

THE  
SUNDAY BUSINESS POST

iQuest

**The National Summit**

# water

**Working towards a sustainable future for Ireland's water needs**

there is a vision, will it  
sink or swim?

**October 2 & 3, 2007, Croke Park, Dublin**

gold sponsor

**RPS**

The National Summit

# water

October 2 & 3, 2007, Croke Park, Dublin

Working towards  
a sustainable  
future...

there is a vision, will it  
sink or swim?

## Why attend?

At a time when the Ireland's water industry is seeking to overcome major supply challenges, improve service and seek significant efficiency improvements, this conference is a must attend for Ireland's water sector. It will provide delegates with a unique opportunity to question and probe our expert industry speakers regarding their strategies and ambitions for the market.

***Meet and network with the people shaping the future of the Irish water industry...***

## Who should attend?

This conference has been researched and designed for key decision-makers in:

- Local Authority Managers
- Local Authority Engineers
- Heads of Water Services & Supply
- General Managers (Asset Mgt, Planning, Maintenance, Recycling, Wastewater Mgt)
- Project Directors/Managers
- Procurement Managers
- Infrastructure Managers
- Planning Officials
- Technical Managers
- Large Water Users
- Consultants
- Finance & Legal Mgrs

## About the conference

There are huge developments in motion for one of Ireland's most important natural resources. With the National Development Plan 2007-13 including an unprecedented €4.7 billion investment in water, as well as significant private investment, there are major issues and challenges to be addressed regarding the necessary infrastructure, treatment, and planning for future capital projects.

With this in mind, The Sunday Business Post & conference partner, iQuest are delighted to host our **National Water Summit**. Our agenda this year examines **how regulation will shape long and short term strategy**. We'll explore our industry's approach for **optimal infrastructure solutions** and our need for increasingly sophisticated infrastructure for, **treatment and distribution**. We'll examine current and future solutions for **pollution, pathogens, monitoring** and control. We'll also be looking at international programmes and best industry practice, as well as **the future for metering projects**, the **role of the private sector** and the areas of **public works procurement** and maintenance contracts.

## Conference summary

Topics to include:

- How we may deliver high performance capital efficiency and strategy plans
- The implementation and impact of the Water Services Act
- Responding to the investment requirements of European Directives
- Environmental monitoring and process understanding
- Key aspects in dealing with long term operation and maintenance contracts
- New contracts for public works procurement
- Strategic approaches to treatment
- Asset Management - the challenge of upgrading and maintaining systems
- Rain water harvesting
- Efficient water loss management
- Performance Management
- Recent water metering experiences
- Case studies

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**RESPONSE**  
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## Keynote speakers



### **Dr Norman E (Jake) Peters, Research Hydrologist, U.S. Geographical Survey**

Jake Peters is a research hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. He is the former President of the International Commission on Water Quality of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences and is currently the International Union of Geodesy and **Geophysics liaison with the International Council of Science's Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment.** He has convened many international workshops and symposiums, on water quality in particular. He also has edited numerous proceedings volumes, as well as publishing many research papers in the mainstream literature. Jake is an Associate Editor of the International Journal Hydrological Processes.

Jake's primary research foci are atmospheric deposition and effects on watershed biogeochemistry, and processes controlling and associated modeling of streamflow generation and water-quality genesis in watersheds ranging from undisturbed to urban. Jake is currently interested in comparing the temporal and spatial variability of a many inorganic and organic solutes in streamwater over a range of impacted watersheds. The primary purpose of this research is to trace sources of contamination and to decipher the relative importance of hydrological and biogeochemical processes along hydrological pathways as they are affected by human activities.



### **Katherine Bryan, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Water**

A graduate of Durham and Aston Universities she has divided her career between the water and environment sectors. She began work in the Fisheries department of the former Severn Trent Water Authority where she later became involved in research and development, relating to all aspects of the business. Following privatisation of the water industry in 1989, she held Regional Manager posts in the Severn Trent, Wessex and South West Regions of the National Rivers Authority, before being appointed Regional Director, Environment Agency South West in 1995.

Katherine took up the post of Chief Executive with the North



### **Dr Jon Hargreaves, Chief Executive, Scottish Water**

In July 2000 Jon joined East of Scotland Water (ESW) as Chief Executive and in April 2002 he was appointed Chief Executive of Scottish Water.

**Jon has had 32 years experience in the UK water industry together with experience in international markets.** Prior to joining ESW he was Managing Director of Northumbrian Water Ltd, Managing Director of ENTEC Europe Ltd, the engineering and environmental consultants, and finally Managing Director of Northumbrian Lyonnaise International.

