

HURRICANES, MAJOR DISASTERS, COASTAL PROTECTION AND RAPID RECOVERY IN TEXAS AND GULF COAST REGION

THC - 2015
7th Annual Conference



Texas Hurricane Center
for Innovative Technology

Conference and Exhibition
Sponsored by

**Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative
Technology (THC-IT)
&
Civil and Environmental Engineering
Industrial Engineering
University of Houston**

August 7, 2015

University Hilton
University of Houston
Houston, Texas 77204-3902

Conference Registration

The Conference is presented in a one day concentrated format to update the community, emergency managers and suppliers who play an important role in hurricane and other disaster preparedness, loss mitigation and rapid recovery. Well known and influential speakers will provide valuable information to the conference attendees. Complete and return the registration form with the registration fee before July 31, 2015 for an advanced registration discount. Registration fee includes admission, lunch, coffee breaks, and free hotel parking. Registration and attendance will be limited to the first 120 registrants.

For Hotel Reservations call (832) 531-6300 or 1-866-327-1161 and ask for Hurricane and Other Disaster Conference Rate.

Top Reasons To Attend:

- (1) Be informed about the latest plans and procedures in preparing for hurricanes and other major disasters in number of major Gulf coast cities.
- (2) Network with state, city and county emergency managers, engineers, suppliers, consultants, researchers, educators, scientists, students and exhibitors.
- (3) Presentations include debris management, preparedness, loss mitigation, evacuation, coastal protection, transportation issues, rapid recovery and new technologies that could influence your operations.
- (4) View research posters from many Gulf Coast Universities and attend the reception.
- (5) Houston is easily accessible from anywhere in the U.S.

For conference information or to reserve exhibition spaces call **Dr. Vipul** at (713) 743-4278.

REGISTRATION

Advanced Registration (by 7/31/2015) \$145.00
At-Door Registration \$160.00
Student Registration* \$ 85.00

Exhibitor^ \$300.00
(A reception is planned in the exhibit area)

^One person has free registration
*Current I.D. and School Registration;

Please make check payable to THC-IT/UH
and mail it to:

Conference Registration
THC-IT/Dept. C&EE
University of Houston
Houston, TX 77204-4003
(Attn: Dr. C. Vipulanandan (Vipu))

Name _____

Nick Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Contact Person _____
(office use only)

For more information

Phone: (713) 743-4278; Fax: (713) 743-4260
Email: CVipulanandan@uh.edu

About the Conference

A one day Conference and Exhibition is being organized by the Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative Technology (THC-IT) on "Hurricanes, Major Disasters, Coastal Protection and Rapid Recovery in Texas and Gulf Coast Region" at the University of Houston on August 7, 2015. The presentations will include current preparation plans for the entire Gulf Coast including Texas counties and cities for the 2015 hurricane season and other disasters. Special feature of this conference is the four panel discussions on hurricane issues, other disasters, coastal protection and debris management. After the technical sessions, a reception will be held starting at 2:30 p.m. with invited state, city, county and industry leaders in the exhibit area to facilitate networking. The conference fee also includes lunch, coffee breaks, reception and parking. Earn 5 PDH by attending the entire conference.

List of Distinguished Speakers

Session I: (8:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.)

Jack Steele, "HGAC Regional Preparedness and Related Issues," Executive Director, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

Michael Talbott, "Recent Flooding in Harris County," Director, Harris County Flood Control District, Houston, Texas.

Michael deMasi, "How the USACE Supporting Response and Recovery to Disasters," Chief Emergency Manager, USACE-Galveston District, Galveston, Texas. Keynote Speaker.

Session II: (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

Panel 1: Emergency Management and Recovery

Moderator: Gino Lim, Chair of Industrial Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, Panelist (15 to 25 min. presentations)

John R. Flanagan, "Emergency Management in a Major City," Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Jay Hall "Disaster Related Challenges in Texas" State Coordinator, Texas Emergency Management, Houston, Texas.

Coordinating for Crisis, Building Resilience: Insights from Surveys of Gulf County Emergency Managers, Ashley Ross, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

Gubernatorial Leadership and Disaster Recovery, Gavin Smith, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Panel 2: Major Disasters, Repairs and Monitoring

Moderator: Trent Slovak, Vice President, KIT Professionals Inc, Houston, Texas.

Micelle Havelka, "From Drought to Flood (in less than 30 days) – TCEQ's Review of Impact on Infrastructure," Assistant Homeland Security Coordinator, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Austin, Texas.

Water Infrastructures and Issues, Trent Slovak, Vice President, KIT Professionals Inc, Houston, Texas..

Jason Iken, "Rapid Repair Response to Failures on Streets and Pipelines After Accidents and Disasters" Senior Assistant Director of Wastewater Operations, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Satellite Technology for Monitoring, Hyongki Lee, University of Houston, Houston, Texas..

Lunch Break, Exhibition & Research Posters

Posters on current research from **Various Universities along the Gulf Coast Region.**

Companies participate in the **Exhibition.**

12:10 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Judge Robert Herbert "Are Levees in Fort Bend County Ready for Hurricane" County Judge, Fort Bend County, Sugar Land, Texas;

12:35 p.m. to 12:55 p.m. "Hurricanes and Disasters Preparedness at ExxonMobil", TBA, Houston, Texas.

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

Panel 3 : New Technologies and Coastal Protection

Moderator: C. Vipulanandan, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (15 to 20 min. presentations)

Flash Flood 2015: UAS Search and Recovery Operations in Wimberley, Texas, Maurice Griffin, Texas A & M University, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Comprehensive Surge Protection for the Galveston Bay Complex, William Merrell and Leonard Waterworth, Texas A & M University, Galveston, Texas, **Philip Bedient and Larry Dunbar**, The SSPEED Center, Rice University and **Robert Whalin**, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi.

Craig Karty, "Oil Spill Prevention and Response Division: Derelict/Abandon Vessel Turn-in Program," Texas General Land Office, La Porte, Texas.

Coastal Shutter Protection Against Oil Spills and Hurricane Storm Surge, C. Vipulanandan, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Panel 4: Recovery and Wind Engineering

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

Panelist (15-20 min. presentations)

Eric Dargan, "Recovery after a Disaster (Any Protocols): Debris Removal and Clearing Streets," Deputy Director for Street & Drainage Division, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Protected Infrastructure on Barrier Island, Marcel Blanchard, Assistant Vice President, Utility Operations, UTMB Galveston, Texas.

Wind Engineering for Resilient, Smart and Sustainable Structures," Ashley Aly, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Wind Tunnel Studies on Structural Integrity, Wally Ford, Executive Vice President, Cardno Hayes Whaley, Houston, Texas.

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

A reception will be held in the Exhibit area (food and drinks). In addition to conference participants, number of cities, counties and industrial leaders will be invited to participate. This is a good opportunity to network and several of door prizes are 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.

"Innovation through Research and Education"