

SSARS 2007

1st Summer Safety and Reliability Seminars

Summary

The First edition of the Summer Safety and Reliability Seminars – SSARS 2007 was held in the Hotel “Prawdzc” in Gdańsk/Sopot-Jelitkowo from 22nd of July 2007 until 29th of July 2007.

The motivation behind this annual event is to provide a forum for discussing, advancing and developing methods for the safety and reliability analysis of the complex systems and processes, which form the backbone of our modern societies. The subjects of the Seminars are chosen each year by a Programme Board of selected experts in an effort to dynamically represent the methodological advancements developed to meet the newly arising challenges in the field of safety and reliability analysis.

This year the following subjects were chosen:

- Natural Hazards Analysis and Environment Protection Modelling;
- Reliability and Safety Data Collection and Analysis;
- Safety and Reliability Modelling of Complex Systems, Dependence, Dynamic Reliability;
- Risk Assessment and Management;
- Methods of Fault Diagnosis;
- Maintenance Modelling and Optimisation.

The Advisory, Editorial and Organising Boards have carried the preliminary evaluation of the 52 contributions selected for this year Seminars and sent out to the authors recommendations improving their work. In all, 48 of the 52 papers and lectures have been published in the Seminars Proceedings, composed of 2 Volumes of around 200 pages each.

The Seminar was attended by 46 participants and 5 accompanying persons from 14 countries (Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, South Africa, South Korea, Tunisia, United States).

Both 1-2 hours lectures on advanced methods (accompanied by a corresponding full text of up to 12 pages) and technical presentations of 20-30 minutes on applications of such methods (with corresponding full text of up to 8 pages) were offered during the plenary sessions and the seminar sessions, respectively. More precisely, 1 keynote speech, 12 plenary lectures and 29 seminar papers were presented.

Attendance diplomas were given to the Seminars participants in appreciation of their activity.

A major initiative during the Seminars was the development of informal discussion sessions during which suggestions on improvements of the works presented were offered to the authors by experienced researchers, with the aim of advancing the works to the scientific quality and relevance necessary for publication in frontier research journals.

Several special events were organised to foster a team spirit among the Seminar participants (Welcome Dinner, Picnic and Folklore, Seminar Dinner, Farewell Dinner).

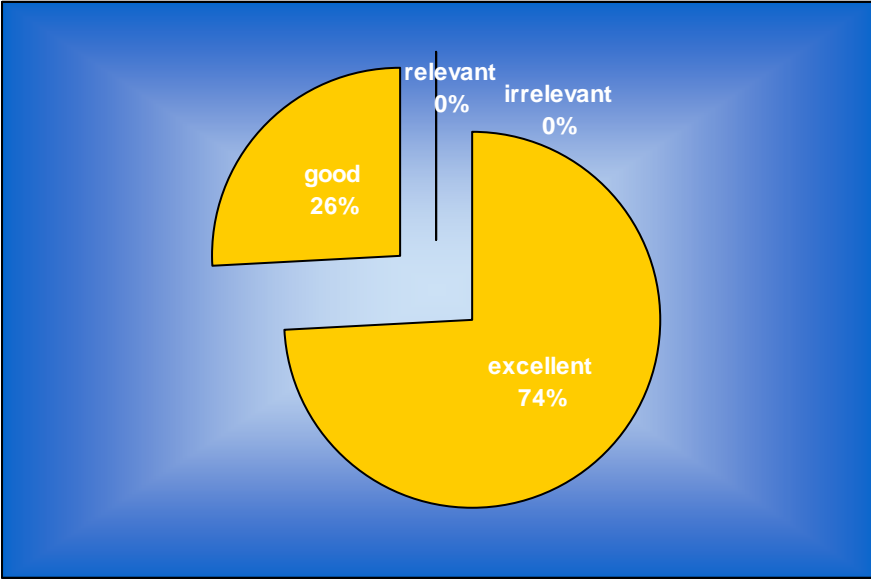
At the end of the Seminars, the participants were asked to evaluate the event with respect to its scientific contents, location and logistics. The results of this evaluation are given in the Questionnaire below.

