement year in courses to build their practical experience.

Health and safety matters in the UK have continued to progress. The widely recognised industry safety guides produced under the FASTCo banner have been updated and are now produced by the Arboriculture and Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG) under the Health and Safety Executive banner. The guides are produced for arborists to give guidance on industry best practice. They form excellent working documents and are worth incorporating into the work practices of any tree work organisation. They can all be downloaded free from the HSE website at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/forindex.htm>.

Certificates of competence for the use of chainsaws in the workplace is a legal requirement in the UK. The training courses and assessments for certificates of competence in tree climbing and chainsaw work have been revised in 2002. The two main organisations involved, LANTRA and NPTC have formed a partnership to produce a more coherent and integrated set of training courses and practical certificates of competence for tree work.

**Bill Matthews & Mick Cottam**  
UK Representatives

# News from Member Countries

## Report from the work practice working group

The main focus has been to finalise the revision of the EAC Safe work practice guide. Work started in 2001 and comments were taken from EAC members and other correspondence received from individuals and organisations in different countries. The content of similar guidance was also taken into account. As the guide focuses mainly on aerial tree work it was decided to reflect this more closely in the title. All the comments and amendments were incorporated into a draft second edition which was also re-formatted a little differently to the original to structure it more clearly.

The final draft was sent for printing in the Czech Republic by David Hora at the beginning of April 2003. The revised version is titled '*Aerial Tree Work Operations – A guide to Safe Work Practice (Second edition)*' and is a considerable improvement on the first edition. It should be available at the AGM for distribution to the various member countries of the EAC.

Regular correspondence has been undertaken with representatives from Finland on work practice issues. Finland are in the process of introducing their own tree work standards and have been coming up against some of the same issues regarding full body harnesses, other equipment and work techniques that have been arisen in the UK over the last few years. This discussion has been healthy and productive in sharing information and addressing the issues.

There is scope for much more discussion and correspondence in this way between member countries to encourage the sharing of ideas, questions and solutions for the work practice group. Currently the main forum is by e-mail and correspondence on work practice issues is welcomed in this way from members. The introduction of a discussion board on the EAC website may be another possibility for information sharing between countries.

Also worth mentioning regarding work practice, as reported in the UK report, the widely recognised industry safety guides produced under the FASTCo banner have been updated and are now produced by the Arboriculture and Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG) under the Health and Safety Executive banner. The guides are produced for arborists to give guidance on industry best practice. They form excellent working documents and are worth incorporating into the work practices of any tree work organisation regardless of nationality. They can all be downloaded free from the HSE website at:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/forindex.htm> .

**Mick Cottam**  
UK Representatives

## EAC Report from the UK

The hot topic at the moment in England is the question of insurance for arborists. Two companies provide most of our cover, both of whom are seriously disturbed by the claims revenue outstripping policy income. Some of this is undoubtedly due to the litigation culture, which has unfortunately become established in the UK. Even so, many experienced arborists are asking for accident claims to be more carefully examined. The puzzle is that most professional arborists are very safety conscious and spend a great deal of time and money conforming to the government regulations.

There is a strong suspicion that more practical experience is needed before tree workers are exposed to the possibility of accidents. Already premiums have been increased several hundred per cent.

All this does focus the need for our profession to be more aggressive in monitoring our own accident statistics. To make sure that we are accurately assessed in our own right and not lumped in with allied professions.

Our annual conference was held in September and attracted over 360 delegates. It is interesting to note that the mixture of commercial and municipal arborists remains surprisingly even. The Principal of our College always said that the volume of noise at the coffee break could always judge the success of a conference. Judging by the noise, I think ours must have been pretty good.

A great sadness was the death of our dear Jean Leslie. She had been a tower of strength with us all from the very beginning of the arboricultural renaissance in the UK. Over later years she very much enjoyed her role in helping the EAC and especially in meeting tree people from so many countries. An exceptional person in every way and sadly missed.

Daniele has suggested that we honour her with something from the EAC. Ideas please?

