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President's Message

By: Paul Choules, *Water Cycle LLC*

Dear Fellow CaribDA Members and Friends,

Let me start out by wishing you all a wonderful and joyful Christmas and holiday season. May you all get the chance to rest and spend time celebrating with your families and friends. I also hope that your New Year is safe and that you all go into 2024 well rested and happy knowing that later in the year we get to meet up again to celebrate our biennial CaribDA conference and exhibition. This will be a great event to rekindle friendships and make new ones.

As you may remember, in 2024 we will be holding our Biennial Conference at the Grand Hyatt Baha Mar hotel in the Bahamas. One important change is that we moved the dates around a bit to avoid any conflict with the Bahamian National Day on 10th July. We will start with a site tour and the opening reception on Monday, 8th July, followed by the opening session and technical presentations on the Tuesday, 9th July, and a full day of technical sessions on Wednesday, 10th July and a post-conference workshop on the Thursday, 11th July. I hope everybody can attend this, our first biennial conference and exhibition in the Bahamas.



At this year's conference we will be expanding the theme of having public and private utilities throughout the Caribbean speak about their experiences and expansion plans. Don't forget we are launching a new scholarship program where CaribDA, along with sponsors, will be paying for one (1) student and one (1) operator to attend the biennial conference. More to follow on this initiative.

Please take a moment to reflect on 2023 and remember what brought you joy and what didn't so that as you move into 2024 you can focus more on the things that bring you joy and happiness. Please also take a moment to remember our friends and families that are no longer with us but are remembered in how we celebrate. While I'm asking you to remember things, please take a moment to reflect on what role CaribDA plays regarding your work, what can we do better and do you have time to help and support us with a bit of your time. I know we all have multiple priorities over and beyond our families and work, but I do ask that you consider CaribDA as you make your plans for this year.

My Festive Greetings and Wishes to you and your families at this special time of the year,
PAUL CHOULES

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Editor's Message

By: Liliana Munoz, *H2O Innovation*

Dear Members,

Welcome to the fall issue of CaribDA's newsletter! It's almost the end of the year and the holidays are approaching soon!

We are very thankful that the 2023 hurricane season is over and did not cause any major disasters in the Caribbean region.

This issue includes among others, an industry news section, an update of our 2024 Biennial Conference in the Bahamas and the workshops and MOC's that our administrative team together with the Technology transfer committee has been preparing for 2024.

In October, the IDA conference held in Seville, Spain, reunited lots of experts and leaders from the desalination and water reuse industry where many events happened, including the re-name of the association, the International Desalination & Reuse Association (IDRA), and the discussions and commitment of several companies to become water positive by 2050, among others.

This issue also highlights two membership spotlights, first, a young entrepreneur, Emir Ilke Genc, a 17 yr. old student and second, a project in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico from an association of TSG with H2O Innovation using the BiTurbo™ from FEDCO.

We hope 2024 will be a great year for every single one of you and remember that we need your ideas and time to serve on one of our committees, there are many exciting activities, and you can be part of them.

Wishing you all a wonderful and joyful holiday season and hoping you rest and enjoy the Christmas celebration with your loved ones.

Kind Regards,

Liliana Munoz

Liliana.munoz@h2oinnovation.com

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Program Committee

By: Paul Choules, *Water Cycle LLC*



Building Resiliency and Security into Water Treatment Systems

The Call for Abstracts is open!

January 11th | Deadline to submit for the 2024 program.

[Submit Now](#)

Sponsor & Exhibitor Registration Coming Soon

Watch for more information about the Conference Scholarship Program!

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Technology Transfer/MOC Committee

By: Vijay Singh, *Seven Seas Water Corporation* and
Ian Lewis, *Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA)*

CaribDA Technology Transfer/MOC Committee along with the administrative team has been meeting and planning several events carded for 2024. We eagerly look forward to offering the following based on feedback from previous workshops and MOC's:

- 2024 Membrane Operator Certification (MOC) Courses - TBD
- Trinidad | MOC-I Re-exam
- 2024 Workshops
 - Antigua - April, TBD | RO Pretreatment, TBD

- Trinidad - April, TBD | High Pressure, TBD
- Conference Registration Scholarship for an Operator within the Water and Wastewater industry
- CaribDA 2024 Biennial Post-Conference Workshop - Bahamas | Topics will include Operator-Focused Content

In 2024 CaribDA will deliver Workshops, MOC's and the much-anticipated Biennial Operator Workshop in conjunction with the Biennial Conference & Expo. This Workshop will be held after the Conference, rather than before. The topics will include Operator focused content, which promises to provide attendees with useful insight into their respective applications. As usual, participant feedback will be collected which will allow us to improve our delivery for future training events.

