

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 6 October

9:30 am
to
1:00 pm

ROOM A

THE CONTRIBUTION OF CHEMISTS AND PHYSICISTS TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE ON WATER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION (N. 2020/2184/UE)

Organized by the National Order of Chemists

The objectives of the new Directive are to protect human health from the negative effects of the contamination of water intended for human consumption. It is thus believed that professional chemists and physicists can make their expertise available to both public bodies and the community in this sector, which will become increasingly relevant to ensure its protection and integrity.

ROOM B

AGRICULTURE AND LAND RECLAMATION

TBD

2:00 pm
to
6:00 pm

ROOM A

THE STRATEGIC ROLE OF ASSOCIATIONS IN THE FUTURE OF THE WATER INDUSTRY

Organized by H2O

Digitization and the green transition, cornerstones of Italy's National Recovery and Resilience Plan, will be just some of the topics covered in this seminar. By playing a fundamental role, associations will tackle topics linked to technology, innovation, investments, management systems and best practices in the water industry.

ROOM B

GREEN BUILDINGS: STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Organized by GBC

The drinking water shortage is one of the most important challenges that the world is facing, and the construction industry can play a fundamental role in proactively safeguarding and efficiently managing water. The aim of this conference is to analyse the topic of urban water saving through the exploration of strategies for the sustainable development of water networks, and the way in which buildings can contribute to water savings, through the presentation of exemplary case studies.

Thursday, 7 October

9:30 am
to
1:00 pm

ROOM A

INVESTING IN WATER: DISCREPANCIES, DIGITIZATION AND THE GREEN TRANSITION

Organized by REF

With the approval of the technical quality regulation and the introduction of incentives to enhance investments in support of certain circular economy directives into the water tariff calculation method for the third regulatory period (MTI-3), ARERA has given the water system an important nudge towards overcoming critical issues and improving its environmental sustainability. An overview of the progress made by technical quality indicators, investments and the most relevant tariff components will be followed by a round table session in which service operators will discuss ways to develop the industry, the good practices implemented and obstacles/support elements on the path towards greater environmental sustainability and a circular economy.

ROOM B

NEW APPROACHES TO MANAGEMENT, MODELLING AND INNOVATION IN WATER NETWORKS

Organized by CSSI - the Centre for Water Systems Studies

This event will be an opportunity for water industry technicians and scholars to meet by creating a forum to discuss and debate important topics, including the numerical modelling of complex networks to improve planning and management, new paradigms for the planning of water infrastructure, problems linked to maintaining appropriate chlorine concentrations in distribution network pipes, how COVID-19 has changed water usage habits in cities, the relationship between the management of a water network and the management of an aquifer, the modernization and industrialization of software dedicated to the management of urban water networks and irrigation systems, energy recovery in large pumping stations, and hydro-electric production through systems integrated into the water network.

ROOM C

SEMINAR

Organized by IATT

ROOM D

SMART METERS: THE EVOLUTION OF A SPECIES

Organized by SERVIZI A RETE

The development of smart utility meters is growing steadily: in the power sector we're already at 2G versions, while gas is concluding its round with 1G versions. Water is still on the outside looking in, but is working with 1G and already has a number of regulatory incentives that are making manufacturers, key players and experts discuss why, how and when to move towards this new type of technology. For some time now (and not by coincidence, given the context), regulators have proposed national standards for technical parameters that are meant to incentivise managerial efficiency. To respond to this challenge, stakeholders and contractors must quickly make issue-solving decisions that also look to the long-term future. With the recent phase of optimal-sized management aggregations having ended (as seen in the 2019 Blue Book report), the metering debate has become strategic. This meeting aims to be a fruitful opportunity for analysis and reflection.

Thursday, 7 October

2:00 pm
to
6:00 pm

ROOM A

REGULATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA: SHARED REFLECTION AND A DISCUSSION WITH OTHER ENTITIES, 10 YEARS FROM THE FOUNDING OF ATERSIR

Organized by ATERSIR

ARERA has recently been given regulatory jurisdiction over waste services (already being realized through significant acts and procedures), and the implementation of selected regulations pertaining to local public services (which has a long history in Italy) is proceeding at a robust pace. Given this context (i.e., that of multilevel regulation), the mosaic of responsibilities is rapidly being completed centrally (ARERA), with more gradual homogenization at the regional level. In Emilia Romagna, a single regulatory agency on a regional level, in charge of water services and waste disposal, was created in 2010-2011. Ten years later, ATERSIR is here to take stock and make an initial evaluation along with all industry players, with specific reference to water services.

ROOM B

TECHNOLOGY FOR DIAGNOSING LONG WATER MAINS AND AQUEDUCTS

Organized by UNIPG - Department of Civil Engineering

Until recently, it was widely believed that leaks in transition mains (TM) could be considered negligible compared to those in water distribution networks (WDN), as well as easily controllable by simply measuring input vs output delivered to the end user (thus ignoring the fact that confirming the existence of a leak is not equivalent to knowing its location). This outlook was progressively dismantled by data and facts.

