A Brief Report on

The 1st International Conference for China Urban Water Development Strategies & Exhibition of New Technologies and Facilities for Water Treatment

China, Beijing (30.10.2005 – 31.10.2005)

And

Visit to Beijing Water Authority (1.11.2005)













1. Background of the Conference and Introduction

- 1.1 With amazing growth of economy, population and fast progress of urbanization, China is at the same time encountering an arduous task in resolving the tough challenge to China's water environment and security of urban water supply. As such, China would need to improve the service quality of the water industry, promote more international cooperation and sharing of water technology and experience, set up a market supervision system and widen financing channels. Against this background, China will host the International Water Association (IWA) 5th World Water Congress in Beijing in September 2006.
- 1.2 As a warm up exercise for the 5th World Water Congress in 2006, the 1st International Conference for China Water Development Strategies and Exhibition of New Technologies and Facilities for Water Treatment was held in Beijing on 30 October 1 November 2005. It was jointly organized by the Ministry of Construction, the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Science and Technology, and the State Environmental Protection Administration of China. According to reports at the Conference, up to 1 500 delegates attended the Conference and the Exhibition.
- 1.3 The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HK SAR) has sent six delegates to attend the Conference. Four delegates from the Water Supplies Department (WSD) were led by Mr. C. C. Chan, Deputy Director of Water Supplies. Drainage Services Department also sent two delegates to attend the Conference.
- 1.4 The WSD delegation also made a visit to Beijing Water Authority and the No. 9 Waterworks of Beijing Waterworks Group Co. Ltd. on 1 November 2005.

2. The Conference and Exhibition

- 2.1 In the morning of 30 October 2005, Mr. Wang Guang Tao, Minister of Ministry of Construction, PRC officiated the Opening Ceremony.
- 2.2 After the Opening Ceremony, the Conference was divided into 8 groups, each holding a separate forum for discussion from the afternoon of 30 October 2005 to the morning of 31 October 2005. The different topics of presentation and discussion are:-
 - (1) Reform and Development Strategies of China's Urban Water Industry
 - (2) Urban Water Supply Safeguard Technologies and Management
 - (3) Disaster Prevention and Mitigation in Urban Water System
 - (4) Japan's Water Management, New Technologies and Sino-Japan Cooperation
 - (5) Water Saving, Non-traditional Water Resource Utilization and Healthy Cycle of Water System
 - (6) Technologies and Facilities Construction in Urban Wastewater Treatment
 - (7) Urban Water Landscape Planning, Design and Construction
 - (8) UV Technologies in Water and Waste Water Treatment
- 2.3 Mr. C.C. Chan, the Deputy Director of Water Supplies, HKSAR presented a paper on "Water Safety in Hong Kong" at the Group (2) forum.
- 2.4 The Closing Ceremony was held in the afternoon of 31 Oct. 2005. Mr. Qiu Baoxing, Vice-Minister of Ministry of Construction, PRC, Mr. Michael Rouse, Former President of IWA and other renowned speakers gave speeches at the Closing Ceremony. The closing address was given by Mr. Qiu Baoxing.

3. Observation

3.1 With amazing economy growth and rapid pace of urbanization, China is encountering the following severe challenges in providing safe and reliable water supply:-

- (1) Overall shortage of water resources and uneven distribution of water resources in different parts of China. Of all the 660 major cities in China, some 400 cities are facing shortage of water, and some 110 cities are facing serious shortage of water.
- (2) Reconstruction of urban and town wastewater treatment plants lags behind the process of urbanization. As a result, over a half of wastewater is directly drained into waterways without any treatment. The urban water environment deteriorates continuously leading to greater difficulties in preventing water pollution and treating water for potable use. Contamination of underground water is also very serious.
- (3) The leakage rate in the supply and distribution network is around 20% for most of the major developing cities. The loss of water is in the order of 10 billion cu.m per year.
- 3.2 Facing the above challenges, most of the speakers/experts at the Conference offered a variety of strategies, options, technologies and new products to help solve the problems encountered by China. We report below some major findings mostly shared by speakers and participing delegates:-
 - (1) Develop water gathering facilities in comprehensive small development areas, promote water reuse practices and introduce "use less water concept" for planning of new cities and re-development of existing cities.
 - (2) Enforce the "Urban and Town Water Supply Quality Standard" introduced in June 2005.
 - (3) Ensure clean and safe water supply source by strengthening the planning and monitoring of urban and town water resources at a macro level.
 - (4) Expedite the marketization reform of urban and town water industry, establish and improve the management systems and related policy and regulatory rules.