**William E Matthews**  
UK Representatives

# European News

## Arborist Exchange Programm

Name: Douglas Still  
Company: Society of Municipal Arborists  
E-Mail: [Douglas.Still@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:Douglas.Still@parks.nyc.gov)  
Web: <http://www.urban-forestry.com>

I'm writing on behalf of the Society of Municipal Arborists here in the US (we're a professional affiliate of ISA), and I'd like to bring to your attention our Municipal Arborist Exchange Program. Through an application process, we select arborists from different cities/countries to spend at least one week visiting the other's host city to learn about their urban forest resource, as well as info. about new technology or management techniques. We pay for roundtrip airfare and basic expenses. This year, we selected city arborists from Wellington City, New Zealand; Cape Town, South Africa; Ft. Wayne, Indiana, USA; and Chicago, Illinois, USA. We're very excited about the success about the program so far, and hope that you might share it with your members through a simple post on your "news" page or any other way you feel is appropriate. For full information and the program application, see the SMA website at [www.urban-forestry.com](http://www.urban-forestry.com).

Please let me know if I can provide any other information. We're very interested in the work that is being done in Europe, and hope that we can foster opportunities to learn from each other. Thanks for your consideration!

**Douglas**  
**Still Chair, Exchange Program Committee**  
**Society of Municipal Arborists**

## European Landscape Contractors Association draws up a positive Balance

The European Landscape Contractors Association (ELCA) is celebrating its 40 anniversary in Brussels on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Among the guests there are EC-Commissioner Franz Fischler as well as members of the European Parliament and representatives of the EC commission.

ELCA-President Antoine Berger took the anniversary as an opportunity to bring back to mind the development of the international organisation and to decide on the position for the future: „The original founder members had a vision at that point of time in 1963, i.e. to make the European Landscape Contractors join in an association, to exchange experiences, to mutually learn from each other, and to last but not least support the interests of landscape contractors in a merging Europe“. During the forty years of its existence the ELCA had achieved these targets, since today it represented approximately 44,000 small and medium-size companies with almost 300,000 staff members. Presently 14 national associations of the European garden, landscape and sports field builders were organized in ELCA. The Spanish landscape gardeners would join the ELCA on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. „Only few brand associations of medium-size and small companies can state of themselves, that they are able to unite 10 or even 15 member associations from Europe under their roof and that they can –against this background – influence the development in Europe“, said Berger proudly. And this development has not yet reached an end: „And I am quite optimistic that this number will also increase in the next few years, since green is en vogue“.

Five years after founding of the EEC the landscape gardeners of Europe created the Association of European Landscape and Sports Ground Contractors (AELSC) on the occasion of the international garden exhibition in Hamburg in 1963. This was re-named on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1969 in London into European Landscape Contractors Association (ELCA). At that time the members

# European News

were Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, Great Britain and Austria. The targets of the ELCA included and are still including until today the mutual exchange of information and experience, the representation of interests on an European level and the support for "young blood" as well as the mutual exchange young landscape gardeners. The main tasks of the garden, landscape and sports field building are private gardens, parks in housing estates as well as public parks and leisure facilities.

## Leonardo-da-Vinci-Project "Arborist"

### Summary

The project aim is to develop the higher qualification level in arboriculture - **European Tree Technician** on the base of existing European Treeworker profession.

The project contain following activities:

- To summarize and specify the existing new knowledge, technology, health and security standards in arboriculture,
- To develop up **European tree technician** professional skills standard, education program, training assessment, examination and international certification program,
- To develop training materials and teachers skills according to the new qualification,
- To introduce the Latvian training and labor market with completely new product that corresponds to the conditions of the Europe,
- To translate European Treeworker handbook in Latvian language,
- To disseminate a new product in the participating countries education system, industry and Europe network

### Project partners

Latvia, Denmark, France, United Kingdom, Sweden, Germany,

### Projectleader

Andris Spaile, Latvia

### Period of the project

The project is running from 02.12.2002 till 02.05.2005 and all activities are divided in 7 stages.

## ABC of Arboriculture

### ISA European Conference

First Announcement for the 6<sup>th</sup> ISA European Conference, 9-12 June 2004, MECC Maastricht, The Netherlands.

The next biennial ISA European conference will take place June 9–12, 2004, in Maastricht, The Netherlands. Following successful conferences in Germany, Italy, France, Spain, and Norway, it is the turn of the Dutch Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture to host the event. So, we are delighted to send you this invitation to the 6th ISA European conference. What can you expect to find in Maastricht? First and foremost, the event will consist of a varied and forward-looking conference program, the key theme of which will be the ABCs of Arboriculture. The A stands for aboveground, the B for belowground, and the C for commercial, communication, and calculation. The conference planners hope to attract a wide group of specialists in the field as well as those in related disciplines with an interest in the subject.

More information from website: [www.ISA2004.nl](http://www.ISA2004.nl).

# EAC Members

## Austria

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## Belgium

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