The CaribDA Technology Transfer/ MOC Committee looks forward to hosting these listed events and welcoming interested groups of Water & Wastewater professionals and industry enthusiasts. Please stay tuned for more announcements.

If your facility is interested in hosting a Membrane Operator Certification (MOC-I) Training or 1-Day Workshop, [contact CaribDA](#) and let us know!

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Humanitarian Committee

By: Mario Bento, M.Eng., P.Eng, *Caribbean Water Treatment Ltd.*

The 2023 hurricane season is nearly over and fortunately has not caused any major disasters in the Caribbean region this year. Tropical Storm Phillippe brought some heavy rains causing flooding in some of the Leeward Islands and parts of Puerto Rico. Hurricane Tammy followed a couple weeks later with a direct hit on Barbuda at sustained wind speeds up to 75 mph, but damage was minimal. Several islands in both the Leeward and Windward islands however did incur significant flooding and landslides from the heavy rainfall.

With Hurricane Tammy named as the 19th storm for the season, there are only two names remaining on the 2023 list of storms: Vince and Whitney. This season has been above the historical average when it comes to named storms. During an average hurricane season, 14 named storms form in the Atlantic basin, which covers the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean

Sea and Gulf of Mexico. So, we have had a very active hurricane season but fortunately with little disastrous impacts.

Thank you to all our members and donors who continue to support CaribDA's humanitarian efforts!

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YLP Committee

By: Karlene Singh, *Consolidated Water Co. Ltd.*,

Monica Boodhan, *University of Trinidad and Tobago*

Dr. Giancarlo Barassi, *American Water Chemicals, Inc.*

The YLP is open to all students and young professionals working in or seeking to work in the desalination and water reuse sectors, in or serving the Greater Caribbean region.

Find out more by emailing one of the YLP Committee Chairs:

- Monica Boodhan - monicakboodhan@gmail.com
- Karlene Singh - ksingh@cwco.com
- Giancarlo Barassi - gbarassi@membranechemicals.com

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Member Spotlight

By: Liliana Munoz, *H2O Innovation*

Emir Ilke Genc

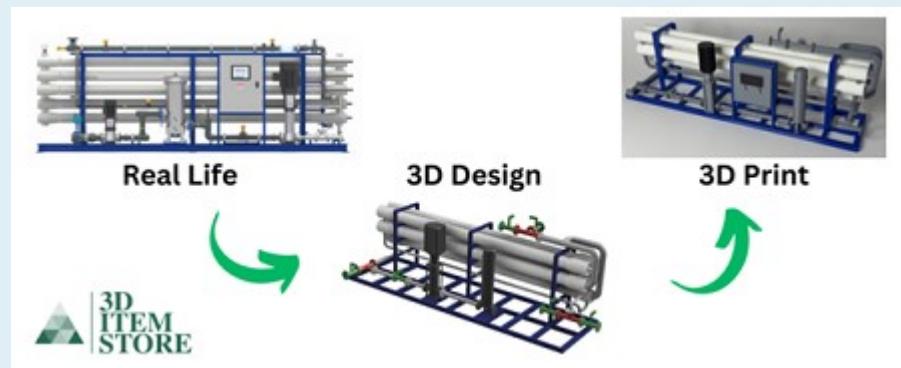


Emir Ilke Genc, a 17-year-old high school student with a passion for engineering, boasting four years of 3D printing and two years of CAD experience. Emir is not just about business; he's a 3D printing advocate, sharing the technology's benefits far and wide and inspiring others to do the same. His youthful vision drives him to innovate and empower others, aiming to unlock creativity and bring ideas to life through the magic of 3D printing.



