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Project Fact Sheet

DESALINATION

ASSESSMENT OF DESALINATION MORTARS AND POULTICES FOR HISTORIC MASONRY

Action Line: POLICIES-3.6 The protection of cultural heritage and associated conservation strategies

Coordinator

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European cultural heritage is often damaged by salt related damaging processes. There appears to be an increasing risk of salt damage to our monuments, due to climate changes and possibly resulting floods. According to recent research, in some situations, **desalination** may be the only possible conservation technique. For buildings, **desalination** still constitutes a major problem, as the bath-method cannot be used. The use of **desalination** mortar/poultices seems to be the most promising conservation technique for immovable objects. However, the performance and especially the effectiveness of different **desalination** systems are not clear, which hinders the choice of an appropriate mortar/poultice.

The research project **DESALINATION** will result in a clear guideline how to choose an adequate **desalination** system. This is of great importance to the European decision makers and will be incorporated in a knowledge based decision tool. A second major result will be better knowledge of moisture and salt transport from the historic material to the **desalination** product. This knowledge will give rise to a recommendation for a test to assess the effectiveness of **desalination** products. The better understanding of the transport process may be used in product development and increases the competitiveness of European SMEs, and may have a much broader spin-off in all kind of salt related problems.

Project details

Project Reference: 22714

Contract Type: Specific Targeted Research Project

Start Date: 2006-03-12

End Date: 2009-03-11

Duration: 36 months

Project Status: Execution

Project Cost: 1.13 million euro

Project Funding: 850000.00 euro

Participant Organization: J. PAUL
GETTY TRUST

Country: UNITED STATES

Participant Organization:
RIKSGEBOUWENDIENST

Country: NETHERLANDS

Participant Organization:
FACHHOCHSCHULE KOELN

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Participant Organization: NEDERLANDSE ORGANISATIE VOOR TOEGEPAST NATUURWETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK - TNO **Country:** NETHERLANDS

Participant Organization: TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EINDHOVEN **Country:** NETHERLANDS

Participant Organization: CERCLE DES PARTENAIRES DU PATRIMOINE **Country:** FRANCE

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