



- Press information -

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European water experts meet at IFAT 2002

- 12th European Water, Sewage and Solid Waste Symposium from 13 to 15 May 2002 as part of IFAT 2002 in Munich -

IFAT, the international trade fair for waste disposal and the environment, which opens on 13 May 2002, is not only the meeting point for the international water and waste business. Until 15 May experts from all over Europe will get together at the 12th European Water, Sewage and Solid Waste Symposium to discuss new technical developments and experiences.

The water and sewage part of the symposium, organised by the European Water Association (EWA), will cover three major topics in which the invited speakers will present new developments and experiences. The lectures go beyond mere technical presentations: The use of management systems will be a subject as well as optimised operation and the application of specific techniques.

Membrane Technology for drinking water and sewage

The use of membrane technology in water and wastewater treatment facilitates the removal of substances and the production of drinking water from sewage. The symposium lectures will show innovative and international examples of



the use of membranes for greywater recycling and wastewater reutilization. Furthermore several lectures deal with efficient membrane operation, especially with the crucial question of energy costs. Solutions for the problem of nitrification inhibition in membrane bioreactors are presented as well.

TV Inspection in Operation and Maintenance

The condition of the pipe and sewer system is vital for the operation of water and wastewater utilities. TV inspection permits to efficiently collect data about these conditions. The lectures during the Symposium will give basic information about data generation via TV inspection as well as information about specific questions like sewer infiltration flow from private house connections. Another subject is the question of how to raise the efficiency of the parameters speed and quality of the picture taking. In addition the use of TV inspection for the measurement of landfill leachate discharges and for drinking water utilities will be presented.

Finances, charges and cost reduction potential

The European Water Framework Directive requires the full recovery of all costs from consumers through water prices. The practical use of this principle imposes various questions to which the lectures of the symposium's third part will try to give answers. Topics are the cost reduction potential through the introduction of Integrated Quality and Environmental Management Systems, the influence of depreciation on costs and charges especially in the EU Candidate Countries, and principles of benchmarking. A discussion about the future of municipal drinking water utilities is presented as well as first reflections about the costs for river

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basin management caused by the European Water Framework Directive.

We will regularly keep you up-to-date about current developments until the beginning of the Symposium in May 2002.

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The European Water Association (EWA) is an independent non-governmental and non-profit making organisation dealing with the management and improvement of the water environment. It is one of the major technical and scientific associations in Europe that covers the whole water sector, wastewater as well as drinking water and water related waste. With member associations from nearly all Central and Eastern European Countries, it not only includes the current European Union member states, Norway, and Switzerland, but also most of the candidate countries and Russia.

Besides the information of its members on EU legislation and standardisation, the aim of the association is to provide a forum for the discussion of key technical and policy issues. This is done by international conferences, workshops and meetings, special working group for experts and also by the publication of an own journal, the "European Water Management". Through this exchange of knowledge the association intends to contribute to a sustainable water management: a safe water supply and the protection of water and soil.

The EWA has established close contacts to the European Commission (DG Environment), the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the European Parliament.

European Water Association



The EWA consists today of nearly 30 European national associations representing professionals and technicians for wastewater and water utilities as well as consultants, and about 10 firms and enterprises as corporate members. The association thus represents about 55,000 professional individuals working in their national associations in a broad field of water management.