Jon graduated BSc in Applied Biology and was awarded a Doctorate from Durham University and is Fellow of Institute of Civil Engineers.

**In 2002 Jon was responsible for merging the 3 Water businesses in Scotland to create Scottish Water, the 4th largest water company in the UK.** Since 2002 the 40% efficiencies in operating cost and the 20% efficiencies in delivery of a £21million investment programme have saved customer over £1billion. At the same time customer service has risen sharply.



### **Professor Tom Collins, Head of the Education Department, National University of Ireland, Maynooth**

Professor Tom Collins is Head of the Education Department at National University of Ireland, Maynooth. Prior to this he was Director of Dundalk Institute of Technology. As Director of Dundalk, he oversaw the establishment of the National Centre for Fresh Water Studies in the College. **He is Chairman of the National Rural Water Monitoring Committee** and was a member of the Independent Salmon Group established in 2006 to examine the implications of Alignment with the Scientific Advice for the Commercial Salmon Fishing Sector.

**Professor Collins has had a lengthy involvement in National and European programmes concerned with environmental and rural development issues.**

He was a member of the first National Leader Monitoring Committee; was instrumental with sister colleges in the National University of Ireland in establishing the first Distance Education degree programme in Rural Development and has an extensive range of publications in the area of Local Development. Currently he is Chair of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, is a member of the Broadcasting Commission of Ireland and a member of the high level review group overseeing the OECD study on the Irish Public Service.

## Day 1 - Tuesday October 2nd

8:00 Registration and a light breakfast

### 8.45 Chairperson's opening remarks

Professor Yvonne Scannell, School of Law, Trinity College

## WATER POLICY - STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND SHAPING LONG TERM STRATEGY



### 8:50 MINISTERIAL ADDRESS

John Gormley, T.D., Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government

### 9:00 OPENING ADDRESS: Environmental monitoring and process understanding in support of environmental management and policy

- Air, land, and water resources are interconnected, cyclical, and cascading
- Effective environmental management/policy requires process understanding
- Understanding and assessing change requires environmental monitoring
- Better environmental models for prediction require process understanding and monitoring
- Flexible environmental management and policy collaborates large uncertainties in process understanding and environmental modelling



Jake Peters, Research Hydrologist, US Geological Survey

### 9:40 Strengthening the legislative base

- Water Services Act 2007
  - Consolidation of legislative code for water services
  - Strategic planning and management
  - Performance standards and enforcement
  - Water Pricing
  - Water Conservation
  - Metering

Pat Keane, Assistant Principal Officer, Water Services Policy Section, DEHLG (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government)

### 10:10 Responding to investment requirements of European

- Directives
- National Development
- Plan Service Investment
- Needs assessment
- EU Obligations
- Facilitating Development / Demand management strategies



Gerry Galvin, Principal Advisor, DEHLG

10.40 Morning break & exhibition viewing

## WATER REFORM & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

### 11:00 Key aspects in dealing with long term operation and maintenance contracts

- Understanding the client & contract requirements
- Performance targets - water & wastewater quality
- Interface issues - risk allocation and sharing
- Capital replacement funds, Health & Safety issues, quality management systems ISO 9000 - ISO 14001 - 2PMS
- Internal & external auditing

Thomas A Ruddy, Director, EPS Pumping & Treatment Systems



### 11:30 New contracts for public works procurement

- The new contracting environment
- Procurement of consultants and contractors
- Risk allocation in the new contracts

Eamon Conlon, Partner, A&L Goodbody

### 12:00 Strategic approaches to delivering modern water treatment projects

- Primary quality objectives
- Threats to delivering clean water
- Recent technological advances
- Project risk management
- Barriers to successful implementation of project.

