



Water Week In Numbers: Global debut of 15 innovations and over 400 participating companies from 26 countries/regions on 12,000-sqm of sell-out expo space

Rousing start to 2009 Water Week

The Singapore International Water Week opened yesterday, bringing the movers and shakers of the water world back to the Republic's shores after a year. Some 1,500 delegates and guests graced the opening ceremony at the Suntec Ballroom.

"In line with the long-term theme of sustainable water solutions for cities, this year's event will zoom in on the means to create a viable environment and infrastructure for the realisation of water technologies," said Singapore's Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, at the ceremony. Dr Yaacob also invited delegates to witness the start of a new chapter in Singapore's water story this evening with the opening of the island's largest water reclamation plant at Changi.

In his keynote address, Senior Minister and Co-ordinating Minister for National Security, Prof S Jayakumar, also announced the launch of the inaugural Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize which recognises and showcases urban projects, policies and solutions that epitomise



Guests get a glimpse of a new chapter in Singapore's water history

foresight, good governance and innovation. The prize will be awarded at the World Cities Summit 2010 which will be held with Singapore International Water Week in June next year.

"I hope that both the World City Prize and Water Prize will be a source of encouragement for more innovative solutions to create vibrant, liveable and sustainable cities and communities," said Prof Jayakumar.

Asia-Pac ministers vow commitment on water infrastructure development

Singapore hosted the 7th Ministerial Forum on Infrastructure Development in the Asia-Pacific Region as part of the Singapore International Water Week 2009.

This year's discussion on "Integrating Water Infrastructure Planning with Sustainable Urban Development" involved some 60 water infrastructure and environment ministers and senior officials from Brunei Darussalam, China, Hong Kong SAR, Columbia, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Western Australia.

The forum, chaired by Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, issued a declaration to co-operate on overcoming the challenges and issues of water infrastructure planning and urban development despite the current economic crisis.

Senior officials at the meeting agreed to promote integrated water resource management for sustainable urban development and to reduce water disaster risk due to population growth and climate change.

Show-up 'n' Splash-Out

Today

AM Plenary Forum: Sustainable Water Solutions for Cities

PM 2nd Singapore Water Lecture

Networking Tea Session hosted by Singapore Water Association

Opening of Changi Water Reclamation Plant

New ideas on tap at top-level talks

What happens when you put leaders in water technologies, businesses and research in the same room as ministers and bureaucrats? We will find out during the one-and-a-half day Water Leaders Summit chaired by Professor Tommy Koh, Chairperson of the Asia Pacific Water Forum Governing Council.



▶▶ **Chaired by Prof Tommy Koh, the Water Leaders Summit 2009 is set to exceed expectations.**

Starting today, more than 200 specially invited movers and shakers in the water world will meet at the ideas-churning summit organised by Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, International Desalination Association (IDA) and PUB.

The Ministerial Forum kicks off this morning, bringing together senior government representatives from different regions such as the water ministers of Saudi Arabia and Sri Lanka. HRH Prince Willem Alexander from The Netherlands, an ardent supporter of the cause of

universal sanitation will also deliver a special address at this forum.

Following the forum, the plenary session will examine sustainable water solutions for cities, especially the role of governments, industries and international organisations in managing the precious liquid. The keynote speakers include Len Rodman from Black & Veatch, James Adams from the World Bank and Yue Zhong Ming from the Pearl River Water Resources Commission.

In addition, Professor Gatzte Lettinga, the winner of Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize 2009 and a champion of sustainability, will present the much-awaited second Singapore Water Lecture.

Tomorrow, the first roundtable chaired by Lisa Henthorne, President of IDA, will scrutinise investment opportunities in water infrastructure. David Garman, President of the International Water Association, will moderate the second roundtable which will focus on cost-effective water technologies. Both roundtables include experts with varied perspectives to stimulate an intellectual crossfire.

Those who miss the unique government-business-technology discussions at the summit need not despair. The proceedings will be synthesised in the Blue Paper, an outcome document to be released soon after the Water Week.

WATER CONVENTION

Experts to offer fresh insights at global platform

Overcoming climate change challenges and ensuring sustainable water resources management are some hot topics to be addressed at this year's Water Convention.

The Convention, starting today, offers an opportunity for water experts and practitioners to learn from each other's experiences in four key areas - technological applications, water and health, utility practice and urban water sustainability.



▶▶ **The conference committee worked passionately to make it a success, says Mr Day.**

Positioned alongside the Convention is the International Water Association's 6th Leading-Edge Conference on Water

and Wastewater Technologies (LET) which will showcase leading water technologies that include novel solutions from laboratories to full commercial applications. The LET Conference 2009 has extended its traditional focus on treatment technologies to include innovations that enable nutrient recovery and nanotechnology advancements.

"The organising committee has really worked hard to make the Water Convention and LET Conference complement each other," says Mr Darryl Day, co-chair of the Convention's

programme committee. "This provides a unique opportunity for delegates to move discussions back and forth between present-day applications and solutions."

With more than 200 oral and poster presentations at the Convention, it will be an ideal platform for the global water community to discuss a wide spectrum of ways to accelerate the acceptance of innovation and knowledge, he adds.

Spicing up this year's Convention is the inaugural "Best Poster" competition where delegates have until 11 am this Thursday to vote for their favourite posters. More than 70 posters from all over the world are showcased at the Convention and the winner will receive an award certificate, complimentary registration to Water Convention 2010 and four nights' accommodation at a 5-star hotel during the Water Week next year.

