



Peter LINHART, Tiergarten Schoenbrunn

**“European Aquarium & Zoological Association (EAZA)
Training at Schonbrunn Zoo”**

Modern zoo strategies make it necessary to regularly transfer exotics between the institutes to refresh their animal stock by minimizing genetic defects. Only with a perfect breeding-stock, re-introduction processes and the conservation of many species will be successful. On the other side, zoos are becoming more and more reception stations for animals that were confiscated by local authorities. Although animal transport has been a common practice for many years, paperwork, logistic difficulties and sometimes technical problems remain a challenge when handling these special consignments. The many requirements for the safe and humane transport of live animals and the permanent changes in the regulations and paperwork, call for adequate training programs for Zoo staff, personnel in National parks, University experts assisting re-introduction programs and, last but not least, Management Authorities such as

border inspectors, veterinarians and environmental inspectors involved in the daily animal transport business. Therefore WAZA/EAZA offers specialised “Workshops on Animal Transport” in accordance with the IATA Live Animals Regulations for interested Zoos, Authorities and other members of the animal transport industry. Training sessions are available in English or German language. These courses are also acknowledged by CITES and will be certified by the involved organizations (WAZA, EAZA, AATA). For further information and bookings, please contact either Ms. Rebecca McNeill (Fraport), Mr. Rüdiger Weiss (Interzoo) or Mr. Peter Linhart (Zoo Vienna).

Peter Linhart studied veterinary medicine and zoology at Vienna Universities but had not finished his studies yet. During his time on the Universities he worked as a part-time trainee at the Zoos of Vienna, Zoo-Berlin and Tierpark-Berlin and got degrees as a scientific commercial artist in 1988 and as an animal-keeper in 1990. Since 1992 he worked as a zoological assistant and up from 1997 as the assistant of the director at the Schönbrunner Tiergarten, Vienna. The main focus of his work is training of animal-keepers and animal transport. Since 1996 he is consultant for animal transport of the VDZ (Conference of the German speaking Zoodirectors), since 2001 chairman of the EAZA-TWG (European Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Transport Working Group). 2001 accredited by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture he represents Austria at the CITES-AC (Animal Committee) and became chairman of the CITES-AC-TWG 2003.

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