

AQUATECH
INNOVATION
AWARD

AQUATECH
AMSTERDAM


Jury report 2011



IMPROVEMENTS VIA INNOVATION

With a wide range of entries from countries around the world, the Aquatech Innovation Award 2011 is a superb testimony to the on-going desire of the global water sector to improve its products and services. From process control to transport, water treatment to water supply, the inventive nature of companies in our industry knows no bounds. The advance nature of the technologies that won through to the final stage is impressive, while the overall winner also manages to solve a long-lasting problem with a genuine breakthrough.

"It was quite remarkable to see the extent to which the water sector continues to improve on a broad range of technologies," says jury chairman Cees Buisman. "From pumps to processes, anaerobic reactors to automated testing systems, companies are continuing to do things even better than was the case at the time of the last Aquatech Innovation Award three years ago."

He adds: "Follow-up innovation is still very much alive in the water industry worldwide, despite the economic situation. We are looking forward to seeing more disruptive technology

come to the fore - innovations that improve a product or service in ways that the market does not expect. It is to be hoped that the reductions in financial support from governments that have supported the bringing of innovations to market do not have an overly negative impact on this essential process or future research projects."

A diverse sector

The nominations for the five different categories showcase how impressively diverse the water sector is. "As the

entries were so very broad in their scope, the jury also needed to encompass a wide range of expertise. We therefore appointed an executive jury member to each category who carefully pre-selected the best three out of his specialist section. The entire jury, which also included three other non-executive members with a broad spectrum of input, then discussed at length the nominations and compared the different sections. This arrangement worked very well, avoiding the need for every jury member to look at scores of entries in areas which they had limited knowledge."

And the winner is...

Fish-friendly pump,
100 percent safe for eel,
of Pentair Nijhuis



A genuine breakthrough

Buisman points out that the quality of the nominations was high, which made choosing the category winners a difficult task. The jury was unanimous, however, about the eventual winner, the fish-friendly pump from Pentair Nijhuis. "This represents a major breakthrough for the long term problem of the killing of fish, which had remained unresolved despite the enormous efforts of science and industry. Pentair Nijhuis has succeeded in designing and producing a relatively efficient pump that does not kill fish. Moreover, the pump can be installed in existing pumps from the same brand thanks to its new impeller design. This means the solution can be introduced pretty quickly, which is not always the case with such innovations."

As scientific director of Westus, a centre of excellence for sustainable water technology based in the Netherlands, Buisman is very positive about the future of the water sector. "I can see how many disruptive technologies are in preparation. Yes, it can take up to ten years for innovations to reach the market, but there is a pipeline of water technologies on the horizon that will hopefully be featuring in – or even win – the Aquatech Innovation Awards in the years ahead!"

FIVE CATEGORIES

Applications for the Aquatech Innovation Award 2011 were divided into five categories. One nominee from each category was named category winner and the independent jury of experts selected the overall winner from these. The products and services were judged based on:

- 50% - originality
- 25% - practical development (technical, economical, feasibility)
- 25% - sustainability (environment, safety, energy and efficiency)



NOMINEES

Nominees in the category Water Treatment

- **Category winner:**
AlgaeBioReactor (ABR) - Ingrepro
- BIOPAQ®AFR (Anaerobic Flotation Reactor) – Paques
- BioChroma – Enviro Chemie

Nominees in the category Process Control & Automation

- **Category winner:**
Qwatch – CapiliX B.V.
- Dulcoflow – ProMinent
- moni::tool TM - S-can Messtechnik GmbH

Nominees in the category Water Supply (incl. Point of Use)

- **Category winner:**
QuantumFlux - NanoH2O
- 2B Sure Autonomous Waterstorage treatment system – Bright Spark B.V.
- CapDI CT – Voltea B.V.

Nominees in the category Innovation not to market yet

- **Category winner:**
X-Flow HF Nano – Pentair X-Flow
- Blue Eco pumps - SIBO BV
- TECTA - ENDETEC™/ Veolia Water

Nominees in the category Transport & Storage

- **Category winner:**
Fish-friendly pump - 100 percent safe for eel – Pentair Nijhuis
- Adaptive N-impeller(s) on Flygt N-pumps – Xylem

Overall winner Aquatech Innovation Award

- **Fish-friendly pump - 100 percent safe for eel – Pentair Nijhuis**

JURY MEMBERS 2011

Chairman of the Jury: Mr. Prof. Dr. Ir. C.J.N. Buisman Scientific Director, Wetsus/ Wageningen University & Research



Executive Jury

- Mr. Dr. Ir. J.G. Langeveld
Professor Tu Delft
- Ms. Ir. C.A. Uijterlinde
Research manager at STOWA
- Ms. Prof. M. Kennedy
Professor of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation, UNESCO-IHE
- Mr. Ir. P. Kamp
Manager for Development and Innovation, Provincial Water Utility for North Holland

Overall Jury

- Mr. J. Appels
Managing Director, microloan B.V.
- Mr. Ir. J.T. van der Zwan
Managerial advisor, KIWA
- Mr. W.F. Volmer
Senior Product Manager NMI Certin B.V.
- Mr. Ir. A. Andersson
SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden Measurement Technology – Volume, Flow and Temperature

The Aquatech Innovation Award sponsors AMREF Flying Doctors.
The proceeds of the award entries is donated to the Mtwara water project in Tanzania.

**The Aquatech Innovation
Award is organised by**

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