

Author: Nicola Hariasz

I was a listener of Roberto Flores' presentation entitled "Mud in pipes, eccentric orbits & interesting facts". Roberto Flores is the professor of International Center for Numerical Methods in Engineering.

At the beginning, he mentioned that the presentation will take about 45 minutes and we won't be able to listen all of the prepared material. I think that every speaker should tailor the presentation to the individual situation. In case we can't listen it all, he/she should make it shorter or hide some slides, so that we don't feel disregarded. Although, he made an excuse that the presentation is not excellent prepared because it was made in a hurry during the visit of Mr Flores' family member in the hospital.

He started to speak very powerfully with good diction and volume, so that everyone could hear him without any problems. The speaker's clothes were jeans and colorful jumper, for me too casual for public appearance. In the first part he was sitting on the table, looked very comfortable with his speech.

His presentation was mostly in black-white colours. This was a very good choice because everything was clear and visible. Although sometimes there was too much text on the slides so the audience couldn't focus on reading. He has used a lot of images that helped to understand the problem.

In the middle of the presentation the phone rang and it turned out that owner of this phone is professor Roberto Flores. It was extremely unprofessional. He quickly turned off the phone and said "I'm Sorry".

In the slides there were some literal errors, for example in the title of the slide (netwrk instead of network), but they didn't disrupt listening. The speaker said that one part should be not in the presentation and it's probably because he was sleeping in the hospital.

During this appearance the professor explained MPD – Managed Pressure Drilling. But when it came to difficult differential equations it was very hard to understand it without specific knowledge.

As it was mentioned in the beginning, the professor didn't manage to tell us about everything. He said that we are 'out of time' and ended the presentation earlier. Finally we skipped "Interesting facts" that was contained in the title.

There were two questions to the speaker about dimension of the pipe and points needed for solving one of the numerical problem.

After them the professor ended saying "No more questions? It's obvious, because it's not interesting". This was really unnecessary, because what is the aim of presentation that even the speaker finds it boring?

To sum up the presentation had a lot of shortcomings but the presenter was a good speaker. He has been keeping an eye contact with the audience, seemed easy-going and had a lot of knowledge of this topic. Nevertheless, his attitude to this appearance was not serious enough.