

**IX CONGRESS ON INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE AND
PUBLIC WORKS**

FIRST CIRCULAR

**MOVABLE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE: CONSERVATION, MEMORY, INNOVATION AND SOCIAL
VALUE**

**TICCIH-Spain convenes its 9th congress on industrial heritage, which will take place in Motril
(Granada)
from 25 to 28 September 2025**

**On this occasion we invite you to revisit the industrial heritage from the perspective of
movable property**



Azucarera El Pilar, mill train shed, Motril (Granada)

1. INTRODUCTION

Movable industrial heritage, made up of tangible objects linked to industrial activity, represents a vital connection with the economic, social and cultural development of modern societies. Machinery, tools, furniture and other movable industrial assets are key testimonies of technological innovation and human labour, which form an essential part of the historical memory of territories. However, this type of heritage has traditionally been relegated to the background in conservation policies, while immovable heritage (factories, infrastructures, etc.) has received the most attention in the field of protection and recovery.

Today, the conservation of industrial movable heritage faces multiple challenges and opportunities. Accelerated technological progress, digitalisation processes and the loss of traditional industries are causing many of these assets to fall into oblivion or disappear. At the same time, museums, interpretation centres and industrial revitalisation projects have begun to make the cultural value of this heritage visible, promoting new forms of interpretation and dissemination that connect technical memory with traditional knowledge and community values.

This congress offers a space for reflection and debate on the current state and future of movable industrial heritage, considering not only the technical aspects of its conservation and restoration, but also its potential as a tool for education and social cohesion. It is also an opportunity to explore new ways of intervention based on technological innovation and sustainability, which allow this heritage to be integrated into the current context and guarantee its relevance for future generations.

2. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE TIMELINESS OF THE CONGRESS

2.1. International Context of Movable Industrial Heritage

In the global context, the valuation of movable industrial heritage is gaining more and more relevance in the field of cultural heritage. International organisations such as TICCIH (The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage) have stressed the need to promote the conservation of this heritage, given its importance as a material testimony of the history of work, technology and the transformation of industrial societies.

Despite this, movable heritage faces an increasing threat due to the obsolescence of industrial infrastructures, the lack of conservation plans and the pressure of urban development. In many cases, machinery and other movable assets are discarded, resulting in an irreparable loss of material history. This congress aims to bring these global issues to the centre of the discussion, providing a forum where international experts can share their experiences and strategies to address these challenges.

2.2. Situation of Movable Industrial Heritage in Spain

In Spain, movable industrial heritage has begun to receive greater attention in recent years, although it still faces significant challenges in terms of documentation, conservation and dissemination. While some regions have made progress in the recovery of their industrial heritage, there is still a deficit in terms of identifying and enhancing the value of movable assets. Initiatives such as the National Plan for Industrial Heritage of the Spanish Cultural

Heritage Institute (IPCE) have attempted to fill this gap, but the lack of resources and the need for greater technical specialisation continue to be limiting.

The congress proposes an in-depth analysis of the situation in Spain, bringing together specialists from various disciplines to exchange knowledge on interventions carried out and best practices in the conservation of industrial movable heritage. In addition, there will be round tables and sessions dedicated to addressing the opportunities for integrating this heritage into projects for the cultural and economic revitalisation of Spanish industrial regions.

2.3. Relationship to the TICCIH Objectives

The congress is aligned with the fundamental objectives of TICCIH, which promotes the protection and conservation of industrial heritage worldwide. In particular, this event aims to advance the following TICCIH priority areas:

1. Conservation and restoration: To foster the exchange of methodologies and innovative approaches for the conservation and restoration of industrial movable heritage.
2. Documentation and cataloguing: Promote the creation of databases and specific registers to ensure the correct identification and preservation of movable property.
3. Dissemination and education: To increase public awareness of the value of movable industrial heritage, enhancing its role as an educational and cultural resource.
4. Sustainability and revitalisation: Exploring intervention models that connect industrial heritage with the sustainable development of local communities and its integration into the cultural and tourism offer.

3. THEMATIC ROUND TABLES

This classification makes it possible to cover the different aspects of industrial movable heritage from a technical, cultural and social perspective, in their historical and territorial contexts, facilitating analysis and debate in the context of the congress.

1. Conservation, restoration and resilience of movable industrial heritage

- Study of the techniques and methods of restoration, recovery, conservation and intervention of industrial machinery and tools.
- Conservation from the value of durability as a responsible innovation, in relation to sustainability and the reuse of resources.
- Directors: Julián Sobrino / Miguel Álvarez Areces and Carolina Castañeda.

