



Leading-Edge
Asset Management

First Announcement and Call for Papers

LESAM 2009

3rd Leading Edge Conference
on Strategic Asset Management



LEADING-EDGE



Organized by:



American Water Works
Association

Miami Hilton Downtown
Miami, Florida, USA
November 11–13, 2009

Invitation

It is my pleasure to announce the Call for Papers for LESAM 2009, the third IWA Leading-Edge (LE) Conference on Strategic Asset Management (SAM) of water and wastewater infrastructures.

With the organization of the biennial LESAM, IWA establishes a consolidated leading-edge forum where utilities, consultants, researchers, and asset managers in general identify and discuss the main challenges and novel solutions and trends in strategic asset management.

In the 2008 Vienna World Water Congress a SAM workshop launched a set of themes meant to set the scene for LESAM 2009. These include, among others, the discussion over how to create and enable an environment for AM at government level, the role of standardization, the need for organizational awareness within the utilities, AM models and solutions directed to sustainability (e.g., minimization of carbon footprint), the role and potential of IT and other support tools, how to enhance systems resilience for climate change, and the need for more effective training and knowledge transfer. Additionally, participants of LESAM 2007 and of the Vienna SAM Workshop remarked the need for disseminating success stories of implementing SAM in utilities with different levels of complexity and development.

The beautiful city of **Miami** and the professional local organization assured by **AWWA** are two other key factors that make this Conference a must to any person really interested in asset management of urban water infrastructures.

As Chair of the IWA SAM Specialist Group, I feel deeply honored to be involved in the organization of this event. First of all, because the subject and **the topics of this conference are of major relevance for the sustainability of water and wastewater services**. Secondly, because after the success of the previous LESAM, it is now easier to assure the participation of the best SAM experts in the world, providing a unique opportunity for networking, learning, and sharing know-how and experiences.

This is why I cannot afford missing LESAM 2009. I strongly believe that my reasons apply equally to you.

I encourage your participation, either as a presenter or as a delegate, and look forward to meeting you in Miami.

Helena Alegre

Chair of the IWA SAM Specialist Group



Organisers and Organising Committee

LESAM 2009 is being co-organized by IWA Head Quarters and the American Water Works Association (AWWA). The Organizing Committee Members are:

- Paul Olson (Chair), AWWA
- Luis Aguiar, Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department
- Mario Lujan, AWWA
- Adrian Puigarnau, IWA
- Lois Sherry, AWWA
- Deborah Viera, Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department

Scientific and Program Committee

The program and the scientific quality of the Conference is assured by a committee of asset management experts:

- Helena Alegre (Chair), LNEC, Portugal
- Luis Aguiar, Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Dept., USA
- Steve Allbee, US EPA, USA
- Cushla Anich, Manunsell, New Zealand
- Tom Arn, Malcolm Pirnie, USA
- Collin Chung, GHD, USA
- Paul Conroy, Halcrow Group, UK
- Scott Haskins, CH2M Hill, USA
- Greg Kane, Sydney Water, Australia
- Wolf Merkel, IWW, Germany
- Chris Royce, Anglian Water, UK
- Sveinung Saegrov, SINTEF, Norway
- Frans Schulting, The Netherlands
- Tony Urquhart, MWH Business Solutions, USA

About IWA

The International Water Association is a global network of professionals, spanning the continuum between research and practice and covering all facets of the water cycle. Through IWA, members collaborate to promote the development and implementation of innovative and effective approaches to water management.

The strength of IWA lies in the professional and geographic diversity of its members—a global “mosaic” of member communities—including academic researchers and research centres, utilities consultants, regulators, industrial water users and water equipment manufacturers. IWA members from each of these communities represent the leading edge in their field of expertise; together they are building new frontiers in the research and implementation of water and wastewater technologies, within the framework of the total water cycle.

About AWWA

AWWA is an international nonprofit and educational society and the largest and oldest organization of water professionals in the world. Its more than 60,000 members represent the full spectrum of the water community: treatment plant operators and managers, scientists, environmentalists, manufacturers, academicians, regulators, and others who hold genuine interest in water supply and public health. Membership includes more than 4,600 utilities that supply water to roughly 180 million people in North America. Through our collective strength we become better stewards of water for the greatest good of the people and the environment.

Description

Water and Wastewater companies operating all around the world have faced rising asset management and replacement costs, often to levels that are financially unsustainable. Management of investment needs, while meeting regulatory and other goals, has required:

- Incorporation of risk management techniques;
- Development of models to predict asset failure and to identify and concentrate investment on critical assets;
- A better understanding of what customers demand from the services they pay for, and the extent to which they are willing to pay for improvements or be compensated for a reduction in performance;
- Utilization of advanced maintenance techniques including new rehabilitation failure detection technologies;
- Improved accounting for costs and benefits and their incorporation within an appropriate cost-benefit framework;
- Enhancements in pipeline materials, technologies and laying techniques;
- Improved management systems.

LESAM 2009 will provide an opportunity to discuss developments at the leading-edge in these and other fields to an audience of utility personnel, regulators and consultants. It will be focused on the techniques, technologies and management approaches aiming at optimizing the investment in infrastructure while achieving demanded customer service standards.

Subject and topics

The subject of LESAM 2009 is Strategic Asset Management of Water and Wastewater Infrastructure. The topics with this subject are:

- Creating an enabling environment for AM on the national level
- Creating an enabling environment for AM on the utility level (incl. support of organizational awareness within the utilities; business culture for good AM; knowledge management within the organization)
- The role of standardization for developing AM concepts
- Approaches to AM (levels of service, delivering outcomes, risk management, asset investment, whole of life costs, strategic, tactical and operational planning)
- Role and importance of models and tools (incl. deterioration Modeling, optimization tools, integrated support tools, IT environment)
- Towards sustainability: models and examples (incl. carbon footprint; systems' adaptation to climate change)
- Knowledge transfer and training: how best practice is spread?

LESAM 2009 aims at bringing together leading edge developments of tools and methodologies, as well practical experience and case studies.



Procedure for submission

Applicants may submit a proposal in the form of an Outline Paper, limited to 1,000 words with diagrams or illustrations (Max. Two pages). This Outline Paper must contain adequate information to allow a sound referee review. Submissions should demonstrate a significant advance in knowledge in water infrastructure asset management.

Two **forms of presentation** will be considered:

1. Oral presentation

2. Poster presentation (with full paper) If selected, the full paper must be submitted on schedule for inclusion in the conference proceedings.

Submissions should be made via the Conference website using the e-mail form provided.

For guidelines on formatting all submissions visit the Conference website.

The following information should be included in your submission:

- Author's name and affiliation;
- Topic (from list presented in page 3);
- Title of presentation;
- Preferred type of presentation (oral or poster);
- Three to five Key Words (to help with identification);
- Contact person's e-mail address, postal address, and telephone and fax numbers.

On the basis of the proposals submitted, a review will be undertaken to select papers for presentation (oral or poster). Authors will be notified of the outcome of the review in order to prepare the full papers.

At least one author of each selected paper and poster must register and attend the conference to present the paper. Authors must pay their own expenses to the Conference.

Paper publication

A CD with the approved oral and poster presentations will be provided to conference participants.

Publication in this CD will require at least one registered author for the conference in order to be included on the CD.

A book will be published after the Conference containing the state-of-the-art reports and a selected number of papers for each theme. Paper selection will be based on merit and will be decided by the Conference Scientific and Technical Committee from poster and oral presentation full papers.

Structure of the sessions

The Conference will be organized in thematic sessions, combining invited speakers and open platform presentations. Invited speakers are responsible for the preparation of a summary report for each topic, partially based on the papers submitted and accepted.

Language

The working language of the conference is English.

Deadlines to remember

Abstract submission: April 3, 2009

Authors notification: May 5, 2009

Full paper submission:
September 2, 2009

Early bird registration:
October 6, 2009

Conference venue:
November 11-13, 2009

Contacts

For more information about the Conference visit:

www.lesam2009.org,
or email **lesam2009@awwa.org**

