



Green Newsletter  
March 2009

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## **IAPMO, WPC to Present Second International Emerging Technologies Symposium**

Spurred on by the enthusiastic buzz created by the inaugural event last summer, IAPMO will again join with the World Plumbing Council (WPC) to convene a second International Emerging Technologies Symposium, May 11-12, 2010. The timely event is designed to provide a portal for the host organizations' partners in the manufacturing, engineering and trade industries to display and demonstrate their innovative solutions to regulatory developments that often alter the industry landscape.

The first International Emerging Technologies Symposium, held last August in Chicago, surpassed expectations both in attendance and the response elicited by those who participated, prompting IAPMO and the WPC to enthusiastically schedule this follow up. The symposium will be held in Ontario, Calif., near IAPMO's world headquarters. Suitable facilities are being researched and the host site will be announced soon.

IAPMO and the WPC are seeking sponsors, presenters and panelists to participate in the symposium; especially experts in the following fields:

- Water, Sanitation and Health
- Water and Energy Efficiency
- Water Reuse
- Solar and Other Renewable Energies
- Water Quality
- Fat, Oil and Grease Discharges
- Advancements in Mechanical Systems
- Plumbing Research Initiatives
- Laws, Regulations and Policy Development

"The International Emerging Technologies Symposium provides a global, industry wide perspective on how emerging technologies will transform our markets and help conserve our precious natural resources," said IAPMO Executive Director GP Russ Chaney. "We look forward to another exciting and informative program, featuring presentations and panel discussions from some of the most talented and respected minds in the plumbing and mechanical industries."

A series of videos archiving last year's symposium are available for viewing free online at <http://www.youtube.com/user/IAPMOGroup> and AIA continuing education credits are available when the full series is purchased. Attendance at the next event, however, will be required to receive the credits.

In addition to last year's event, IAPMO and the WPC have previously worked together to bring industry wide attention to the SARS epidemic and the measures necessary to mitigate its threat around the world.

For sponsorship opportunities and/or information on participating in the event, please contact Maria Sol Alba at (708) 995-3005 or [Career.Services@iapmo.org](mailto:Career.Services@iapmo.org).

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## **Global Experts Meet to Discuss the Challenges of Dry Drains**

There were many highlights at this year's ISH, the world's leading trade fair for the plumbing and heating industry held in Frankfurt, Germany in March.

While visitors contemplated the latest in pipe connection systems, water-saving plumbing devices or the merits of the style of taps or baths, another group of industry leaders were learning about a

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relatively new technical issue that is sweeping the plumbing world.

The Dry Drains Forum which covered the issue of (a lack of) drain line carry became an important part of the week-long expo. This problem is now seen globally as a technical matter that needs urgent attention.

The dry drain dilemma has come about as a result of the global imperative to reduce water consumption due to climate change, population growth, prolonged drought and excessive consumption.

Until recently, governments, regulators and industry around the world had failed to realize the impact the loss of flow had on the overall plumbing system.

Co-supporter of the Dry Drains event, the World Plumbing Council sees this issue as fundamental to maintaining the health and sanitation standards within our built environment.

The Dry Drains Forum was chaired by Emeritus Professor John Swaffield from Edinburgh Scotland. Prof. Swaffield is recognized as being the foremost researcher of drainage systems.

A range of international speakers updated delegates on varying Government policies, field issues, local water usage practices and the impact of climate change.

Of particular interest to the audience was a presentation of an Australian field trial which demonstrated drain line behavior of low-flush toilet systems.

Another trial of waterless urinals confirmed the relatively short time it takes for drainage pipes to be blocked by uric acid, when there is no additional drainage flow upstream of the waterless fixture.

In closing the forum, Chairman of the World Plumbing Council, Mr. Robert Burgon commented:

"We have shared a great deal of valuable information today, but we also have a lot of work to continue with on this issue.

"The one thing we do know is there will continue to be pressure from Governments around the world to reduce the consumption of water in urban areas.

"It is therefore important that we continue to engage with all parties involved from the design to final installation stage of the plumbing system process."

The Dry Drains Forum was initiated and managed by [www.worldplumbinginfo.com](http://www.worldplumbinginfo.com) – where the forum presentations, as well as video coverage of the event are available for download.

Sponsors for the event were IAPMO and Caroma International.

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## **Abu Dhabi, IAPMO Work Together to Develop Uniform Plumbing Code – Abu Dhabi**

The Environmental Agency of Abu Dhabi (EAD), in collaboration with the IAPMO, has published the Uniform Plumbing Code – Abu Dhabi: An Environmental Guide for Water Supply and Sanitation for the United Arab Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

This 2009 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code – Abu Dhabi (UPC-AD) was created using as its basis the 2009 edition of IAPMO's Uniform Plumbing Code®, an American National Standard that represents the most current approaches in the plumbing field. Abu Dhabi's unique cultural, economic, social and climatic conditions were all taken into consideration during the development of the UPC-AD.