2. Documentation, cataloguing and management: museology and museography of industrial movable heritage.

- Standardisation and strategies for the documentation, inventorying and cataloguing of industrial movable assets.
- Challenges and opportunities in the museum exhibition of movable industrial assets, linking their preservation with their cultural dissemination.
- Coordinators: Virginia García and Ainara Martínez.

3. Technological innovation, design and aesthetics of industrial movable heritage

- Impact of technological innovation on industrial production and its influence on movable objects.

- The interactions between graphic ideation through to the final product and its consumer image, reflecting design as part of the aesthetic value of heritage.
- Coordinators: Pilar Biel and Marta Vera.

4. The social, educational and cultural value of industrial movable heritage: towards a committed process of citizenship.

- Strategies for educational dissemination, awareness raising and interpretation of the values of industrial movable heritage in society.
- The link between traditional techniques, knowledge and crafts and movable industrial objects, connecting movable and intangible heritage.
- Coordinators: Katia Hueso, Assumpció Feliu and Álvaro Bonet.

5. The relational value of heritage in its patrimonialisation, territoriality and conceptualisations.

- Objects in the territory: contextualisations and decontextualisations.
- Lexicons of industrial goods: vocabularies, glossaries and colloquialisms.

Heads of table: Gerardo Cueto, Linarejos Cruz and José Luis Lalana.

6. Motril's movable industrial heritage: the case of the El Pilar Sugar Factory.

- Technological and functional evolution of the machinery at the El Pilar factory: the impact on the Motril sugar industry.
- Industrial movable heritage and workers' memory: the social significance of the machinery of the El Pilar factory.
- Coordinators: Alberto Martínez, Noelia Yangüas and Julián Sobrino.

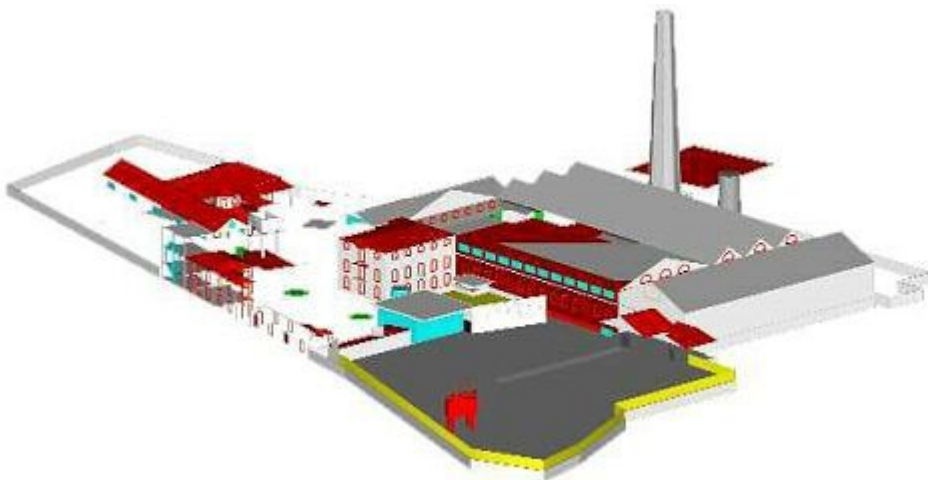
With this structure, the IX Congress of TICCIH Spain is presented as a unique space to address the problems and challenges of movable heritage in a multidisciplinary context, promoting greater visibility and action in its preservation at national and international level.



4. THE RELEVANCE OF THE VENUE FOR THIS IX CONGRESS AT THE EL PILAR FACTORY IN MOTRIL (GRANADA)

Relevant information

- <http://www.motril.es/index.php?id=1876>
- <https://www.google.es/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=http://www.motril.es/index.php%3Fid%3D653&ved=2ahUKEwj7keHrn86lAxWCUaQEhfS6Of0QFn0ECDUQAQ&usg=AOvVaw1p1fM7QjstGA3alSr10SMz>
- <https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/articulo?codigo=8997490>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IF5PHTXXaeQ>
- https://www.cayuelasarquitectos.es/temporal/HTML_proyectos/proyecto_34_cana%20azucar.html
- <http://www.motril.es/index.php?id=153>



The IX Congress of TICCIH Spain is of particular interest due to the historical and industrial character of the region in which Motril is located, which was an important centre of

technological innovation from the pre-industrial phase of the sugar mills to the advanced mechanisation of the sugar factories.