David McBratney, Operations Director, RPS Consulting Engineers



12:40 Lunch

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### 1:55 Welcome back from the Afternoon Chair

Shirley Gallagher, Chairperson, Environmental Sciences Association of Ireland

### 2:00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Asset Management - the challenge of upgrading and maintaining the systems in Northern Ireland

- Upgrading the systems - past, present and the future
- Investment required and ensuring efficient delivery
- Maintaining £6.5B of assets - approach to delivering good asset management systems
- Sustainability in asset management

Katherine Bryan, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Water



## WATER SOLUTIONS

### 2:40 Protection of Source - harnessing community support for low-tech solutions

- Nature and extent of pollution in Irish surface waters
- Implementing practical and sustainable solutions
- Community participation - the key to success
- The National Source Protection Pilot Project as a practical model of drinking water providers

Dr Suzanne Linnane, National Centre for fresh water studies, Dundalk Institute of Technology



### 3:10 Pathogens in Water: Monitoring, Control and Technologies available for Treatment

- Emerging pathogens
- Challenges in detecting these pathogens
- Monitoring & Control
- Technologies for Treatment

Paul O'Callaghan (B.Sc, M.Sc) & Dr Hans-Gerd Gethke (Doctorate-Eng), Response Engineering



3:40 Afternoon break and exhibition viewing

### 4:00 Case Study: The River Basin Districts

Sean Ó Breasail, Project Coordinator, South Western River Basin District

### 4:25 LOCKNOTE ADDRESS: Rain Water Harvesting: A Forgotten Technology?

- Principles and Practice in North West Europe
  - Key Features, Components and Benefits
- Safety of Rainwater in the Home
  - Government Support - Who wins and who pays?
- Ways forward for the industry

Dr Glyn Hyett, Director, CWM (Celtic Water Management UK) Limited



5:00 Day 1 close

## Day 2 - Wednesday October 3rd

8:15 Registration and a light breakfast

### 8:50 Welcome from Morning Chair

Peter Brennan, Chief Executive, EPS Consulting

## ASSESSING INDUSTRY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



### 9:00 OPENING ADDRESS The challenges facing water and sewerage services in Northern Ireland

- The historic context of the investment challenges
- Improving services
- Reforms
- The way forward

**Conor Murphy, Minister, Regional Development, Northern Ireland**



### 9:25 New directions in financing - How much needs to be spent?

- What is the role of financial services sector
- Financing environmental improvements
- Where will the money come from?

**Michele Connolly, Partner, KPMG**

### 9:50 The Implications of The Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study

- Population & land use projections
- Catchment modelling
- Drainage policies
- Catchment upgrades
- Strategic drainage plan

**Michael Hand, Executive Chairman, PH McCarthy Consulting Engineers**

### 10:10 INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Efficient Delivery of Scotland's Quality and Standards programme

● Following the merger of three Water Authorities in Scotland to create Scottish water in 2002, a £2.3billion investment programme had to be delivered for £1.8billion

- Water created a unique partnership joint venture company with two utilities and contractors
- By 2006/2007 98% of outputs have been delivered via over 5000 projects
- Savings of over £500million have been achieved

**Dr Jon Hargreaves, Chief Executive, Scottish Water**



10.40 Morning break & exhibition viewing

### A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO OPTIMAL INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS

### 11:00 Developing best practice management of water supply

- Sludge Disposal
- Developing best practice management of water supply and wastewater services
- Managing and maintaining infrastructure assets
- Enhancing service delivery through coordinated efforts

**Gerard O'Leary, Programme Manager, Office of Environmental Enforcement**



### 11:30 Efficient Water Loss Management

- Implementation Strategies
- Examination of Efficiency Targets
- Resourcing
- Sustainability - An Integrated Approach
- Moving Forward - The Future of Water Loss Management in Ireland

**Gerard Gibney, Director, Ryan Hanley**



### 12:00 Transforming the Irish group water sector

- Evolution of community-owned water services
- Crisis in the sector
- The partnership model as the basis of change
- Implementing the agreed strategy
- Models of best practice: is there a viable future for this sector?

**Brian MacDonald, Research and Evaluation Officer, NFGWS (National Federation of Group Water Schemes)**

### TAKING WATER PLANS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

### 12:30 Performance Management Systems

- Managing and monitoring water management assets
- How is it working in the public sector?



- Transition from old systems

- Penalties

**Chris Bateman, Joint Managing Director, Earth Tech Ireland**

1:00 Lunch

### 2:00 Welcome back from Afternoon Chair

**Jerry Grant, Managing Director, RPS Consulting Engineers**

### 2:05 Water Issues for the Business Community

- How infrastructure is paid for - scope, level and consistency of water and waste water charges
- How investment, charges and service quality is regulated
- The needs of business

**Donal Buckley, Head of Business Infrastructure, IBEC**

### WATER CHARGING

### 2:30 Recent Water Metering Experience in Ireland

- The development of water metering projects in Ireland and contract procurement
- Issues that have arisen in water pricing and water metering projects, including domestic allowances, multiple occupancy, difficult-to-locate connections, automatic meter reading and billing matters



**Kevin Murray, Director, Atkins Ireland**

### 3:00 CASE STUDY: Sligo Water Meter Study Background to Sligo Pilot

- DBO Strategy - to maximise revenue collection through the use of competition in a DBO process covering meter installation, reading billing and debt collection
- Adopted System - manual read system wins out
- Communications - the challenge of getting an understanding of the system across to customers
- Database - the importance of compiling an accurate database
- Outturn - how the system bedded in. Has it made a difference?



