

2013 Symposium Boasts 250 attendees!

Official ISA news release from August 13, 2013

Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA. The International Society of Automation (ISA) is pleased to report that the 2013 ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls (WWAC) Symposium enjoyed record attendance numbers. Held in Orlando, Florida, USA, on 6-8 August at the Crowne Plaza Orlando-Universal Hotel, the symposium attracted more than 250 attendees. Additionally, the symposium's two short courses, one on in-depth cybersecurity and the other on water flow meter selection/sizing, were sold out with more than 40 participants from water and wastewater utilities from across North America.

The record attendance numbers, which represent more than a 50% increase from the previous year, highlight the growing importance of automation, data analytics and cybersecurity in the municipal water/wastewater sector. The surge in attendance is also testament to the symposium's continued focus on today's challenges in automation, instrumentation and SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) for the important role that water/wastewater holds in our public infrastructure.

Now in its eighth year, the annual ISA WWAC symposium is experiencing a new-found growth in popularity thanks to growing alliances with the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association (FSAWWA), the Florida Water Environment Association (FWEA) and the Instrument Testing Association (ITA). By forming strong partnerships with other associations, the symposium has been able to reach out to automation, instrumentation and SCADA professionals across the industry. For members of these associations, the symposium represents targeted professional development, training and networking opportunities that they could not find elsewhere.

"Our secret is our focus," says Bob Lindeman, the past-President of ISA who gave the opening remarks at the symposium. "Our annual ISA water/wastewater symposium specifically caters to the needs of professionals involved with automation, instrumentation and SCADA in the municipal water and wastewater sectors. It is a niche event and we are proud of its increasing popularity. There is no other event like it in North America."

The symposium is also specifically positioned so that municipal utilities could easily send their staff. Thanks to the symposium's sponsors, including Schneider Electric, Phoenix Contact, Cooper Bussmann/Eaton, IBM, Yokogawa, and Eramosa Engineering, among others, the symposium was able to offer inexpensive registration rates for all its attendees. Additionally, thanks to partnerships with the AWWA and WEF, attendees were able to gain approved Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and Professional Development Hours (PDHs) that could be used towards continuing education requirements for a wide variety of state-issued operator, engineering and technician licenses.

Attendees were treated to hot breakfasts, fully catered lunches and an exhibitor hall where they could learn about new products and services. The symposium's exhibitors, who were all focused on automation, instrumentation and SCADA products and services, enjoyed the show's focus and the ability to talk with attendees in a targeted, yet intimate, atmosphere.

This year's technical program featured some 42 speakers, arranged in two parallel speaking tracks, who spoke on a variety of SCADA-related topics. Presentations ranged from advanced process control, instrumentation and alarm management techniques to better control room design, SCADA retrofit, and cybersecurity best practices.

2013 Symposium: Quick Stats

250 symposium attendees

40 ISA training course attendees

4 technical co-sponsors

24 exhibitors

20 sponsors

12 media Partners

Headliner speakers included a keynote by IBM's Carey Hidaka on the advantages of data analytics; an invited talk by John Cusimano about the state of cybersecurity in municipal water plants; and an invited talk by P. Hunter Vegas who gave a humorous, yet highly informative, presentation on some of the challenges associated with SCADA retrofit projects. Guest presenters also included speakers from the ISA Tampa Bay section, the Water Environment Federation, and the Florida Section of the AWWA.

As a lasting benefit of the symposium, this year's participants also received copies of the conference proceedings in a two-volume bound book and PDF-based digital versions, which made it easy for them to take their newfound knowledge home with them.

In the symposium's closing remarks, the General Symposium Chair Graham Nasby, of Eramosa Engineering, spoke about the need for greater collaboration in the sector. He also talked about the growing importance of automation, instrumentation and SCADA in the municipal water/wastewater sector, and how the ISA WWAC Symposium is a natural "niche event" that specifically caters to professionals involved with these unique aspects of our collective public infrastructure.