Motril, located on the Costa Tropical of Granada, is a living testimony to the development of the sugar industry, which played a central role in the local and regional economy for several centuries.

The El Pilar Sugar Factory, the emblematic site where the congress will be held, is an outstanding example of this industrialisation process. Its movable heritage, represented by original machinery, tools and installations, bears witness to the advance of technology in sugar production, reflecting how the arrival of heavy machinery and complex equipment revolutionised the sugar industry in the 19th and 20th centuries. The machinery at El Pilar, in particular, is of great relevance not only for its productive function at the time, but also for its uniqueness as a movable cultural asset documenting technological innovations in sugar processing.

The congress, being held in this historic setting, offers the opportunity to reflect on the value of movable industrial heritage in its original context, while the machinery and facilities of the Fábrica de El Pilar provide a tangible case study for addressing key conservation, restoration and dissemination issues. The choice of Motril as the venue underlines the importance of preserving and valuing these industrial vestiges, connecting the region's past with the current debate on the relevance of industrial heritage in contemporary society.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST FOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE IX CONGRESS TICCIH SPAIN 2025

REGISTRATION FEES

- Complete: 120 €
- Reduced: 100 € (Students, unemployed, retired persons, pensioners)
- Members of TICCIH-Spain 90 €
- There will be a 10 % early bird discount for registrations received before 31 February 2025.

Registration includes:

- Attendance at the congress
- Digital publication of abstracts and papers
- Coffee break
- Technical visit to El Pilar Sugar Factory
- Congressman's kit

OTHER CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

- FORUM OF INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATIONS

- During the Congress, meetings, debates and analyses will be held on the associationism of industrial heritage in the different Autonomous Communities on the problem of endangered movable assets.
- EXHIBITIONS
 - To be determined
- PUBLICATIONS
 - A book will be published with all the papers and contributions to the congress debate.
- OPTIONAL ITINERARIES ON SUNDAY 16 JUNE DURING THE MORNING
 - To be determined

RULES FOR THE PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS

All those interested in presenting papers directly related to the themes of the congress are invited to send their proposals to TICCIH, indicating the thematic area in which they wish to participate.

- The defence of the papers will be in charge of their authors, there will be no rapporteurs.
- A maximum of fifteen minutes will be allowed for the public exhibition, which will be adjusted in the final programme.
- For the subsequent publication of the papers it will be necessary to have presented the text in person at the Conference.
- A folder with the papers and documentation of the congress and other materials related to the event will be handed out.
- Certificates will be issued for the papers that are accepted for presentation during the conference.
- The official language of the Congress is Spanish.
- The dialogue between the Organising and Scientific Committees of the IX Congress will take place through the congress email address: congresosticcih@gmail.com

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Papers will be considered if they are original and unpublished and if their subject matter is adapted to the general lines of one of the thematic areas. Their contribution and interest will be assessed; the methodology and results obtained; whether they are relevant in relation to current research in the area and subject matter dealt with; whether research carried out by other authors on the same subject has been taken into account; the rigour in the development of the arguments and analysis; the precise use of concepts and methods; the appropriateness between the title and the content of the paper; and the linguistic correctness and clarity of the exposition.

TIMETABLE FOR REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

- Early bird registration deadline: 10 % early bird discount for registrations received before 9 March 2025.
 - Normal application deadline: before 1 September 2025.
 - Deadline for submission of abstracts of 300 to 500 words, including 5 key terms and the Thematic Table to which it belongs: until 2 February 2025.
 - Deadline for acceptance of abstracts by the Scientific Committee: 2 March 2025
 - Deadline for submission of accepted communications: 4 May 2025
 - Deadline for suggestions from the Scientific Committee to the authors: 15 June 2025
 - Deadline for submission of final texts: 13 July 2025
 - Congress: 25-27 September 2025
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- The dialogue between the Organising and Scientific Committees of the IX Congress will take place through the congress email address: congresosticcih@gmail.com

Participate in our IX TICCIH Spain 2025 Congress on Industrial Heritage in Motril and discover the historical and cultural richness of industrial objects!

This meeting will be a unique platform to explore the importance of machinery, tools and other industrial goods which, far from being mere artefacts of the past, bear witness to the innovation and human endeavour that have driven the economic and social development of our territories.

We invite you to join experts, academics and enthusiasts of industrial heritage to reflect on the challenges of its conservation and the role it can play in education and social cohesion.

We will discover together how technology and sustainability can revitalise this heritage, ensuring its legacy and relevance for the future.

Don't miss the opportunity to be part of this conversation and contribute to the preservation of our industrial memory!