



NEW ADVANCES IN THE NORTH

A greeting from the President of Iceland, Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson

Icelanders have long fought tough battles with the elements. Raging winds and piercing frosts, earthquakes and unpredictable weather, waterfalls and mountain ranges, glaciers and volcanoes are just a sample of the diverse conditions that make living in Iceland a tough challenge.

Through knowledge and skill we have gradually solved the numerous problems arising in connection with construction work in the northern regions. We now have an ample stock of experience that could prove a precious resource in the years to come.

Many countries are seeking knowhow and capabilities that point the way towards economic solutions to the problems accompanying life and construction in the northern parts of the world. The USA, Canada, the Nordic countries, the Baltic countries and Russia are giving increasing emphasis to enriching life and enhancing the conditions for making progress in the northern regions, and many opportunities for cooperation in these fields are now open to business and individuals.

Seminars, conferences and a trade show under the “ConstructNorth” banner provide an ideal forum for focusing more closely on new opportunities for forging ahead, and at the same time pay tribute to initiatives in design, technology and structural engineering in the north.

We can take advantage of the experience that the battle with harsh natural conditions has brought us, and create from it a solid foundation for expanding Icelandic business into a lucrative new field. Energetic initiative has enabled us to turn difficult conditions to our favour and can now provide the impetus for new advances.