The UPC-AD is considered to be one of the most comprehensive and technologically advanced plumbing codes ever developed. It addresses the specific needs of Abu Dhabi while providing a sustainable process for future development.

The Code will help to dramatically reduce water consumption in the Emirate by detailing the specifications and designs required for water supply and sanitation technologies, including for public restrooms and restrooms adjacent to mosques. It also provides information about the tools and devices needed in this field and the scope and mechanism of applying the specifications.

This will help to enhance use of solar technology for domestic water heating, as well as vacuum

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drainage systems that provide an alternate method of waste removal, grey and black water waste systems and reduction of wastewater requiring treatment as a result of water conservation.

The UPC-AD also provides information about auto wash recycling systems, how to separate grey and black waste water systems, and how to enhance water savings through low-flow plumbing fixtures, especially at laborer compounds. The Code also provides details about standards for product certification and testing.

This announcement represents for IAPMO another in a recent series of cooperative efforts with international government entities. The association previously assisted in the development of a Uniform Potable Water Plumbing Code for the State of Kuwait, is co-developer of the Uniform Plumbing Code – India and has collaborated with the Kingdom of Jordan in developing its own Uniform Plumbing Code.

"IAPMO was pleased to assist EAD in the creation of this landmark model code," said GP Russ Chaney, executive director of The IAPMO Group. "Abu Dhabi has serious water supply challenges that are now being addressed by the requirements of this new plumbing code. The Emirate now joins many other nations that have used the Uniform Plumbing Code as the basis for their plumbing system installations. The provisions of the Uniform Plumbing Code protect more than 50 percent of the world's population."

Consisting of 16 chapters and eight appendixes, the UPC-AD will be available in both English and Arabic at the offices of EAD for all stakeholders and developers by April 2009.

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### WaterSmart Innovations Registration Now Open

The Southern Nevada Water Authority, in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense Program, IAPMO and other forward-thinking organizations, invites you to participate in the second WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition at the South Point Hotel and Conference Center, in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 7-9, 2009.

If you attend only one water efficiency conference this year, make it WSI.

Last year's debut WSI drew more than 1,200 participants from 43 states and 17 nations. This year, WSI will build on its standing as the largest urban water-efficiency conference and exhibition in the world - a truly interdisciplinary event that will broaden your knowledge of the many exciting new products, policies and programs that are changing the future of water use for the better.

This is your opportunity to meet other water-use professionals from around the globe, share your water-efficiency achievements and absorb the newest concepts and inspirations for the future.

Register Early. Save Cash.

If you register before July 10, you'll pay our Early Bird rate of \$330 - a savings of \$60 off our regular full registration.

Our space is limited. Your opportunities are not.

Don't wait - to secure your place at this important event, visit [www.WaterSmartInnovations.com](http://www.WaterSmartInnovations.com) or contact [info@watersmartinnovations.com](mailto:info@watersmartinnovations.com).

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### Accepting Nominations for Green Contractor, George Kauffman Award

Nominations are being accepted for both the Green Contractor of the Year Award and the George Kauffman Lifetime Achievement Award, to be presented at the 80th Annual Education and Business Conference, Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2009, in San Diego, California.

New for this year, the Green Contractor Award will honor the IAPMO member contractor who best fulfills or symbolizes a commitment to environmental sustainability through his or her work in the plumbing and mechanical industries. It will be given in addition to IAPMO's long-standing annual honors, the Industry Person of the Year, Government Person of the Year and American Flag awards, and the George Kauffman Lifetime Achievement Award, given each year a worthy honoree is nominated and selected by the IAPMO Board of Directors.

Nominations will be accepted until May 15, 2009. To download the application form, go to <http://forms.iapmo.org/docs/AwardApplication.pdf>

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### **EPA Launches Video/Photo Project in Celebration of Earth Month**

In anticipation of Earth Day, the Environmental Protection Agency has launched an interactive video and photo project asking the public to share the ways they enjoy and protect their environment.

These projects are part of EPA's multi-event celebration of Earth Month and of EPA's 39 year history – which will highlight the agency's renewed commitment to protecting human health and the environment.

The EPA is asking filmmakers and photographers around the world to submit their own videos and photos documenting what steps they take to protect the water they drink, the air they breathe and the overall environmental health of their communities.

Participants can submit their video entries to the EPA's Earth Day Video Project group on YouTube. Photo entries should be submitted via Flickr.

Categories in the video project are:

- Reducing your carbon footprint
- Conserving and protecting water
- Protecting the environment
- Reduce, reuse, recycle

Categories in the photo project are:

- People and the environment
- The beauty of nature
- Wildlife

EPA officials will select videos and photos to feature on the website throughout April. The agency will accept videos and photos through the end of April.