QUESTIONNAIRE

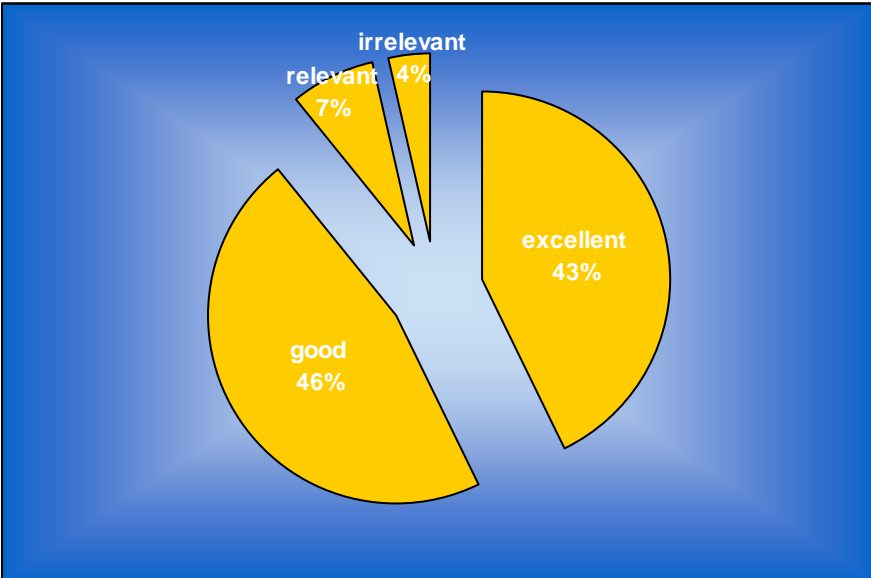
- Seminar Contents and Structure**

Rate your satisfaction regarding the following:

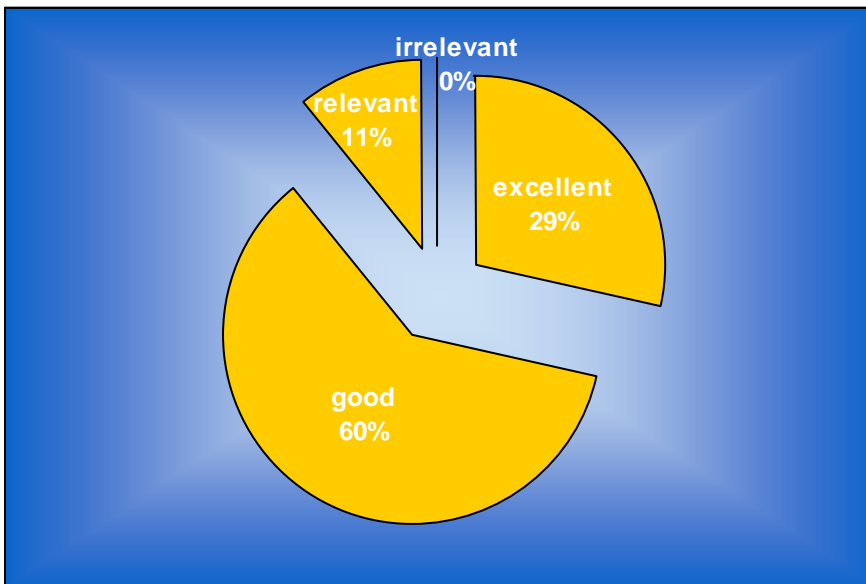
1) The idea and motivation behind SSARS



2) The structure of SSARS (lectures in the morning, papers in the afternoon, long breaks for discussion)

