

PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release
Contact:
Karen Baliff Ornstein
609-737-1902, Ext. 114
karen.ornstein@electrochem.org
The Electrochemical Society

Clean Water Technologies Symposium at ECS Meeting in Seattle, WA

International Scientists, Policy Makers, and Industry Leaders
Convene to Develop Viable Solutions for Current and Future Needs

Mark your calendar for May 8th & 9th:

The **ECS Clean Water Technologies Symposium** is a unique two-day forum being held on Tuesday, May 8, and Wednesday May 9, 2012 in conjunction with the ECS 221st Meeting, May 6-10, 2012...*and it is right around the corner, especially if your beat is Seattle and the Great Northwest.*

About the ECS Clean Water Technologies Symposium:

Water is a critical environmental issue, one of the greatest problems facing the world today. For this vital natural resource to be available through the 21st century, new paradigms are needed for management, remediation, and valuation.

“With the emergence of novel sensing modalities and processing technologies,” comments Esther Takeuchi, ECS President, “the Society has a unique opportunity to provide this forum for the presentation of original research and innovation that can impact the future direction of Clean Water Technologies and provide viable solutions for the current and future needs.”

Taking place on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 and Wednesday May 9, 2012, the **ECS Clean Water Technologies Symposium** will include a visionary opening assembly presented by Dr. Doulaye Kone, Senior Program Manager with The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) program, a poster session, and more than a dozen technical sessions on:

- Water Treatment and Sanitation
- Water Treatment Technologies
- Water Treatment Systems and Applications

Opening Session: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Reinvent the Toilet Challenge

About 2.6 billion people use unsafe toilets or defecate in the open. Poor sanitation causes severe diarrhea, which kills 1.5 million children each year. Smart investments in sanitation can reduce disease, increase family incomes, keep girls in school, help preserve the environment, and enhance human dignity.

Dr. Doulaye Kone is Senior Program Manager with The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) program. The WASH program initiated the “Reinvent the Toilet Challenge” to leverage advances in science and technology and create a new toilet that will transform waste into energy, clean water, and nutrients.

Dr. Kone will provide an overview and vision for the program and challenge The Electrochemical Society, its leading scientists and engineers to lend their expertise to help solve this difficult and critical problem.

"ECS and its members are up to the task," Takeuchi says, "and embrace it enthusiastically." She continues, "The **ECS Clean Water Technologies Symposium** will bring us closer to developing and implementing the solutions that ECS researchers are devoting their time and efforts to. The technologies that electrochemical engineers are currently developing will inspire new possibilities for cleaner energy solutions for tomorrow. ECS members are applying their knowledge and vision to build a more promising future for our planet."

About the 221st ECS Meeting in Seattle, WA:

The ECS mission may be more relevant today than ever before—much of the research domain of ECS centers on energy and sustainability, with the activities of the Society and its members focusing on the need for improved power sources, core materials, clean water technologies, and information technology.

The latest scientific and technical research and developments in the field are discussed and reported on at each biannual ECS meeting. "ECS meetings are always energetic events— they provide extraordinary technical programs and attract many of the best scientists to the world's greatest destinations. There's a lot of buzz and excitement before and after; and the importance of electrochemistry in solving the world's energy and environmental problems increases the energy quotient at each meeting, both literally and figuratively," said Roque Calvo, Executive Director of ECS.

Along with more than 1600 technical presentations, short courses, tutorials, and poster sessions on topics such as nanotechnology, batteries and energy technology, large scale electrical energy storage, sensors for safety and security, graphene, next generation portable power and more, the 221st ECS Meeting convening in Seattle will feature a technical exhibit, career fair, and the two-day **ECS Clean Water Technologies Symposium**.

ECS 221st Meeting Details:

- Sunday, May 6 – Thursday, May 10, 2012
- The Washington State Convention Center and Seattle Sheraton
- Press passes and appropriate ID required

Contact:

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or 609-737-1902, Ext. 114, for more information or to set up interviews.

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Founded in 1902 as an international nonprofit, educational organization concerned with a broad range of phenomena relating to electrochemical and solid-state science and technology, The Electrochemical Society today has more than 9,000 members worldwide. ECS publishes *Journal of The Electrochemical Society*, the oldest peer-reviewed journal in electrochemistry, as well as other journals and books. ECS meetings are a forum for the latest scientific and technical developments in the field through a variety of formats, such as technical symposia, oral presentations, poster sessions, panel discussions, tutorial sessions, and special summits and workshops.
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