CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

September 27 – October 1 | New Orleans, Louisiana

DEADLINES
Workshop Proposal Submissions: November 1, 2013
Abstract and Session Submissions: December 2, 2013
WEFTEC, the Water Environment Federation’s (WEF) annual technical exhibition and conference is the biggest event of its kind and offers the water professional from around the world the best quality education and training available today. We are pleased to announce our 2014 Call for Abstracts. WEFTEC 2014 will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 27–October 1.

By speaking at and attending WEFTEC, you join nearly 20,000 water professionals from around the world to hear cutting-edge sessions on a wide range of topics. At WEFTEC 2013 there were over 145 technical sessions alone! You gain exposure by presenting to regulators, researchers, practitioners, operators and exhibitors at the most highly regarded technical conference in the wastewater and water quality industry.

Each year the Program Committee addresses the most relevant issues while at the same time addressing the needs of newcomers to the industry. For the second year in a row, the Call for Abstracts strives to create a synergy in the various topics and focus areas that will in the end create sessions that impact all areas of water rather than just a single symposium area.

The Program Committee is soliciting abstracts under the following topics and focus areas.

**TOPICS**

**Air Quality and Odors**
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, reporting, mitigation and carbon credits/accounting
- Municipal incinerators
- Odor control at treatment plants
- Regulatory standards

**Asset Management**
- ISO 55000 international standard for asset management
- Comprehensive municipal programs with the objective of setting priorities for infrastructure maintenance and repair
- Large-scale investments in automation (e.g., whole plant automation, major collection system monitoring projects)
- System security, cyber security
- Implementation of comprehensive programs for utilities, case studies
- Life cycle analysis

**Biosolids Management and Solids Handling (not Energy Recovery)**
- Treatment of headworks residuals: grit and screenings
- Solids pre-treatment and minimization: thermal, mechanical, electrical, chemical
- Biosolids management regulations
- Volume reduction: thickening and dewatering
- Anaerobic digestion: conventional and advanced technologies
- Enhancing biogas production: co-digestion of biosolids and other organic sources such as FOG, food wastes, animal wastes, etc.
- Aerobic digestion: conventional and advanced (e.g., autothermal thermophilic)
- Thermal processes: oxidation, drying, composting
- Biosolids disinfection
- Masterplan for biosolids

**Collection Systems and Water Distribution Systems**
- Separate and combined sewer system planning, design and implementation
- Sewer system rehabilitation and repair
- Sewer system operations, maintenance, and performance evaluation
- Sewer system modeling, design storm and level of service evaluations
- Sewer system capacity, management, operations and maintenance plans
- Long term control plans
- Sanitary sewer overflow programs, including identification and control of infiltration and inflow sources, roots, and fats, oils, and grease (FOG)
- Private property programs
- Emergency response and repairs
- Small and macro-scale automation, sensing, and instrumentation projects

Energy Management and Optimization
- Aeration system optimization (incl. blowers and diffusers)
- Energy demand reduction (incl. process changes, optimization, control)
- Energy neutrality
- ISO 50001 energy management systems development, implementation, auditing and certification
- Coordinated programs that match energy use with billing structure to reduce costs
- Public/private partnerships, project implementation
- Power monitoring systems and metrics for measuring energy efficiency

Energy Production (including Combined Heat and Power)
- Biogas to energy
- Biogas cleaning
- Biogas to biomethane
- Biosolids to energy
- Alternative energy sources: solar, hydrokinetic, thermal, and wind
- Algae to fuel

Future Issues
- Social responsibility and sustainability reporting
- Preparing for the coming water environment challenges and opportunities

- New (and old) technologies with potential application in the water environment
- Emerging development trends and appropriate water technologies in developing/emerging countries
- Mining “big data” for management of the water environment
- Sustainable water use in agricultural management practices and food production
- Water “footprinting” practice and global polices on “embedded” or virtual water
- Common
- Climate change adaptation
- Future/mega cities

