



Bulgarian Water Association



European Water Resources Association

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WATER LOSS REDUCTION IN WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS including a pre-conference training workshop

First Announcement & Call for Abstracts

14 -15 November 2011

Rodina Hotel (Hall 2), Sofia, Bulgaria



Water loss in water supply systems is a serious problem for almost all urban areas around the world and it can be even worse in areas with scarcity of water. This problem deserves immediate attention and appropriate action to reduce avoidable stress on scarce and valuable water resources. Several big cities have already started programmes geared towards the step-by-step reduction of the losses and it is well known that many institutions and water and sanitation utilities have developed and implemented strategies and technologies to control leakage and water loss. These strategies have proven highly efficient and received worldwide recognition.

The conference will be held for the fourth consecutive year and is considered to be the major annual water loss event in the Balkan region. This year's **conference** will document available know-how and best practices and will recommend new approaches for more efficient management in the field of water with a focus on water loss reduction.

The pre-conference **training workshop** will give a basic knowledge on water loss reduction terms, pressure management and equipment.



The conference and training workshop are supported by European Water Resources Association (EWRA). EWRA is a leading European non-profit organisation aiming at the enhancement of cooperation and the exchanges in application and research on all aspects of water resources. EWRA's activities include organisation of conferences, symposia and training courses, publication of journals, bulletins, conference proceedings and newsletters, as well as expert knowledge networks. Further information regarding EWRA can be found at www.ewra.net.

The conference will be held on **14 November (14:00 – 18:30)** and **15 November (09:00 – 17:00)**. It is aimed at decision-makers, experts in the water supply sector and water supply operators as well as at companies - producers of the respective equipment.

The Editorial Board of the Water Utility Journal of the European Water Resources Association will select 10 to 12 papers from those which will be accept for oral presentation at the conference to be published in the first issue of the Journal in 2012. The papers to be published will be chosen based on originality, clarity, relevance, contribution to knowledge and which will present interesting solutions to water utility problems, technological innovations, practical

guidelines for enhancing the efficiency of water systems as well as good practices and success stories.



The training workshop is scheduled on **14 November, from 08:30 to 13:00** and it is expected to attract 20-30 water operators from water utilities. Both theoretical and practical issues related to water losses will be discussed. At the end of the course, the participants will take a short test and will receive relevant certificate.

The practical training on equipment will be facilitated using a fully equipped test van provided by the Water Supply and Sewerage-Skopje.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- ✓ To encourage the exchange of experience and information on successful examples within the different national/local programmes in improving leakage control and water losses reduction in water supply systems;
- ✓ To concentrate on the most promising approaches, highlighting especially the need in institutional capacity development and the establishment of cooperation in order to apply the best available technical and managerial solutions;
- ✓ To collect facts and figures and successful case stories to increase awareness and attention to the issue of water loss reduction by decision-makers and water managers;

TRAINING WORKSHOP TOPICS

1. Terminology and Water Balance
2. Pressure Management
3. Leak detection equipment - theory and practice

CONFERENCE TOPICS

1. Innovative solutions to physical water loss reduction
2. Problems with apparent water losses reduction
3. Tangible target setting - how to maintain results
4. Problems related to Economic level of leakage
5. Panel discussion – how to move forward water loss reduction in the Balkan region

INVITATION FOR ABSTRACTS

Authors wishing to submit papers should send to the email address of BWA (see below) an abstract in English, up to 400 words (1 page A4), **until 1 September 2011** at the latest.

Authors of accepted abstracts reviewed by the Programme Committee will be invited to submit **by 1 October 2011** the full text of their papers in electronic form in English. The time for presentation is limited to 15 min. Abstracts will be published in a printed form, while the full papers will be recorded on a CD.

Abstracts should be accompanied by the following information:

- Title of the paper
- Author's name and affiliation
- E-mail address, postal address, telephone and fax number
- Conference topic

Abstracts should be presented as MS Word files, typesetting **Arial 10 pt** for the whole text, Normal style.

The following format should be observed for the abstracts:

- Margins – top, bottom, left, right: 2 cm;

- Title – capital letters, bold, left alignment;
- Authors – bold, italic, affiliation and position, email address, left alignment;
- Abstract - justified;

Instructions for papers and other practical information will be given with the Second Announcement.

LANGUAGES

The official languages of the conference are **English and Bulgarian**. Simultaneous translation will be provided for the conference and theoretical part of the training workshop. The practical part of the training will be provided with consecutive interpretation.

TECHNICAL EXHIBITION

Suppliers and manufacturers of innovative technical solutions for detection and control of water losses, leakage control and water metering are invited to present their products and methodologies in the technical exhibition that will be held during the conference in an adjacent hall (up to 10 tables, 1.80 x 0.50 m will be provided as well as space for posters). Please, contact the organizers for more information.

REGISTRATION FEES

- Participation in the training workshop – **50 EUR** (incl. coffee and lunch)
- Participation in the conference – **50 EUR** (incl. access to all sessions, conference proceedings, coffees, cocktail on 14 Nov, lunch on 15 Nov);
- Exhibitors – **130 EUR** (incl. access to all social events for 1 company representative);
- Company oral presentation during the plenary session (15 min) – **200 EUR** (incl. access to all social events for 1 company representative)

Notes:

1/ Members of BWA who have paid their membership fee for 2011 are entitled to 20% reduction of the above prices;

2/ Authors of accepted papers pay 50% of the registration fee (company presentations excluded);

3/ The fees include conference proceedings and access to all social events. After 31Oct 2011 the fees are increased by 20%

SPONSORSHIP

Those companies interested in sponsorship may contact the Organising Committee at the address of BWA below in order to receive the sponsorship package for the conference.

IMPORTANT DATES

1 September 2011 - Abstract submission;

15 September 2011 - Second Announcement, Advance Programme;

1 October 2011 - Papers submission; booking stands at the exhibition hall;

31 October 2011 – Deadline for registration and payment of registration fees.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dr. Atanas Paskalev – chairman
Ani Sargavakian
Boycho Boychev
Pravda Mihaylova

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Prof. Petar Kalinkov - chairman
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