To participate in the Earth Day Photo project: <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/photoproject/>

To participate in the Earth Day Video project: <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/videoproject/>

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### **Administration Announces Nearly \$8 Billion in Weatherization Funding and Energy Efficiency Grants**

Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Chu have detailed an investment of nearly \$8 billion in state and local weatherization and energy efficiency efforts as part of the President's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. With an investment of about \$5 billion through the Weatherization Assistance Program and about \$3 billion for the State Energy Program, the Department of Energy will partner with state and local governments to put 87,000 Americans to work and save families hundreds of dollars per year on their energy bills.

To jump-start job creation and weatherization work, the Department of Energy is releasing the first installment of the funding - about \$780 million -- in the next few days. The Department will release additional funding over time as states demonstrate that they are using the funding effectively and responsibly to create jobs and cut energy use.

"This energy efficiency funding for states is an important investment in making America more energy independent, creating a cleaner economy and creating more jobs for the 21st century that can't be outsourced," said Vice President Biden.

The funding will support weatherization of homes, including adding more insulation, sealing leaks and modernizing heating and air conditioning equipment, which will pay for itself many times over.

"Even as we seize the enormous potential of clean energy sources like wind and solar, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act makes a major investment in energy efficiency, which is

the most cost effective route to energy independence," Chu said.

The Weatherization Assistance Program will allow an average investment of up to \$6,500 per home in energy efficiency upgrades and will be available for families making up to 200% of the federal poverty level - or about \$44,000 a year for a family of four. [\$55,140 for Alaska and \$50,720 for Hawaii]

The State Energy Program funding will be available for rebates to consumers for home energy audits or other energy saving improvements; development of renewable energy projects for clean electricity generation and alternative fuels; promotion of Energy Star products; efficiency upgrades for state and local government buildings; and other innovative state efforts to help save families money on their energy bills.

The DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program allows low-income families to reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient, reducing heating bills by an average of 32% and overall energy bills by hundreds of dollars per year.

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### California Governor Declares State of Emergency

California's third consecutive year of drought prompted Gov. Schwarzenegger last month to declare a state of emergency and order immediate action to manage the crisis.

The state's reservoirs are at critically low levels, and according to the National Drought Mitigation Center, January and February of 2009 have been the driest on record since the US began recording weather data in 1895.

Officials said the drought could cost the state as many as 95,000 agricultural jobs nearly \$3 billion in economic losses.

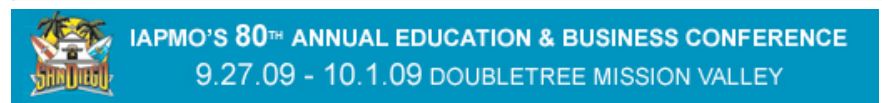
"This drought is having a devastating impact on our people, our communities, our economy and our environment - making today's action absolutely necessary," said the governor. "This is a crisis, just as severe as an earthquake or raging wildfire, and we must treat it with the same urgency by upgrading California's water infrastructure to ensure a clean and reliable water supply for our growing state."

The Governor called for cities to cut back on water use 20 percent and state agencies to implement a water reduction plan, will let planners fast-track some infrastructure building.

Today the Department of Water Resources (DWR) must provide an updated report on the state's drought conditions and water availability. If the situation has not sufficiently improved, the Governor said water rationing and mandatory cuts in water use could be instituted.

Read the Governor's Press Release: <http://gov.ca.gov/press-release/9796>

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#### Events Calendar:

**PMI Spring Meeting**  
April 5-9, 2009  
The Grove Park Inn  
Asheville, NC  
[www.pmihome.org](http://www.pmihome.org)

**PHCC Leadership & Legislative Conference**  
April 28 - May 1, 2009  
Arlington, VA  
[www.phccweb.org](http://www.phccweb.org)

**KBIS 2009**  
May 1-3, 2009  
Georgia World Congress Center  
Atlanta, GA  
[www.kbis.com](http://www.kbis.com)

**IAPMO Technical Committee Meeting**  
May 4-9, 2009  
Hilton at the Ballpark  
St. Louis, MO  
[www.iapmo.org](http://www.iapmo.org)

**AWWA Annual Conference & Expo**  
June 14-18, 2009  
San Diego Convention Center  
San Diego, CA  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

**2009 ASHRAE Annual Meeting**  
June 20-24, 2009  
Louisville, KY  
[www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

**IAPMO 80th Annual Education and Business Conference**  
Sept 27 - Oct. 1, 2009  
Doubletree Hotel at Mission Valley  
San Diego, CA  
[www.iapmo.org](http://www.iapmo.org)

**WaterSmart Innovations Conference & Expo**  
October 7-9, 2009  
Las Vegas, NV  
[www.watersmartinnovations.com](http://www.watersmartinnovations.com)

**GreenBuild 2009**  
November 11-13, 2009  
Phoenix, AZ  
[www.greenbuildexpo.org](http://www.greenbuildexpo.org)

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#### Partners and Memberships



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