The 2014 ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium will be taking place 5-7 August 2014 at the Crowne Plaza Orlando-Universal Hotel in Orlando, Florida. The Call for Abstracts for the 2014 technical program is now available and can be found at www.isawwsymposium.com.

Photos from 2013 Symposium

Thanks to all the participants who contributed photos. This year's photographers included Heidi Cooke, Pavlov Seedy, Andres Perez, Laura Shemanski, Kevin Patel & Rodney Jones.



Our symposium hotel – Crowne Plaza Orlando-Universal



Symposium registration desk with Rodney Jones, ISA staff



Speakers Dinner with volunteer Pavol Segedy (white shirt)



Cyber Security training course with instructor John Cusimano



On the Symposium Tour Bus, with tour coordinator Kevin Patel (standing in the back with the green shirt).



Symposium chair Graham Nasby gives the opening remarks.



On Day 1 it was standing room only in the presentation room.



Setting up in the Exhibit Hall



Vince from Schneider Electric showing customers their live demo



Invited Speaker John Cusimano talking about SCADA Cybersecurity.



WEF & ISA Team: Barry Liner, Tom DeLaura and Graham Nasby



ISA Past-President Bob Lindeman giving opening remarks via Skype.



Invited Speaker P. Hunter Vegas talks about the perils of how to manage SCADA retrofit projects.



Penny Chen from Yokogawa gives a presentaoitm on the latest ISA100 wireless developments



WEF Automation and Info Tech Committee Chair Tom DeLaura shares a coffee with keynote speaker Carey Hidaka from IBM



Applications engineers at the Xylem booth demonstrate their products to attendees.



Tom Shaefer from Rockwell Automation talks about the benefits of Ethernet-based VFD interfacing. Moderator Dave Hobart looks on.



Incoming 2014 Symposium Chair Kevin Patel gives outgoing 2013 chair Graham Nasby "Dude" bag as a thank you for a job well done.



Johnathan Mitchell from CDM Smith speaking about how to estimate expected SCADA equipment lifetimes.



Volunteer appreciation dinner in Orlando after the symposium. Seated in the foreground are longtime moderator Paul Lanzillotta (blue shirt) and program chair Joe Provenzano (white shirt).



ISA Technical Divisions information booth.

Thanks to our 2013 Symposium Sponsors

The symposium organizing committee would like to thank our 2013 symposium sponsors:

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WATER DESALINATION REPORT

How to Become a Sponsor for 2014

For more information on how to become a sponsor of the ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium, please refer to our 4-page full-color sponsorship opportunities brochure: www.isawwsymposium.com/exhibit-sponsor/.

Now is the time to consider sponsoring WWAC 2014!

Thanks to our 2013 Symposium Exhibitors



Exhibit Booth Information for WWAC2014

Exhibitor tables are now available for WWAC 2014, which will be taking place August 5-7, 2014 in Orlando, Florida at the same hotel.

Exhibitor tables at the 2014 ISA Water/Wastewater and Automatic Controls Symposium will be priced at \$875 each which include:

- one six foot table with skirting, 2 chairs, duplex electrical outlet
- two full conference passes, which include ID badges and full conference access (an \$850 value)
- additional vendor passes can be purchased for \$200 each
- breakfasts, coffee breaks, and lunches on Day 1 and Day 2
- admission to the general reception with cash bar on the evening of Day 1
- exhibits room hours: Day 1 & 2 (8:00am-5:00pm), and during Aug. 6th evening reception
- exhibit setup: on Tues August 5, 2014 from 6pm-9pm. exhibit teardown is Thursday, August 7 from 5pm-8pm

SAVE THE DATE
2014 ISA Water/Wastewater Symposium
Aug 5-7, 2014 – Orlando, Florida

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Note: The WWAC2013 exhibit hall is now sold out!

How to Sign up as an Exhibitor

For more information on how to exhibit at the symposium please refer to our 4-page full-color sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities brochure: www.isawwsymposium.com/exhibit-sponsor/. Now is also a good time to start thinking about WWAC 2014. Reserve your spot today!