Emir's journey into the world of 3D printing and design was ignited by his lifelong passion for creating and crafting. From a young age, he has been building robot dogs, robotic arms, and functional 3D parts that solve real-world problems. His early experimentation and curiosity laid the foundation for his expertise and innovative approach to 3D printing.

He recognizes 3D printing as a transformative technology, and his journey is a testament to that belief. With four years of hands-on experience in 3D printing and two years of proficiency in ComputerAided Design (CAD), he has honed his skills to an impressive level. Emir's technical prowess allows him to create intricate and visually stunning 3D models that push the boundaries of what's possible.



Emir unlocks the magic of 3D printing with his company, where they transform ideas into reality through 3D modeling and printing. Their focus is on making industrial demonstrations, marketing, and training a breeze, bringing concepts to life. With a track record of success, they've assisted clients in optimizing designs and delivering remarkable results quickly and cost-effectively. Tangible display models take product showcasing to the next level, engaging, lifelike, and fully customizable to match your brand.



You may contact Emir at his 3D Item Store to turn your ideas into captivating, tangible reality.

Contact: emergenc@3ditemstore.com

TSG Water Resources and FEDCO complete a 1.4 MGD SW desalination project in Los Cabos, Mexico



FEDCO is excited to announce the successful completion of a 1.4 million gallon per day (5,400 m³/d) BiTurbo™ installation in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. The project was carried out in partnership with TSG Water Resources and H2O Innovation and marks the largest BiTurbo™ high-recovery SWRO system commissioned to date in the Western Hemisphere. The facility will provide water for the area's tourism industry without impacting local freshwater resources.

TSG Water Resources selected the BiTurbo™ high-recovery seawater reverse osmosis (SWRO) technology in order to expand the production capacity of the site without requiring additional construction works or pretreatment equipment. The two-train system operates at 55-57% recovery with low energy consumption and optimal membrane performance, meeting the client's requirements both for water production and carbon emission reduction.

The small footprint of the BiTurbo™ technology also allows the client unparalleled flexibility by leaving space free for future expansions. With space at a premium in coastal resorts, providing desalination technology is compact, as well as

efficient and reliable, is crucial for the tourism sector.

TSG is a private water utility company that provides long-term desalination, desalinated water supplies and wastewater treatment services for hotels, resorts, property developments, or commercial applications in 10 countries in the United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

FEDCO provides pressure management solutions to unlock the full potential of reverse osmosis systems, in ZLD, SWRO and BWRO applications. FEDCO's patented BiTurboTM RO configuration represents the next generation of desalination technology, delivering all the capex savings inherent to high recovery RO, while maintaining world-leading energy efficiency and membrane performance.



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Membership Committee

By: Liliana Munoz, *H2O Innovation*

We are delighted to welcome six (6) new members since our last issue. The new membership has made us optimistic for a stronger 2023.

Welcome newest members!

Nathaly Boeldak-Theodora
Aqualectra N.V.

Emir Genc
3D Item Store

Neysa Isenia
Aqualectra N.V.

Egberto Josephina
Aqualectra N.V.

David Noble
Arcalis Energy

Victor Rodriguez
Consolidated Water Co. Ltd.

Update on Membership Total: 261 members as of November 29, 2023.

As always, we encourage our members and readers to input ideas that will introduce new perspectives and knowledge into our community. We also look forward to your continued support and participation as we move forward in 2023!

Please feel free to share CaribDA's [mission](#) and [application form](#)!

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Industry News: Articles of Interest

By: Liliana Munoz, H2O Innovation

- New desalination device that would make production of potable water from sea water cheaper than a coke... [Read More](#)



Photo courtesy of St. Kitts and Nevis government. The proposed site for one of two new desalination plants that will help the federation to stay supplied with adequate water during periods of drought.

