

**HURRICANES, MAJOR DISASTERS, COASTAL PROTECTION AND RAPID RECOVERY IN
TEXAS AND GULF COAST REGION
Final Program- THC 2017(August 4, 2017)**

Session I: (8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.) General Session

Moderator: C. Vipulanandan, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, Texas

Chuck Wemple, “HGAC Regional Preparedness and Related Issues,” Chief Operations Officer, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

David Casebeer, "Managing Storm Impacts at Port Houston Ship Berths," Project Manager, Port Houston, Houston, Texas.

Hurricane Forecasting, Bill Read, Former Director, National Hurricane Center, NOAA, Texas A & M University, Galveston, Texas.

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. Coffee Break (Exhibit Area)

Session II: (10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.)

Panel 1: Emergency Management and Recovery Issues

Moderator: Daniel Wong, Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Houston, Texas.

Michael Walter and Howard Hilliard, “The City of Houston Office of Emergency Management and Department of Public Works and Engineering Emergency Management, Preparation and Response,” City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Michelle Havelka, “Natural Disasters: Before and After the “Storm”, Homeland Security Coordinator, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Austin, Texas;

Emergency Response at ExxonMobil, Brian Hansen, Exxon Mobil, Spring, Texas.

Panel Discussion: Challenges in Preparedness and Recovery

Panel 2: Major Disaster Recovery and Coastal Protection Issues

Moderator: Rafael Ortega, Aurora Technical Services, Houston, Texas.

Cynthia Hudson, “Long Term Recovery - Helping Texas Rebuild,” Grant Manager, Texas General Land office, Austin, Texas;

Eduardo Irigoyen, “Coastal Storm Damage Risk Management Reduction: Coastal Texas Project,” Project Manager, USACE-Galveston District, Galveston, Texas.

Michael Shannon, “Overview of the Texas City Hurricane Levee,” County Engineer, Galveston, Texas.

Andrew Molly and Kira Smith, Maintaining Consumer and Regulator Confidence in Drinking Water Following Natural Disasters – A look back at the City of Houston’s response before and after Hurricane Ike, City of Houston, Houston, Texas

Panel Discussion: Major Disaster Recovery and Coastal Protection Issues

Lunch Break, Exhibition & Research Posters

Posters on research at **Various Universities along the Gulf Coast Region.**
Companies participate in the **Exhibition.**

12:00 to 12:15 p.m. County Judge, Matt Sebesta, “The Disaster Management in Brazoria County " Brazoria County, Texas.

12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Jay Hall, Disaster Related Challenges in Texas" State Coordinator, Texas Department of Emergency Management, Austin, Texas.

Session III: (1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

Panel 3 : Coastal Modeling, Monitoring and Debris Management

Moderator: C. Vipulanandan, Houston, Texas.

Surge Suppression Achieved by Different Coastal Spine (Ike Dike) Alignments, Bruce Ebersole, Thomas Richardson, and Robert Whalin, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi

The Status of the Ike Dike/Coastal Spine, William Merrell, Leonard Waterworth, Samuel Brody, and Cherie Coffman Texas A & M University, Galveston, Texas.

Lessons Learned From Disasters and New Technologies, C. Vipulanandan, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Panel Discussion: Coastal Protection Issues and Debris Management.

Panel 4: Advance Technologies for Maintenance and Monitoring

Moderator: Gino Lim, Chair of Industrial Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, Texas

Frank Ciaccio, “Emergency Management in Houston Airports,” Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Advanced Port Risk Management, Jeeyoung Cho, Maryam Hamidi and Berna Tokgo, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas.

Advanced Technologies for Safety and Security, Gino Lim and Seon Kim, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Panel Discussion: City and Coastal Infrastructures and Monitoring

RECEPTION: (2:30 - 3:30 p.m.)

Reception will be held in the Exhibit area (food and drinks). In addition to conference participants, number of city, county and industrial leaders will be invited to participate. This is a good opportunity to network and number of door prizes is waiting for you.

Professional Development Hours (PDH)

Earn up to 5 hours of PDH by attending the conference. Certificates will be issued after the conference.