Industrial Issues and Treatment Technologies
All of the below only as applied in industrial settings; non-industrial abstracts should submit under other topics
- Biological (aerobic, anoxic, anaerobic) treatment processes
- Physical/chemical treatment processes
- Nutrient removal
- Residuals management
- Water conservation, effluent reuse, and brine management
- WWTP operations & cost reduction
- Energy conservation & energy recovery
- Stormwater management
- Regulatory compliance, including pretreatment
- WWTP case histories, pilot plant studies and modeling evaluations

Instrumentation, Control, Automation
- Small and macro-scale projects that target a specific process within the treatment plant

- Specific process control system design, strategies, and programming (incl. SCADA, DCS, PLCs)
- Analyzers and instruments
- Data harvesting for modeling processes within the treatment plant
- Managing and optimizing comprehensive instrumentation and control systems

Laboratory Practices and Issues
- Data quality validation and verification
- New analytical techniques
- Comparison of analytical techniques
- Lab safety
- Laboratory instruments
- Emergency response and security issues

Marine Environment Issues
- Catastrophic events: tanker and off shore exploration and extraction spills
- Shipboard treatment, recycle, reuse and discharge of blackwater and greywater
- Ballast water regulations: treatment and management
- Point source and non-point source impacts on near-shore and offshore water quality
- Desalination by-product (resource) management
- Marine farming/aquaculture regulations, practices and impacts
- Resource extraction/marine mining of natural resources
- Marine water quality issues and causes
- Impacts of tourism on small island nation marine resources

www.WEFTEC.org/Abstracts
Microconstituents, Contaminants of Emerging Concern, and Trace Organic Compounds
- Identification
- Treatment
- Regulatory issues
- Impacts
- Analysis
- Surface water quality studies

Nutrient Removal and Recovery
- Process optimization
- Greenhouse gas issues
- Comparison of technologies
- Sidestream treatment
- Source separation (e.g., urine)
- ENR, EBPR, BNR
- Regulatory issues

Project Delivery
- Alternative delivery methods
- Public/private partnerships
- Comparison of various methods for project delivery
- Trends in alternative project delivery methods

Public Health, Disinfection of Wastewater, and Potable Water
- Fundamental application of disinfection processes
- Testing and demonstration results of disinfection applications
- Design, operation, and troubleshooting of disinfection processes
- Disinfection of reclaimed water, stormwater, and other innovative applications
- Instrumentation and control of disinfection processes
- Public health issues in small communities (US/International)

Rates, Finance, and Capital Planning
- Trends and challenges in rate structures
- Incorporating green projects into the capital improvement planning
- Development of business case for capital planning
- Cash flow modeling and planning
- Capital improvement planning prioritization
- Measuring success of capital improvement programs
- Effective asset management
- Enterprise resource programs
- Financing and procurement challenges
- Life cycle analysis

Resiliency, Security, Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Climate change adaptation planning
- Disaster response and recovery
- Security and vulnerability assessments
- Mega-cities and water issues

Small Communities, Decentralized Systems
- Island nations
- Developing countries
- Septic systems and water resources
- Employee development
- Public outreach

Stormwater
- Green Infrastructure specifics for wet, arid or cold climates
- Effectiveness of stormwater treatment processes
- TMDL strategy and compliance
- Designing stormwater capture, storage and recovery as a water supply
- Stormwater utilities: separate or combined

Sustainable Effective Utility Management
- Effective Utility Management (EUM)
- Environmental (National Biosolids Partnership EMS, ISO 14001), Health & Safety (OHSAS 18001), Energy (ISO 50001), Quality (ISO 9001), and Sustainability Management Systems (ISO 26001, SA 8000)
- Continuous improvement programs

Treatment: Preliminary, Primary, Plant Pumping
- Influent and effluent pumping
- Headworks
- Primary settling
- Equalization
- CEPT
- Inside the plant wet weather flow management
- Does not include handling and disposal of grit, screenings, and solids: see Management of biosolids, Solids handling