Lush opportunities to keep deals flowing

INVESTORS looking to tap the wellsprings of global water markets will be keen on a promising spread of business opportunities for lucrative deals at the Singapore International Water Week's Business Forums.

More than 70 eminent speakers and leaders with rich and diverse experiences from Australia, China, Europe, India, Japan, Middle East & North Africa (MENA), North America and Southeast Asia will headline an exciting line-up of eight business forums. A common thread running through the forums will be the water challenges faced by these countries and regions that can be turned into potential deals.

For the first time, North Africa and North America are featured in this series of forums. Closer to home, China, the world's fastest growing economy, will showcase its opportunities and regulatory framework that is in place to entice investors. India, gearing up for its role as the host of the 2010 Commonwealth Games is offering water resource management, development projects and opportunities at its business forum.

Meanwhile, Australia will explore the risks of climate change and the responses to mitigate them. Japan's latest technology and industry best practices will be showcased at its business forum while Southeast Asia's water situation and business opportunities will be made known to participants at its forum.

A forum titled "Financing for Water Infrastructure and Technologies: Challenges and Opportunities in the Current Economic Climate", the first of its kind at the Water Week, will address pressing issues on how investors and public sector leaders can close funding deals for water infrastructure and development.

WATER EXPO

Showcase of global launches at exhibition

Delegates and trade visitors to the Water Expo can feast on a buffet of innovations, award-winning products and services, as well as practical applications of water technologies when the trade show opens today.

More than 400 participating companies will be showcasing innovative products from over 26 countries and regions at the Water Expo this year. All 12,000 square-metres of exhibition space has been snapped up.

The largest pavilion is the Singapore Pavilion which has expanded five-fold from last year and covers 1,000 square-metres with over 50 local companies participating.

A newcomer to this year's exhibition is the European Pavilion which is supported by the Europe Chamber of Commerce. As the second largest exhibition

area after the Singapore Pavilion, it offers trade visitors a glimpse of new projects and joint-venture opportunities in Europe.

At the Buyers' Pavilion (the first of its kind in global water events), the largest number of exhibitors are from India. "The Greater Mumbai Municipal Corporation is shopping for water projects worth nearly S\$500 million," says Honorary Secretary-General of the Indian Water Works Association, D B Panse.

The Water Expo will introduce a host of products that will make their global debut at the popular Innovation Corner. Among the major exhibitors advertising their wares is ITT Water and Wastewater. It will make a presentation at the Innovation Corner today on the improvement of the reliability of their pumping system.

@ INNOVATION CORNER

A final whiff for chlorine?

New TwinOxide[®], a safer alternative in water disinfectants

As far as water disinfectants go, chlorine and chlorine derivatives have been most widely used around the world. Due to its numerous disadvantages and hazards to health and safety, the use of chlorine has also been heavily criticised. Now, an alternative has arrived that promises, among many things, to even improve the smell and taste of water! Find out more about this "21st Century water disinfectant" at Innovation Corner.

NUS, GE Singapore launch Water Tech Centre

The National University of Singapore and GE yesterday launched the 2,700-square-metre Water Tech Centre which will undertake fundamental research and industry innovations in water treatment. The S\$150-million centre is GE Water's first tie-up with an Asia-Pacific university.

Nitto Denko opens R&D hub

The Singapore Government's commitment to harness technology for used water treatment has induced Japan's Nitto Denko Corporation to set up shop here. Its new research hub will focus on reverse osmosis membrane technology.

Reflecting on water

Hwa Chong Institution students won the top award at the Singapore Junior Water Prize 2009 Finals for their prize-winning project, "Monitoring water turbidity using spectral reflectance". They came up with the idea of accessing water turbidity by studying reflections taken off the water surface. They will represent the Republic to vie for the international Stockholm Junior Water Prize in Sweden.

Row your boat



➤ Splashes of fun at the Singapore International Water Festival and Singapore River Festivals as part of the Water Week's festivities.

Water whizzes



➤ Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources Dr Amy Khor, with the Singapore Junior Water Prize winners from Hwa Chong Institution.

To a tee



➤ Delegates enjoy a game of golf before getting down to serious business

YOUR SAY

What is the biggest water issue facing the world today?



"The scarcity of water due to climate change and our habit of not considering water as an economic good. Conservation of water is the need of the hour." ~ D B Panse, Hon. Secretary General, Indian Water Works Association



"The biggest water challenge facing the Middle East is using different sources of water wisely to the best social and economic advantage." ~ Dr Rachel McDonnell, Lecturer, Oxford University/Arab Water Academy



"Recognising the value of water. Water is under-priced relative to its value in nearly every country and for nearly every use. This is because the public does not understand its value. This leads to a lack of funding to properly manage water." ~ Glen T. Daigger, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, CH2M HILL

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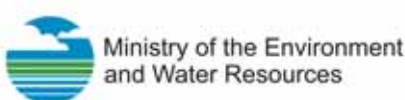
Walking the talk



The organisers of Singapore International Water Week are mindful to always continue improving the way this world-class event is managed and organised from the point of view of being eco-friendly. Our initiatives this year include:

- Serving tap water to delegates
- Maintaining a comfortable 25°C room temperature
- Placing recycling bins in exhibition halls
- Using Energy Star business equipment
- Printing this bulletin on 100% recycled paper

Organised by Singapore International Water Week Pte Ltd, a company set up by Singapore's Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, and PUB, Singapore's national water agency.



Held in:

