

Automating for Smart Water

By **Graham Nasby**
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Plant reliability, safety and cost-efficiency are common goals shared by professionals who work in the municipal water and wastewater sector. To help water professionals meet those goals, the Water/Wastewater Industries Division (WWID) of the ISA, a key educational, technical, professional development and networking resource for the sector, is gearing up for the 2013 Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls (WWAC) Symposium August 6-8, 2013 in Orlando, Florida.

As part of its outreach activities, the ISA is partnering with the Water Environment Federation's Automation and Information Technology Committee to ensure that

SCADA and operations professionals in the sector have a venue to learn about new technology, share ideas, network and gain valuable continuing education units (CEUs).

"Smart Water" is the theme for our 2013 symposium, which will look at ways SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) systems can be used to help plants improve operations and protect our shared water resources. Attendees will learn how to drive better plant visualization, improve situational awareness, optimize operations and maintenance, and reduce energy costs. Additional topics include using process data for online process optimization and improved asset management, along with several general SCADA topics unique to municipal water/wastewater.

I'm delighted to note that IBM's Carey E. Hidaka, a seasoned professional with over 35 years of experience in the water and information technology sectors, will deliver this year's keynote address about using data to make smarter decisions. Two days of expert presentations will explore topics including instrumentation, system integration, automation, plant case studies, new



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technologies, optimization, SCADA, HMI, operator empowerment through technology, and the latest alarm management techniques. We also have invited speakers who will give talks about cyber security, effective project management for SCADA retrofit projects, and the benefits of using high performance HMIs (human machine interfaces).

The symposium also has two optional training courses: a two-day, in-depth cyber security course and a one-day course on flow meter selection/sizing. Attendees can earn continuing education units (CEU) and professional development hours (PDH) by participating in the symposium's educational sessions and these ISA training courses. To register for the summer symposium, [click this link](#).

The WWAC symposium is joint collaboration of ISA members and staff, as well as industry sponsors and supporting partnerships with leading organizations including the [Water Environment Federation](#) (WEF), the [Florida section of the American Water Works Association \(AWWA\)](#), the [Florida Water Environment Association \(FWEA\)](#) and the [Instrument Testing Association \(ITA\)](#). More information is available at www.isawwsymposium.com. Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you in Orlando!