- (5) Increase the treated waste water rate and to reduce the water leakage rate.
- (6) Expedite effective implementation of waste disposal strategies with a view to reducing contamination to underground water.
- (7) Promote the use of new technologies (e.g. UVC disinfection, membrane, biochemical treatment) to ensure a sustainable development of water resources.
- 3.3 The water industry in China is in a period of fast growth. From now to 2010, the annual growth rate of water market in China will be kept at around 15%. The Conference conveyed a clear message that with the enforcement of a series of important policies in water sector marketization and standardization, China will provide better opportunities, broader market and international collaboration for the development of water industry in the years ahead.
- 3.4 UV and membrane technology attracted most of the attention from delegates at the Conference and the Exhibition.
- 3.5 Some photos about the Conference and the Exhibition are attached at Appendix 1.

4. Visit to Beijing Water Authority

- 4.1 In the morning of 1 November 2005, we made a visit to the Beijing Water Authority and were received by Ms. Zhang Ping, the Deputy Director-General of Beijing Water Authority and her colleagues. We had a detailed discussion exchanging information of water supplies in Hong Kong and Beijing, and also sharing of operation experience in both places.
- 4.2 After the discussion, we made a site visit to the No. 9 Waterworks of Beijing Waterworks Groups Co. Ltd.
- 4.3 Some photos about the visit to Beijing Water Authority and No. 9 Waterworks are attached at Appendix 2.

5. Conclusion and Recommendation

It is concluded that this Conference and Exhibition as well as the visit to the Beijing Water Authority are worthwhile attending. We therefore recommend WSD and IWAHK members to continuously and actively participate in the IWA activities, and to collaborate with water authorities in China in sharing of waterworks information and experience.

Prepared by

Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director, Water Supplies Department
Chan Shu Pui, Daniel, Chief Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Li Siu Cheong, Sen Elect Engineer, Water Supplies Department
Chau Sai Wai, Senior Engineer, Water Supplies Department

Photos About the Conference and the Exhibition



WSD Delegates Attending the 1st International Conference for China Urban Water Development Strategies & Exhibition of New Technologies and Facilities for Water Treatment

(from left: Mr. Li Siu Cheong, Mr. Chan Shu Pui, Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Mr. Chau Sai Wai)



Opening Ceremony for the 1st International Conference for China Urban Water Development Strategies & Exhibition of New Technologies and Facilities for Water Treatment



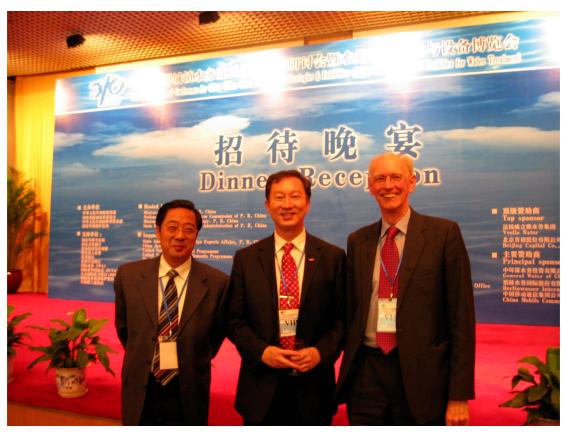
Mr. Wang Guang Tao, Minister of Ministry of Construction, PRC, Officiated the Opening Ceremony and Gave a Key-note Speech



Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director of Water Supplies Department, HKSAR Gave a Presentation at the Water Conference



Mr. Qiu Baoxing, Vice-Minister of Construction, PRC gave a souvenir to Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director of Water Supplies Department, HKSAR



Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director of Water Supplies Department, HKSAR (middle), Mr. Zhang Yue, Deputy Director-General, Department of Urban Development, Ministry of Construction, PRC (left) and Mr. Michael Rouse, Former President of IWA (right)



Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director of Water Supplies Department, HKSAR (right) And Mr. Li Zhendong, President of China Water Supply Association (left)