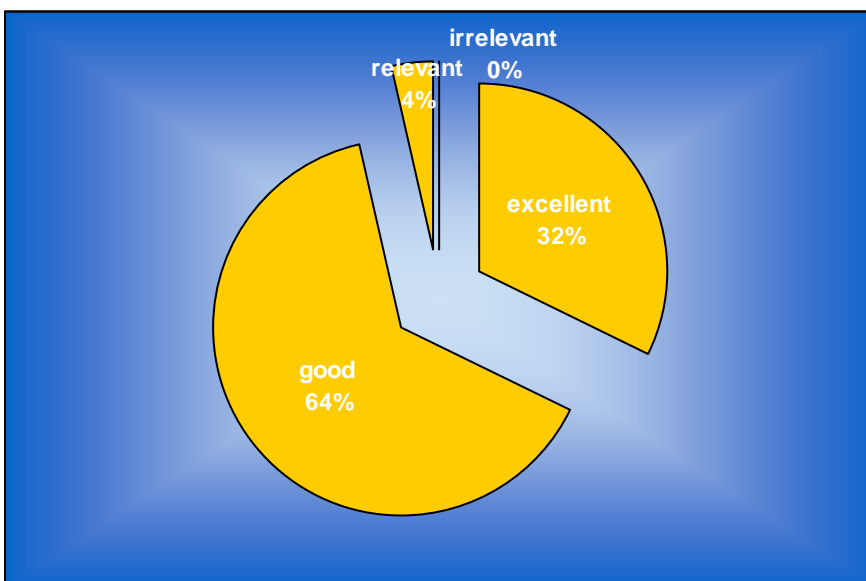


3) The topics addressed during SSARS

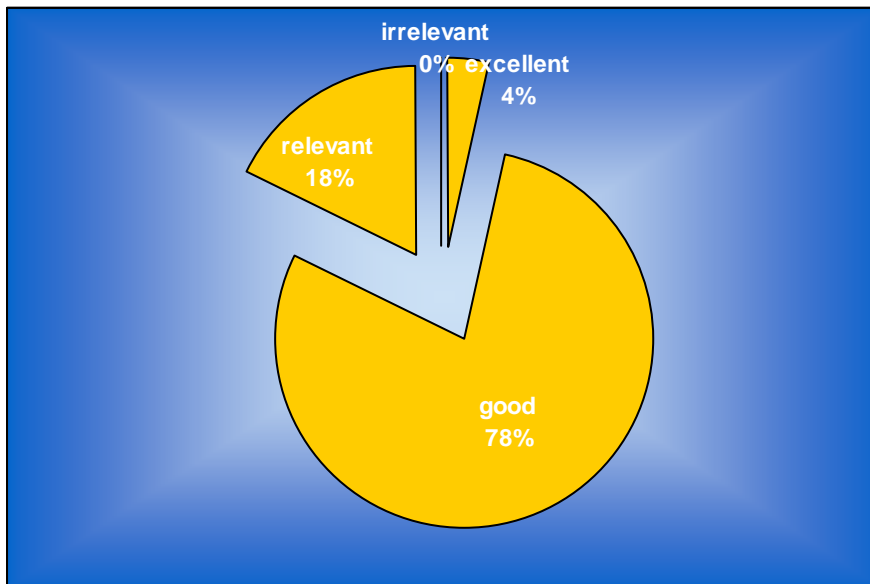


4) The quality of the presentations

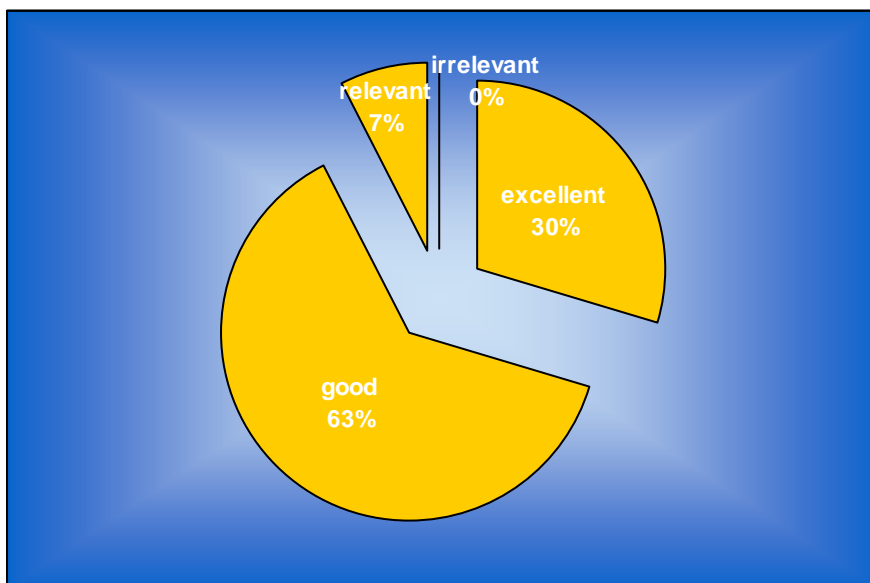
4a) lectures



4b) papers