**Seamus Concannon, Director of Infrastructural Services, Sligo County Council**

3:30 Afternoon break & exhibition viewing

### 3.45 PANEL DISCUSSION and Q&A: What are the best methods for good water management?

- Is private sector participation the solution for a more efficient water industry?
- Are local authorities better placed to manage water supplies?
- The future for water pricing / Challenges for pricing and metering

**Panellists include: Donal Buckley, Head of Business Infrastructure, IBEC**

**- Tom Dunne, Irish Farmers Association**

**- Gerry Galvin, Principal Adviser (Water) and head of the Water Inspectorate Unit in Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government**

### 4:30 LOCKNOTE ADDRESS: The Wild Salmon; A barometer of Environmental Distress

- An overview of ground water quality in Ireland as indicated by fluctuations in Wild Salmon stocks
- The water quality problem in rural group water schemes
- An exploration of the main issues for future practice arising from this experience especially concerning the interplay between local voluntary effort, the Local Authorities and Central Government in the upgrading of group water schemes
- Emerging issues for rural water quality especially concerning source protection, water treatment and water conservation
- The environmental challenge in the context of economic and social development imperatives confronting rural communities



**Professor Tom Collins, Chair, National Rural Monitoring Committee**

5:00 Conference close

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RPS is Ireland's leading multi-disciplinary consultancy providing services in:

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- Buildings & Structures
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# RPS

RPS is Ireland's leading multi-disciplinary, all island consultancy providing Planning, Engineering, and Environmental services. Our success is based on our commitment to excellence, innovation and the expertise and dedication of our staff.

RPS has over 40 years of experience in the area of Water Resources and Services and have been at the forefront of delivering on the provision and development of Ireland and Northern Ireland's physical infrastructure.

We specialise in strategic planning of Water Resource Management, Water Supply and Wastewater Engineering employing specialist Engineers and Scientists in the various disciplines. In Ireland RPS is playing a leading role in implementing the Water Framework Directive and in the development of Sustainable best practices in Water Resource Management. With the integration of our business we now advise on the Water Resource Management of most of Irelands river catchments North and South.

The range of expertise available within RPS make us the market leader in Water Resources and Water Services in Ireland and Northern Ireland. RPS services cover all aspects of the water cycle.

RPS have been leading water services projects for several decades and have a successful record in delivering projects from initial feasibility status and concept design through to planning and construction. RPS can offer a comprehensive range of services in the field of hydraulic and environmental improvements to watercourses, culverts and open channels.

#### RPS Services Include:

- Source Identification and Abstraction ● Source Protection and Management
- Water / Wastewater Treatment Flooding and Drainage ● Water Quality
- Outfalls and Sludge ● Coastal Processes ● Marine Engineering

# ATKINS

Atkins is the largest engineering consultancy in the UK and Ireland, the largest multidisciplinary consultancy in Europe and the third largest design team in the world ([www.atkinsglobal.com](http://www.atkinsglobal.com)).

Our staff include engineers, architects, surveyors, cost and project managers, planners, management consultants, geologists and experts in information technology, telecommunications and environmental management. The majority of our work is focused on the efficient operation of our clients' capital programmes. We:

**Plan** all aspects of our clients' projects, conducting studies covering technical, logistical, legal, environmental and financial considerations.

**Design** systems, processes, buildings and civil structures. We develop cutting edge solutions and combine them with tried and tested technologies to achieve an optimal result.

**Enable** complex programmes, delivering one-off projects and managing ongoing processes to reduce timescales, cost and disruption, allowing our clients to focus on their core operations.

Our Irish offices are in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Belfast ([www.atkinsglobal.ie](http://www.atkinsglobal.ie)).



Response Engineering has grown rapidly and is now one of the largest companies in the Water and Wastewater Treatment sectors in Ireland and has offices in Cork, Charleville, Dublin and Donegal.