Mr. Qiu Baoxing, Vice-Minister of Construction, PRC Invited HKSAR Delegates to a Reception Dinner

(from left: Mr. Chan Pak Keung, Chief Engineer, Drainage Services Department (DSD), Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director, Water Supplies Department (WSD), Mr. Qiu Baoxing (middle), Mr. Chan Hung Cheung, Assistant Director, DSD, Mr. Chan Shu Pui, Chief Engineer, WSD)



Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director, Water Supplies Department, HKSAR (right) and Mr. Chong Hou Chun, Director, Water Supply (Network) Department, PUB, Singapore (left)



Mr. Chau Sai Wai, Senior Engineer, WSD at the Exhibition

Appendix 1 (Pg.6/6)



A New Product Displayed at the Exhibition-PE Pipe Reinforced with Stainless Steel Wire Mesh at the Middle of the PE Layer

Photos About the Visit to Beijing Water Authority and No. 9 Waterworks



A Discussion and Experience Sharing Session Between Beijing Water Authority and Water Supplies Department, HKSAR



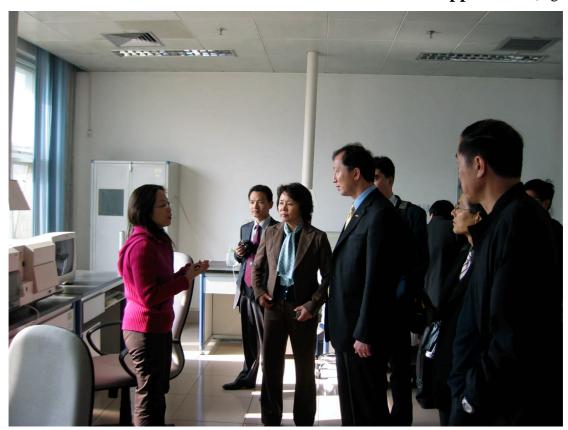
Mr. Hu Bo, Director, Water Supplies Department, Beijing Water Bureau Exchanged Information With Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director, Water Supplies Department, HKSAR



Ms. Zhang Ping, Deputy Director-General, Beijing Water Authority (2nd from the left) together with Mr. Zhou Danong, Director, No. 9 Waterworks of Beijing Waterworks Gp. Co. Ltd. (3rd from the left) Briefed WSD Delegates on the Operation of the No. 9 Waterworks at the Control Room.



Visited the Mechanical Accelerated Clarifier of No. 9 Waterworks



Officer in Charge of the Laboratory, Beijing Water Quality Monitoring Authority, Explained the operation of the laboratory to WSD Delegates



Group Picture of WSD Delegates, Representatives of Beijing Water Bureau (BWB) and Beijing Waterworks Gp. Co. Ltd. (BWCO)

(from left: Mr. Hu Bo, (BWB), Mr. Li Siu Cheong, (WSD), Mr. Bai Diqi, (BWCO), Mr. Shou Danon (BWC), Mr. Chau Sai Wai (WSD), Mr. Chan Shu Pui (WSD))



Ms. Zhang Ping, Deputy Director-General, Beijing Water Authority Hosted a Lunch for WSD Delegates during which Mr. Chan Chi Chiu, Deputy Director, Water Supplies Department, HKSAR Gave a Souvenir to Ms. Zhang Ping



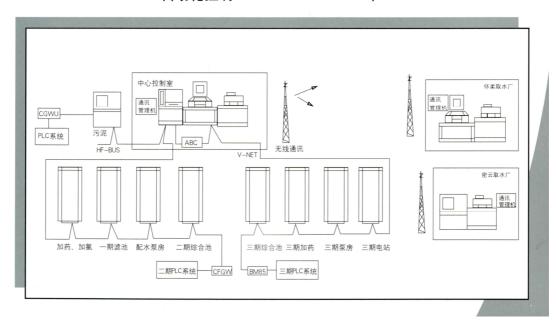
A Model Showing the Overall Water Supply System in Beijing Displayed at the Entrance Hall on the Ground Floor of the Beijing Water Authority Administration Building

第九水厂输水管线图

Transfer Pipeline Diagram



自动化控制 Automatic Control System



工艺流程示意图 Process Flow Chart