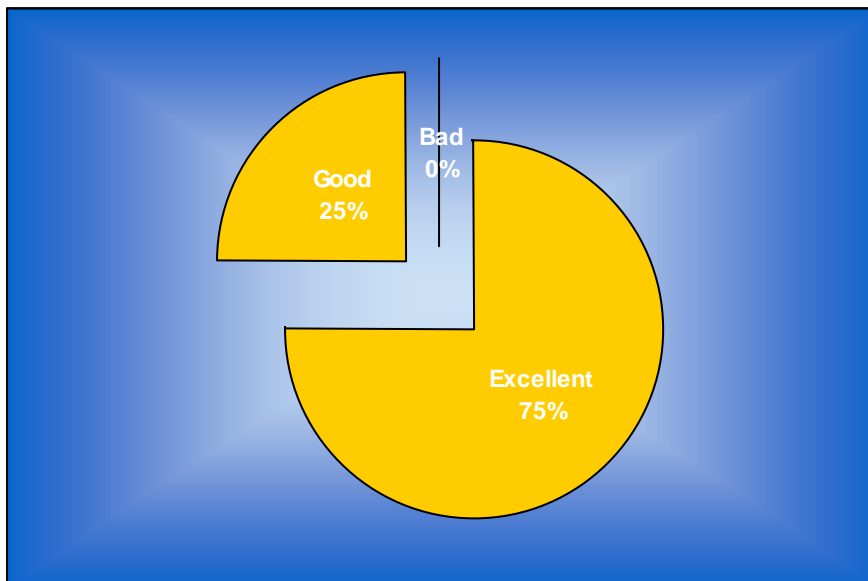
5) The quality of the proceedings



- **Seminar Location and Logistics**

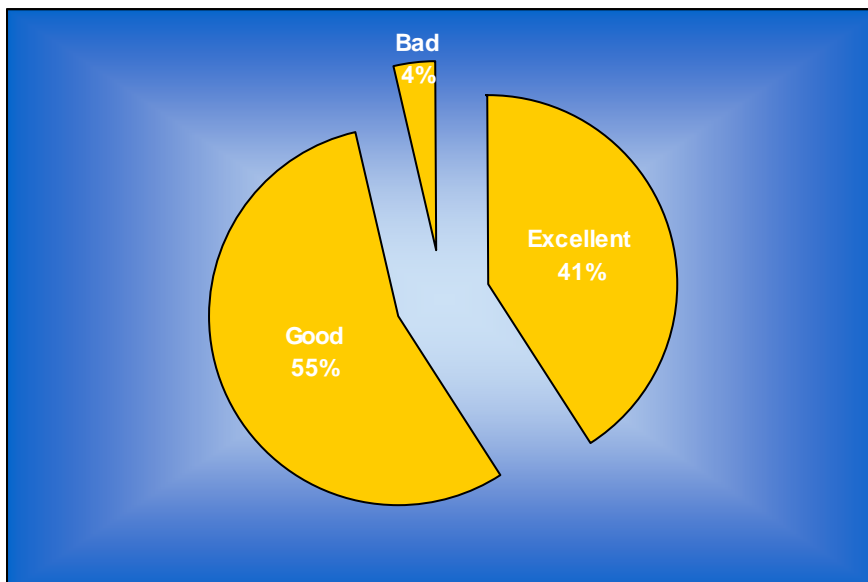
Rate your satisfaction regarding the following:

1) Location of the venue (Sopot area)