Treatment: Secondary and Advanced (not Nutrients)
- Carbonaceous matter removal
- Fixed-growth systems, biofilm processes, trickling filters
- Suspended growth systems, activated sludge
- Clarification/solids water separation (not sludge thickening or dewatering)
- Membrane technologies, MBRs, RO
- Anaerobic treatment (not digestion: see Management of Biosolids)

Maintenance programs: private and public facilities
- Community policy and participation
- Designing for coastal water rise and weather resiliency

Young professionals and exhibitors/manufacturers are invited to submit to any of the topics that best covers their subject matter.
Filtration (sand, ultra, micro)
Chemical treatment/flocculation/coagulation/ballasted flocculation
Carbon, adsorption technologies
Advanced oxidation
Ion exchange
Sidestream treatment

Water Reuse, Desalination, Brine Recovery
- Reuse planning
- Industrial and mining reuse
- Greywater reuse
- Permitting/regulatory
- Direct potable reuse
- Indirect potable reuse
- Treatment technologies for reuse
- Reuse public outreach/communications

Agricultural reuse
Economics of water reuse

Watershed Management, Groundwater, Surface Water Quality
- Local issues
  - Gulf of Mexico hypoxia issues
  - Restoration and recovery of gulf shores
- Monitoring studies: biological and water quality
- Modeling studies: biological and water quality
- Integrated water resources planning
- NPDES permitting
- TMDLs: development and implementation

Water quality standards
- Nutrient criteria development & strategies
- Water quality trading and banking approaches
- Surface water and habitat restoration
- Nonpoint source investigations and control projects
- Pathogens and microbial source tracking
- Sustainable water resources management
- Public outreach
- Groundwater studies

Research and Development
- Recent and path breaking innovations, discoveries and developments
- Related to biological and chemical transformation of pollutants and constituents present in wastewater or used water streams
- Discoveries that are fundamental in nature and provide a pathway to application or implementation
- Leading edge implementation of an amalgam or adaptation of existing technologies for novel endpoints or objectives
- Focused on being highly transformative in nature with the potential for having a profound positive impact on the overall water environment

Design and Technology
- Process design
- Equipment specification and installation
- Comparison of technologies
- Planning and alternatives evaluations
- Modeling (process, CFD, physical, biokinetic, calibration, validation)
- Simulations, uncertainty analysis, sensitivity analysis
- Pilot and full-scale studies
- Case studies

Operations and Maintenance
- An existing process
- Optimizing, repairing, or maintaining the system or plant

Management
- Effective utility management
- Continuous improvement strategies and programs

Regulations
- National
- State
- Local/County

Focus Areas

Workforce development/leadership development
Customer service: response, troubleshooting, public outreach
Public/private partnerships
IT management
Alternative delivery methods
Finance strategies
Branding

Deadlines:
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Session Proposal Submission Deadline: December 2, 2013
CRITERIA FOR ABSTRACT SELECTION

APPLICABILITY
The abstract should present ideas, concepts, or lessons learned that are transferable and usable at other facilities and situations.

DEMONSTRATED RESULTS/CONCLUSIONS
The topic presented in the abstract should be mature and proven, including lessons learned. Depending on the type of abstract, this could measure the extent that plans are developed or stages/projects are completed.

CONSEQUENCES
The abstract should address the consequences of the issue/project presented. The consequences, both intended and unintended, could include environmental, economic, and social impacts. Both positive and negative results are encouraged.

RELEVANCE
The topic presented in the abstract should appeal to the WEFTEC audience, presenting breakthrough technologies, new concepts, novel applications of concepts, original ideas, new twists, hot topics, or application of fundamental techniques to today’s problems.

CONTENT, CLARITY, AND QUALITY
Authors should prepare clear, concise abstracts that follow the requirements. The quality and content of the abstract are considered indicative of the final paper/poster and presentation at WEFTEC 2014.

PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES
Formatting instructions and sample abstracts are available on www.weftec.org/abstracts. Abstracts must meet the requirements to be considered. Submissions received after the published deadline will not be considered.
Abstracts must clearly define the objectives, status, methodology, findings and significance of the investigation or project. Submissions on hot topics, regulatory issues, and new water or wastewater technologies are especially welcomed.
There is no limit to the number of abstracts that may be submitted by an individual, company, organization, or institution. Each abstract may be submitted one time only. WEF Membership is not a requirement for submission or presentation.

If selected, all participants must complete a manuscript and submit a copyright transfer form for each author. In addition, the participants must register for WEFTEC 2014 and are responsible for their own travel, lodging expenses, and registration fees for the conference. Registration will open in April 2014.
The official language of WEFTEC 2014 is English.

HOW TO SUBMIT
Online at www.weftec.org/abstracts
Note that you will need to upload your graphics separately from the rest of your text. Do not imbed your graphics in advance! You may upload either .doc or .docx formatted text.
If you encounter a problem with your submission or do not have internet access, please call WEF at +1-703-684-2453.

CALL FOR INTERACTIVE KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE OR POSTERS

TRADITIONAL OR DYNAMIC
WEFTEC is embracing the movement of knowledge exchange from the traditional poster style presentations to a new dynamic and interactive platform, but also recognizing the value of the more traditional posters. Presenters have a choice between a traditional poster or a dynamic format. The dynamic format may imbed a video or graphics that includes sound. The dynamic format is designed to accentuate the visual, dynamic and interactive nature of water environment applications, projects and technologies.
Submit your proposal via the online submission system where there is a place to select the desired presentation format for the abstract.
CALL FOR TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The WEF Program Committee encourages submission of proposals for whole or half-day sessions. Session Proposals are sought on topics that need a different format, such as a panel or discussion. Session proposals can also be submitted where the topic is new to most members and may need more focused dialogue. Session proposals are not required to have an interactive component, but should include information on why the topic lends itself to a different format or is not included as individual abstracts. These proposals should include subject matters not covered in the call for abstracts or speakers that would not normally submit individual abstracts through the call for abstracts process.

A whole session is 3 hours with a 1/2 hour break and a half session is 1 1/2 hours with no break. Involvement of the relevant symposia on the Program Committee in planning a session proposal is highly encouraged. Guidelines and forms can be found on www.weftec.org/abstracts.

SESSION SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All session proposals must be submitted on the required form via e-mail to smerther@wef.org no later than December 2, 2013, Midnight, U.S. Eastern Standard Time.

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS

The WEF Program Committee encourages proposals for workshops. Workshops are held on Saturday and Sunday at WEFTEC and should cover subjects in more depth and using different teaching methods than technical sessions. Hands-on, highly interactive, in-depth workshops are sought.

WORKSHOP REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Workshop Committee has updated and revised the procedures for the submittal of all workshops for WEFTEC 2014. These procedures encourage strong involvement of the WEF Technical Committees in the development of a successful and high-quality workshop. All proposals must be submitted on a Workshop Proposal Form that can be found at www.weftec.org/abstracts and must conform to the Workshop Proposal Guidelines also available on the Website.

CRITERIA FOR WORKSHOP SELECTION

The Workshop Committee has defined a matrix of selection criteria to be used to evaluate and rank all workshop proposals. This Criteria Matrix awards up to 30 points for a well-defined and organized workshop proposal in the following six categories:

1. WEF Committee Sponsorship
2. Topic Benefit and Significance
3. Learning Objectives
4. Methods for Training
5. Chairmen, Speakers, and Facilitators
6. Proposal Quality

The workshop reviewers will award up to five points in each of the six categories. The criteria definitions associated with each category can be found in the Workshop Guidance Document that can be found at www.weftec.org/abstracts.

WORKSHOP SUBMISSION DEADLINES

All workshop proposals must be submitted on the required form via e-mail to mlinder@wef.org no later than November 1, 2013, Midnight, U.S. Eastern Standard Time.