



International Society for Archaeological Prospection

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The Chair of the CEPT Committee
Msr. Emmanuel Faussurier,
Agence nationale des frequencies (ANFR),
78 avenue du General de Gaulle, BP 400
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FRANCE

Bradford, 18 April 2006

Dear Msr. Faussurier,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Management Committee of the *International Society for Archaeological Prospection*, to express the views of our archaeological user community, strongly supporting the ETSI standard for Ground Probing Radar systems.

Geophysical methods have provided archaeology worldwide with some of the most useful non-destructive tools for site location and monitoring. The rapid and reliable mapping is essential for the preservation of buried remains of Cultural Heritage, which are threatened by new building sites, large-scale infrastructure developments and agricultural erosion. Recognising the potential of these geophysical techniques, some countries recommend such investigations as part of the site evaluation procedures that are required before planning permission can be granted.

Ground Probing Radar (GPR) has become one of the most successful and productive methods of recent years, due to its ability to simultaneously map lateral extent as well as depth of buried remains at high resolution. The last *International Conference on Archaeological Prospection* (September 2005, Rome) showed the impressive range of archaeological remains that are being mapped and preserved across the globe through the use of GPR. In particular, the technology is used successfully in most European countries as documented by reports from our members (The Society has European members from A, B, CH, CZ, D, DK, E, F, GR, H, I, IRL, L, NL, PL, S, SK, SLO, UK). Similarly to other archaeological work, the use of GPR for the protection of Cultural Heritage is a truly pan-European effort, crossing all borders and relying on a continuous exchange of data and expertise.

GPR equipment obviously must not interfere with other essential services operating in similar frequency bands. Evaluating user responses from within The Society, we have not identified a single case where such interference might have happened. To satisfy the needs of users in the Cultural Heritage sector as well as the regulatory bodies that ensure electromagnetic compatibility of equipment, we therefore strongly support the proposed ETSI standard EN 302 066-1 for GPR, maintaining a reasonable power level under well controlled conditions.

The *International Society for Archaeological Prospection* hence seeks your support of this ETSI standard to allow the continued protection of threatened sites of Cultural Heritage.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Armin Schmidt
Chairman, International Society for Archaeological Prospection (ISAP)
Senior Lecturer in Archaeological Geophysics