

Water Monitoring - The New Association



The Water Monitoring Association (WMA) represents the interests of companies involved in all aspects of water monitoring.

It was formed in mid 2007 to influence the development of standards, equipment, personnel and applications that affect qualitative and quantitative water monitoring.

The objectives of the Association are to;

- Provide an independent technical resource for members and their clients;
- influence appropriate industry standards, codes, safety procedures and operating principles;
- encourage the professional development and a high level of ethical conduct of industry personnel;
- Seek co-operative endeavors with other professional organisations, institutions and regulatory bodies, nationally and internationally.

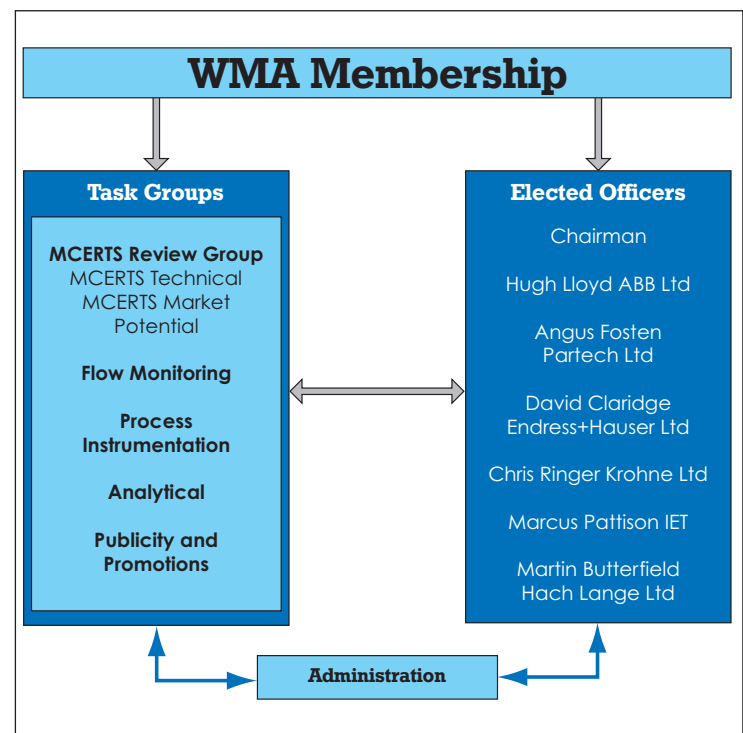
Membership is open to any company or individual that has an interest in the monitoring of water and related field.

The cost of membership is £490.00* per annum with a one off £150.00* joining fee. All prices are excluding VAT. Membership is from 1st August to the 31st July each year, if a member joins during the year the membership fee is calculated on a pro-rata basis.*There is a 10% discount for payment by credit card or within 30 days.

After extensive discussion through out the industry it became apparent there is a lot of unease and uncertainty about the Environment Agency's MCERTS scheme for water monitoring. WMA took this on board and we agreed to set up a task group to deal with the technical aspects and market potential in the UK and overseas.

The first MCERTS technical task group meeting was held on the 20th November 2007 the meeting covered

- Review of the responsibilities of the Task Group
- Existing MCERTS Scheme for the Industry
- Proposed new Schemes
- Detailed discussions on equipment for continuous monitoring
- Standard reference methods



Martin Butterfield Chairman of WMA MCERTS group commented that; "MCERTS is a key development in the Water Sector and it is the WMA's responsibility to put forward the views of its members to the EA and assist them to produce workable standards."

The second MCERTS task group has been proposed for the 5th February 2008 we have been requested by the Environment Agency to review the draft MCERTS portable standard.

A further four task groups have also been set up and these will cover:

- Process Instrumentation
- Flow Monitoring
- Analytical
- Publicity and Promotions

Meetings are planned for the first quarter of 2008 the first is the process instrumentation group who will meet on 5th February at WMA offices. The first analytical task group will be held in the morning of the 28th February 2008 and flow monitoring task group will be held in the afternoon of the 28th February 2008

One of the first areas each group will be addressing is to provide industry sector guidance documents. The BACK to BASIC series will offer technical guidance in an easy to read form.

WMA provides articles for leading industrial magazines on a variety of topics related to this market sector.

Development of British Standards is a key function for the association and WMA representatives attend the BSI EH3/6 management committee and we will be sending representatives to all relevant European (CEN) and International (ISO) working groups assisting in the development of new standards.

The Association's web site consists of public and members areas and will be expanded to include relevant guidance and support to members and their clients.

WMA offices are based in Hitchin, Hertfordshire, UK. The Administration and technical support is contactable at any time and our aim is to answer questions within an 8 hours time scale. We have fully equipped conference and training rooms situated within our offices and these rooms are available for members use at no charge, subject to availability, charge is only made for lunches if required.

AUTHOR DETAILS

Andy Curtis, WMA, UK
Tel +44 (0) 1462 434685,
Email: andy@w-m-a.org
Web: www.w-m-a.org