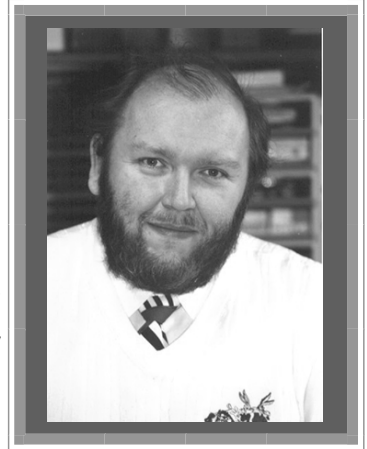


Peter LINHART, Assistant Director, Tiergarten Schoenbrunn
PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF Dr. Max ABENSPERG-TRAUN
Austrian Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry Environment & Water Management
“CITES and EU Accession Countries”



162 countries are now signatories of the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The convention attempts to minimize commercial overexploitation of species by regulating their trade across international borders through a series of trade controls. Because of a lack of border controls between EU member states, the EU as a trade block, has had to adapt CITES regulatory trade mechanisms to effectively deal with endangered species entering its common market. As a consequence of the EU-enlargement, accession countries (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Cyprus) are faced with altered conditions of trade with regard to CITES-listed species within the EU. This

presentation will provide a brief outline of the legislative changes that accession countries need to face as a result of their up-coming EU-membership. Legislative changes address differences in species listings, permit requirements, animal housing conditions and conditions of transport.

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Born in 1954, I worked in the field of wildlife conservation in Southern Africa throughout most of the 1970s. In 1981, I emigrated to Australia where I worked as a conservation biologist until the late 1990s when I returned to Austria to continue as a research scientist in the field of conservation biology. In 2003, I took up a position with the Austrian Ministry of the Environment as Austria's representative for CITES, the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species.