This event aims to compare currently-available techniques and discuss their merits and shortcomings (e.g., the costs associated with carrying out tests, the interference of tests with regular operation, test duration, the possibility of technology transfer to the operator and the possible autonomy of the latter in carrying out periodic checks), with reference to the different types of water plants.

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SMART METERS: THE EVOLUTION OF A SPECIES

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6:00 pm

ROOM E

THE EVOLUTION OF REMOTE MONITORING IN THE WATER INDUSTRY

Organized by the Water Task Force of the Remote Monitoring Group of ANIE Automazione
Today's Integrated Water Cycle is defined by a very wide range of drivers for improvement in both the drinking water and waste water areas. Remote monitoring is the best tool for meeting new needs as well as an essential hi-tech instrument for modern public utilities to reach the quality and efficiency targets required by the market and by water authorities. This conference will highlight the transformations and interactions that have taken place at different levels of remote monitoring, including through case studies. Today, this technology is active and evolving, a critical, crucial element for the implementation of any corporate strategy.

ARENA

INNOVATION AWARDS

Friday, 8 October

9:30 am
to
1:00 pm

ROOM A

ALTHESYS

ITALIAN WATER UTILITIES, BETWEEN CLIMATE CHALLENGES AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

Organized by ALTHESYS

The crisis created by the pandemic has highlighted the water industry's ability to resist and react under duress, and has also accelerated the transformation of companies towards sustainability-oriented industrial strategies.

The industry's trend towards ESG issues, the development of regulations and the growing financial and investment capacity of companies is creating a context that was unimaginable just a few years ago.

Starting with an analysis of the 100 best Italian utilities as ranked by Top Utility, this workshop will look at current trends and predict future changes through a discussion with some of the industry's leading stakeholders and players.

ROOM B

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE IN PLANNING, DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OF URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS (PART I)

Organized by CSDU

The event presents recent intervention strategies for the management of rainwater and waste water in urban areas, and the design criteria and types of products suitable for that purpose. Starting from the impact of climate change on urban water systems, speakers will discuss monitoring tools for sewage systems, technological methods for sustainable and resilient urban drainage, and calculation tools used to design and model the various components of sewage systems.

ROOM C

H2O INTERNATIONAL

WaterIdeas conference: Leading technical and cultural innovation in the water industry

SESSION ONE: ITALIAN CASE STUDIES

Conference organized by ISLE in collaboration with Labelab

Water utilities are constantly striving to reduce the volume of non-revenue water and improve their operational efficiency, while coping with ageing infrastructure, changes in water demand, strict environmental targets and increasingly stringent regulatory requirements. To deal with these challenges, this conference will present and discuss the latest developments, strategies, techniques and applications of international best practices in the innovative management of water networks.

Two Italian-language sessions will be held: 'Regulator and Operator Collaboration to Resolve Leakage Problems' and 'Best Practices and Innovation for Leakage Control,' featuring a series of presentations by leading Italian experts. Case studies will be presented and topical issues and perspectives for water utilities will be discussed, such as: strategies and technologies for monitoring and reducing water loss, asset management, network performance analysis and benchmarking, manager/regulator collaboration on plans to reduce leakage, and the right approach to ensure the transition from intermittent provision to 24/7 services.

ROOM D

CONFERENCE

Organized by APCE (CORROSION PREVENTION ASSOCIATION)

Friday, 8 October

2:00 pm
to
6:00 pm

ROOM B

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE IN THE PLANNING, DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OF URBAN DRAINAGE SYSTEMS (PART II)

Organized by CSDU

The event presents recent intervention strategies for the management of rainwater and waste water in urban areas, and the design criteria and types of products suitable for that purpose. Starting from the impact of climate change on urban water systems, speakers will discuss monitoring tools for sewage systems, technological methods for sustainable and resilient urban drainage, and calculation tools used to design and model the various components of sewage systems.

ROOM C

H2O INTERNATIONAL

WaterIdeas conference: Leading technical and cultural innovation in the water industry

SESSION TWO: INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE

Water utilities are constantly striving to reduce the volume of non-revenue water and improve their operational efficiency, while coping with ageing infrastructure, changes in water demand, strict environmental targets and increasingly stringent regulatory requirements. To deal with these challenges, this conference will present and discuss the latest developments, strategies, techniques and applications of international best practices in the innovative management of water networks.

Two English-language sessions will be held: 'Research and Innovation to Solve NRW Challenges' and 'Best Practices and Technologies in NRW Management'; featuring a series of presentations by leading international experts. Case studies will be presented and topical issues and outlooks for water utilities will be discussed, such as: smart water networks, data-driven technology and decision-making support systems, the water networks of the future, strategies and technologies to monitor and reduce water loss; benchmarking and international data in leakage management, etc.