

Different venue draws big numbers to Parasitec

Parasitec was held last November at the Espace Champeret in Paris, the first time the exhibition had been held at this location. Although this is an underground exhibition venue, close to the famous Paris ring road, the Périphérique, and so much so that the traffic could almost be heard through the walls, the event rose above this distraction to deliver on many different levels. The uniquely French approach to a trade exhibition, the seminars and social programme, made Parasitec once again, a great success.

Firstly, there was an increased number of exhibiting companies; over 60, of which there were more than ever from France and even more companies based in other European countries.

Secondly, there was a seminar programme that filled the modest area to capacity for most of the presentations on offer.

Finally, with Lodi celebrating 30 years of trading, those seeking the social side were also well catered for. Over the three days of the event, in excess of 2000 registered visitors attended, creating a buzz throughout

the “Espace”. With the increasing number of international delegates and exhibitors, English was widely spoken. Many exhibitors were pleased with the attention from both French industry and international visitors.

Within Europe, France is a key mosquito control market and this was reflected within the seminar programme with Dr. Didier Fontenille, the Director of the world famous

Montpellier based Institute, IRD. IRD, the French national center of excellence for vectors, was the recent host of the European E-SOVE conference.

Dr Fontenille shared knowledge and information on the Asian Tiger Mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*), a potential key European vector of several diseases. He outlined how this species has already spread to more than 20 individual countries



in Europe. This is of importance in Southern France where numbers are increasing fast and there is considerable concern following recent outbreaks of Chikungunya in Italy, along with the ever present potential threat of Dengue fever.

Other presentations covered expected topics such as regulatory issues, as the Biocidal Products Directive is replaced by the Biocidal Products Regulation, bed bug control and resistance to anti-coagulant rodenticides.

With France currently the largest termite market in Europe, the Institut

FCBA were present both within the exhibition and seminar room to ensure that French termite professionals received the most up to date information available. Included is the highly valued service that grants CTB-A+ status to products. This is considered critical to ensuring that termite treatments are delivered and certified to the highest standard.

The French national industry association, the Chambre Synicale 3 D, was very visible, especially through its current President Marc Esculier. This was enhanced

by the strong presence of CEPA (Confederation of European Pest Management Associations) with its current President and Frenchman Bertrand Montmoreau.

Alongside their French colleagues, Simon Forrester from the BPCA and CEPA Director General Roland Higgins were there to share information on CEPA and their initiatives.

Once again, this was a high quality event, well organised and executed bringing to a close a busy 2012 for the European pest management industry.