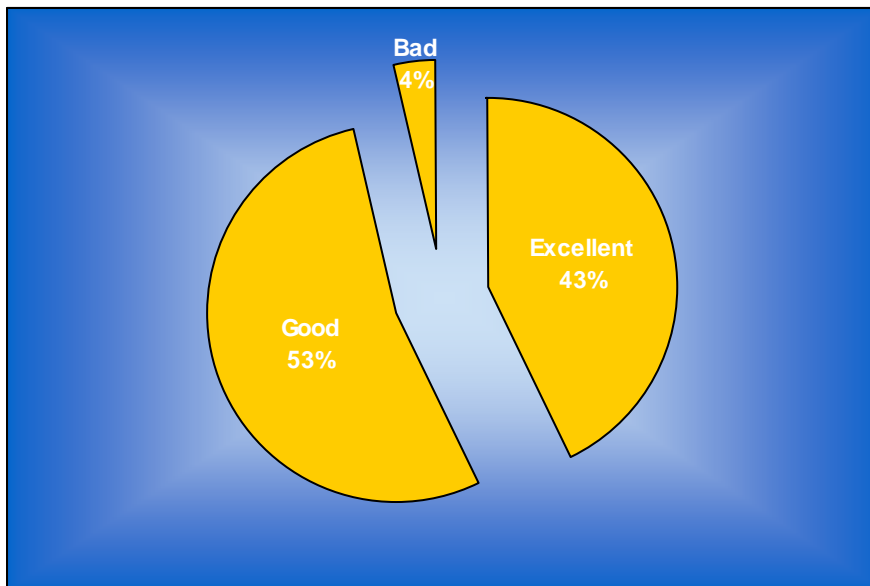


2) Hotel

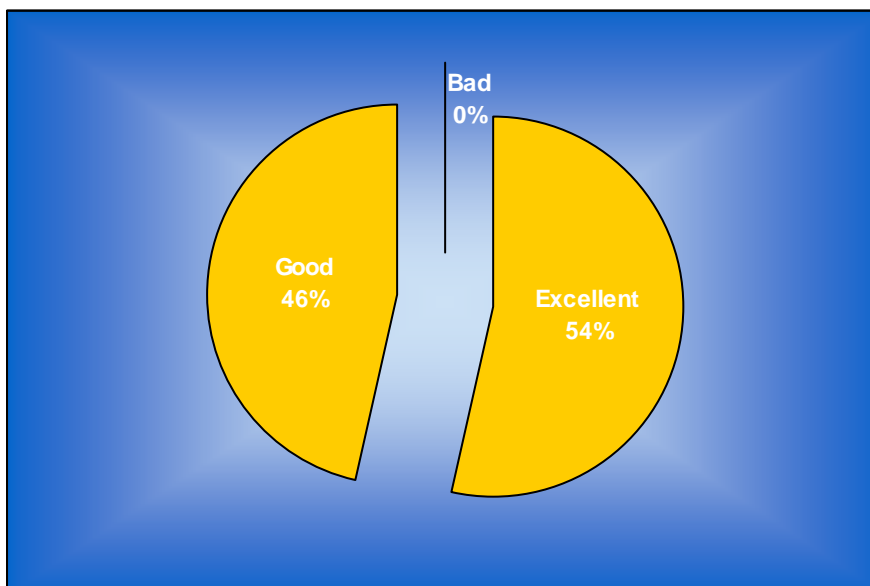
2a) Rooms and service (Hotel "Prawdzcic")



2b) Conference room (Hotel "Prawdzc")



2c) Food (Hotel "Prawdzc" & Hotel "Falko")



3) Social events (Hotel "Falko" & Restaurant "Harnaś" & Dwór "Admirał")



Additional comments

- **Scientific aspect**
 - “Try to include more applications”,
 - “More PhD’s work and attendance”,
 - “Connect the seminar with project’s presentation”,
 - “It was a very good beginning from all the aspect, the seminar was very fruitful for scientific cooperation”,
 - “I really appreciate the presence of people from all around the world, this probably does not depend onto organisers who apply but it is very nice”,
 - “Wider scope: many topics missing”,
 - “More professors with groups of students”,
 - “More frontier ideas”,
 - “In general, high quality of presentation and an excellent mixture of different topics”,
 - “I support the general idea of the summer seminar as a bridge between experts and PhD students because it allows a kind of tutorial explanations during individual meetings which has been used by the students on the lectures and technical papers presented”
 - “More round table discussion; distinguish between basic and advanced”.
- **Technical aspect**
 - “It would be nice to get the proceedings on CD too”,
 - “The long brake in the afternoon must be shorted”,
 - “Apply for funding by EU, or other organization in order to reduce the students fees”,
 - “Internet connection should be always active”,
 - “Organize a one day excursion to city”,
 - “The seminar structure was different but nice”,

“Nice idea with certificates (diplomas)”,
“It is not possible to manage the sightseeing in the conference breaks”,
“The hospitality of polish hosts is just excellent, especially of open mind of ...”
“I think the seminar organization is great idea. To keep good level of the events.”
“The coffee breaks and lunch/dinner time are too close”,
“More youngsters”,
“ SSARS - only in Sopot area”,
“A hotel near to the beach is excellent, nearer to Sopot might be more attractive, but maybe difficult without increasing the participation fee”,
“Cultural visit of town; beach party could have been organised”,
“More woman as participants”,
“I would like to enpass my great thanks to the organising committee for their great effort and special thanks to ... for his successful management of the SSARS”.

Our final comment is:

“We feel obliged to continue developing this Seminars series, with great personal pleasure and professional honour and counting on all dedicated contributors for their significant and expert help”.

More details on SSARS 2007 may be found on the Website:

<http://ssars2007.am.gdynia.pl>

The 2nd Summer Safety and Reliability Seminars – SSARS 2008 will be held either in Sopot-Jelitkowo or in Jastrzebia Gora in July 20-26, 2008.

Details on SSARS 2008 may be found on the Website (under construction):

<http://ssars2008.am.gdynia.pl>

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Gdynia, 20.08.2007.