



## Singapore International Water Week 2009

### Abstract

Singapore once again organized the second Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) in June 2009 following the success of the first SIWW last year. Over 10,000 visitors from over 85 countries visited the event with S\$2.2 billion worth of deals were signed and sealed during the water week. Nanotechnology takes part significantly, especially in the water treatment (e.g. nano-filtration and reverse osmosis membrane) to improve the performance of the membrane such as not to clog and foul easily as well as to neutralize bacteria and other microbes. Over 160 exhibitors participated in showcasing their products and activities in water world. Interesting products include portable water filter from Katadyn and water-free urinal that does not require any water flush.

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Inspired by the success of the inaugural of the Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) last year, SIWW 2009 was again organized as global platform that brings together policymakers, industry leaders, experts and practitioners to address challenges, showcase technologies and achievements, discover opportunities, and forge partnership in the water world. SIWW 2009 was organized by the Singapore International Water Week Pte Ltd, a company set up by the Singapore's Ministry of the Environment & Water Resources and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency and co-organized by the Singapore Airshow & Events Pte Ltd. It took place on 23 – 25 June 2009 in Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Themed "Sustainable Cities – Infrastructure and Technology for Water", SIWW 2009 offered a diverse mix of programmes on water infrastructures and technologies, including Water Leaders Summit, Water Convention & Water Expo, Regional Business Forum from 9 regions (Australia, Japan, Middle East, North Africa, China, SEA, North America, India and Europe), and Finance Forum. SIWW 2009 also marked the opening of the Singapore's largest and most advanced used water treatment facility, the Changi Water Reclamation Plant.

Over 200 academic papers and posters were presented in the Water Convention and more than 160 exhibitors from all over the world participated in the Water Expo. Among large-scale water treatment equipment, a water filter company from Switzerland, Katadyn, found itself in a niche market of the water industry. It provides a full range of portable water treatment that includes both salt and sweet water. Katadyn's mechanical water treatment technology involves impregnated silver nanoparticles

ceramic filter of 0.2 micron pore size and superfine glassfiber of 0.3 micron pore size to filter out bacteria and protozoa, and activated carbon to reduce harmful substances and remove unpleasant tastes, odours, chlorine, etc from the water. Katadyn aims to provide immediate and safe drinking water during disaster relief and emergency preparedness.

Interestingly besides showcasing its world first commercialized electro-osmosis dehydrator, Ace Korea Incorporation Co. Ltd also exhibited its latest FDA certified product AceNano Calcium Essential, sphere-shaped calcium nanoparticles produced by the world's first top down technology 4D nano pulverizer system. AceNano Calcium Essential enables almost 100% absorption of calcium into the blood stream for utilization by the body. It also provides the purest and most valuable source of calcium supplement free from chromium, lead, barium and mercury.

Other interesting exhibition includes membrane technology for Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) and Reverse Osmosis (RO), dominated by the Japanese companies such as Toray Industries Inc, Nitto Denko and Hitachi as well as ceramic membrane for small scale water treatment system and water re-use application developed by Metawater Inc.

And another unique exhibition was observed in Lavano booth, where the exhibitors showcased their green water-free urinal for both gents and ladies. It is the sealant liquid in the cartridge installed at the base of the urinal that helps to form a barrier between open air and urine and seal all odours within the cartridge. Therefore water is no longer necessary and cleaning can only be performed by wiping the urinal base surface. In the exhibition Lavano conducted a survey to create awareness to the visitors about this water-free toilet, which can save enormous amount of water used for flushing.



Exhibition floor of the International Singapore Water Week 2009



Katadyn from Switzerland – well known portable water filter supplier



**Ace Korea Incorporation Co. Ltd booth**



**Water-free urinal system advertised by Lavano**