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TL Networks

European Network on "Thermoluminescence Applied to Archaeology"

At a conference of European ministers responsible for research, convened by the Council of Europe and held in Paris, September 1984, the ministers declared their desire to intensify scientific and technological research in Europe by strengthening existing networks of co-operation and promoting the establishment of new networks where required.

In order to comply with this declaration the Council of Europe group PACT (Physical and Chemical Techniques Applied to Archaeology), established in 1975, decided that its subgroups including that on TL dating should be transformed into networks.

To review the situation in TL dating PACT organized a European workshop on "Thermoluminescence in Archaeology" in Ravello, Italy May 29 - 31. 1986 and invited the European TL workers to participate. It was recognized at the meeting that the TL community already has an informal world-wide network operating through regular meetings and its newsletter Ancient TL, and that the emphasis of research has now shifted to sediment dating.

It was decided to leave the scientific and technological aspects to the existing network and to recommend the establishment of a European network on "Thermoluminescence applied to Archaeology" in order to promote the application of TL for archaeological dating.

The European network should include representative archaeologists from the European countries and scientists from European TL laboratories engaged in dating materials of archaeological interest. The next meeting is planned to take place in the beginning of 1987 and progress will be reported at the TL Specialist Seminar in Cambridge, July 1987.

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