

## Prolegomena

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### 1. THE ORGANISATION

The International Symposium of the European Water Resources Association «Water Utility Support» was successfully organised in Athens at the School of Rural and Surveying Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens on the 5th of June 2014. The Symposium was organised by the Centre for the Assessment of Natural Hazards and Proactive Planning of NTUA with the support of the Greek Committee for Water Resources Management (EEDYP), and the Hellenic Association of Hydraulic Works and Water Resources Management Consulting Engineers (H.A. Consulting engineers). More than 200 professionals and academics participated actively in the sessions of the Symposium. An Exhibition of new products was also held in parallel to the Symposium in which new equipment, technological advances and innovative software were presented.

This volume, which is a special issue of the Water Utility Journal, includes most of the presentations and is, in essence, the volume of Proceedings of the Symposium.

### 2. THE SCOPE

As known Water Utility Companies (WUCs) are responsible for the conveyance, treatment and distribution of sufficient quantity and satisfactory quality of potable water as well as the collection and treatment of waste water. WUCs are currently faced with several critical challenges such as urbanisation, people mobility, increased pollution of water resources, higher cost of development and treatment of water and waste water, ageing of water distribution systems and sewers, and many others.

Technological advances, smart management tools, innovative administrative practices can support WUCs for achieving their goals.

The Symposium had as principal aim the presentation of innovative solutions to the real problems which the WUCs face, from technological, management and administrative aspects.

### 3. THE TOPICS

Among others, the topics which were discussed in the Symposium were: Mapping of water distribution systems (WDS), Smart metering, Pipe technologies, Water loss management, Rehabilitation of WDS, Automation and ICT, Desalination, Treatment of raw water, Water quality monitoring, Advanced software for network analysis and optimization, Waste water treatment and management, Water management under water shortage, Pricing policies, Privatisation.

## 4. THE PRESENTATIONS

Following are the presentations of the Symposium:

- Introductory Speeches [Vice Rector A. Moropoulou, Dean A. Siolas, I. Passios (EYDAP), C. Damvergis (H.A. Consulting Engineers) and V. Tsihrintzis (EEDYP)]
- Scope and Objectives (G. Tsakiris)
- Rational Design of Urban Water Supply and Distribution Systems (G. Tsakiris)
- Sewer Systems: Failures and Rehabilitation (C. Damvergis)
- Leak Detection and Water Loss Management (B. Charalambous, D. Foufeas, N. Petroulias)
- Data Collection and Handling in Groundwater Management (T. Hatzichristos)
- Mapping and GIS Support (Y. Photis)
- Pricing Policies - Principles of Privatisation (V. Kanakoudis and S. Tsitsifli)
- Performance Evaluation of WDS - Optimised Operation (M. Spiliotis)
- Wastewater Treatment Technologies (G. Gikas and V. Tsihrintzis)
- Water Reuse: Current Practices and Trends in the EU and the World (A. Angelakis)
- ICT and Stakeholder Participation in Water Management in the Cities of the Future (C. Laspidou)
- Applications of Hydroinformatics in Municipal Water Systems (S. Michas)
- Social Media Support of Water Utilities (E. Safiolea and A. Zamani)
- Decision Making Tool for Planning Blue-Green Dream Applications (B. Todorovic, C. Makkimovic)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank the members of the Organising Committee V. Tsihrintzis (EEDYP, CANaH), C. Damvergis (H.A. Consulting Engineers), D. Alexakis (CANaH, Lab. RW&WRM), H. Vangelis (EWRA, Lab. RW&WRM) and the handling editor of this special issue D. Tigkas, for their devoted work in the organisation of the Symposium and the preparation of this issue. I would also wish to thank the people of the Centre for the Assessment of Natural Hazards and Proactive Planning and the School of Rural & Surveying Engineering (NTUA) for their administrative support. Finally, I wish to thank our main sponsors OLYMPIOS Trading S.A., and MDS Marathon Data Systems for their financial support.