- **BVI** continue suffering with Sargassum... [Read More](#)



- The Point Lisas Desalination Plant was restarted last Sunday, and Desalcott, has been ramping up operations, with production currently at 36 million gallons per day (mgd), or 90 per cent of the contractual agreement of 40 mgd... [Read More](#)



- Kiribati Islands to Benefit from Desalination Project Partnership... [Read More](#)



- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has launched a pilot version of an innovative data-sharing platform within a virtual community for Caribbean water utilities... [Read More](#)



- **Barbados** calling for water efficient practices in the tourism industry... [Read More](#)



- Where do Caribbean islands get fresh water?... [Read More](#)



- 7 Best **Water Stocks** and ETFs to Buy in 2023... [Read More](#)



- Proposed desalination project making progress, says **Nevis'** minister of water services... [Read More](#)



- Brown Water Crisis on **St. Croix**: Lawmakers Call for State of Emergency Declaration... [Read More](#)



- **Barbados**: Emergency repairs at desalination plant successfully completed... [Read More](#)



- The warm, clear waves of the **Mexican Caribbean** make the Yucatan a tourist paradise, but underneath Mexico's top destination lies a second body of water... [Read More](#)



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IDA Affiliate Update

By: Dr. Giancarlo Barassi, *American Water Chemicals, Inc.*

The IDA conference in Seville served as an exceptional gathering of experts and leaders from the desalination and water reuse industry. The event not only brought together industry professionals but also highlighted important aspects, such as the new name of the association, the International Desalination & Reuse Association (IDRA), and its upcoming 2024 World Congress in Abu Dhabi. A significant sponsorship agreement was inked between IDRA and ACWA Power during the Seville Summit on Water and Climate Change. Mr. Thomas Altmann of ACWA Power commended IDRA on their 50th anniversary milestone and expressed their unwavering commitment to effecting positive change within the industry through their premium sponsorship of the World Congress 2024.

The IDA Seville Summit featured a diverse range of panels and discussions. The keynote from British sailor Alex Thomson, known for his remarkable offshore sailing achievements, provided insights into his experience of sailing around the world while relying solely on desalinated water. This highlighted the partnership with IDA in spreading the critical message of water conservation through the Be Water Positive sailing team. The summit also included the IDA Young Leaders Program, where industry professionals shared their vision for the desalination and reuse sector in the next 50 years without relying on new inventions.

Another important panel addressed the march towards Net Zero Water (NZW+), with experts from Google, Freeport-McMoRan, and the Alliance for Water Stewardship discussing their experiences in achieving Net Zero in various sectors. Lastly, the conference explored the role of innovation in reaching Net Zero in the water industry during a conversation with industry leaders. These discussions underscored the significance of innovation, challenges, and opportunities in the pursuit of a greener, climate-resilient future for water and the environment.

The conference culminated in the announcement of the 2023 Seville Summit Awards, recognizing companies that demonstrated exceptional commitment and leadership in addressing water and climate change issues. Awards were

given to ACCIONA for Best Company Complying with ESG Standards, Coxabengoa for Best Water Positive+ Company, and the Saudi Water Partnership Company for the Most Innovative Utility, celebrating their contributions to a regenerative water economy and a more sustainable future.



**IDA Announces the Call for Extended Abstracts for the IDA 2024 World Congress:
Addressing Water Scarcity, December 8-12, 2024 in Abu Dhabi, UAE**

Hosted by the Department of Energy



The International Desalination Association (IDA), in collaboration with BlueTech Research, is conducting a Desalination Technology survey. Notably, technologies like Batch Reverse Osmosis (RO) have a rich history spanning over three decades, tracing their origins back to the inception of RO technology itself. This extended period of use is also reflected in other techniques such as Electrodialysis Reversal (EDR), Forward Osmosis (FO), and more.

As a valued stakeholder of IDA, your insights are crucial to our survey. We are eager to hear your perspective on various desalination technologies. Your input will be very important in providing a well-rounded industry sentiment regarding these technologies, particularly the more specialized or emerging solutions, such as membrane distillation and others that have recently attracted more attention.

Your participation is greatly appreciated as we strive to stay at the forefront of developments in the field. We kindly request all participants to complete this survey by no later than December 15, 2023.

Survey

**IDRA Dr. K.C. Channabasappa
Memorial Ph.D. Scholarship
2024-2025**



Call for
Applications

Dr. K.C. Channabasappa Memorial PhD Scholarship: Call for Applications (2024-2025)

The application process for the Channabasappa Memorial PhD Scholarship for the 2024-25 academic year is now open.

The deadline for submitting final applications is March 31st, 2024.

The official Channabasappa Memorial Scholarship application is valued up to 10,000 USD and requirements can be accessed [here](#).

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