The company is fully experienced in the build, design/build and design/build/operate sectors of the water industry and undertakes work on all sizes of project in both the water and wastewater treatment sectors. Response Engineering has a philosophy of constant improvement in an effort to try and achieve total satisfaction for the customer, and believes that cooperation between all participants in a project is the best way of obtaining this.

Response Engineering is a member of the Response Group, which consists of Response Engineering, Response Operating, Response Civil, Response Automation and O2 Environmental. The resources available to the company both internally and within the other companies in the Response Group ensure the ability to deliver full turn-key projects from small package plants through to large-scale municipal projects.

## Sponsorship Opportunities

We have a number of promotional opportunities available that will increase your brand profile and generate business leads among decision-makers attending this event.

For details call Suzanne Brennan on 087-9191292 or e-mail [suzanne.brennan@iquest.ie](mailto:suzanne.brennan@iquest.ie)

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# booking form

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## Registration fees

### Early Bird - registration and payment before September 12, 2007

One day €440 + Vat €92.40 = €532.40

Two days €680 + Vat €142.80 = €822.80

### Registration and payment after September 12, 2007

One day €480 + Vat €100.80 = €580.80

Two days €750 + Vat €157.50 = €907.50

Which day? First day  Second day  Both days

## Special discounts

Send three or more delegates from the same organisation and save 10 per cent (before Vat) off the total registration fee

## Cancellations and booking policies

Refunds are not available, but places are transferable once notice is given. If you do not wish to receive information on other events organised by iQuest and The Sunday Business Post please tick here

## Method of payment

Payments by cheque made payable to The Sunday Business Post (Envelopes marked National Water Summit 2007)

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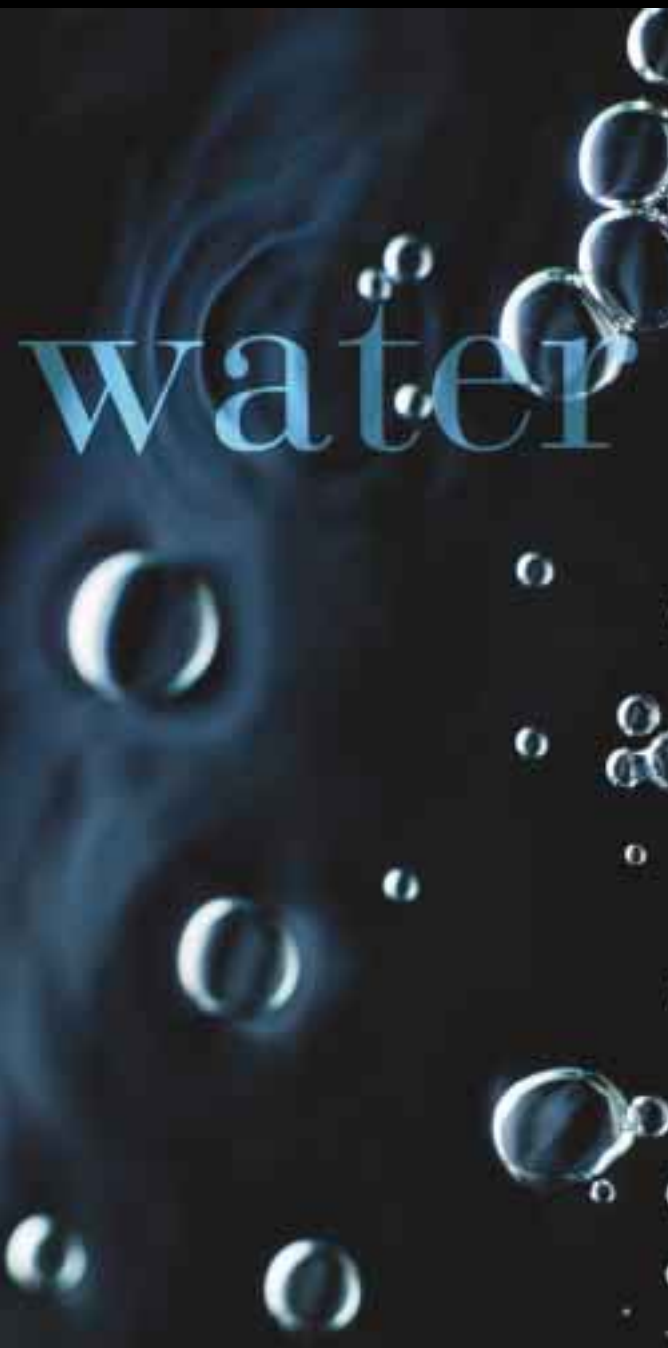
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