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INTERNATIONAL DESALINATION ASSOCIATION PRESENTS PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS AT IDA WORLD CONGRESS 2013 IN TIANJIN

TIANJIN, CHINA, Oct. 22, 2013 – The International Desalination Association (IDA) announced the recipients of seven **Presidential Awards** at the IDA World Congress 2013 in Tianjin. In addition, IDA presented a special **All Presidents Award** to Patricia A. Burke, the Association's Secretary General.

The **Presidential Awards** are conferred upon individuals and organizations whose work on behalf of IDA and the desalination industry demonstrates outstanding achievement, leadership and vision. This year's recipients are:

Mr. KHOO Teng Chye in recognition of his outstanding performance as the Technical Program Co-Chairperson of the 2013 IDA World Congress. Mr. KHOO's efforts and vast experience helped to assure the success of this event in the IDA tradition of excellence.

Prof. WANG Shi Chang in recognition of his dedication and outstanding achievement as the Technical Program Co-Chairperson of the 2013 IDA World Congress. Prof. WANG's efforts were instrumental in the success of the Technical Program, the largest and most comprehensive in IDA World Congress history.

Mr. Guillaume Claret for his tireless work as Co-Chair of IDA's Humanitarian Outreach Committee and his vision, dedication and outstanding efforts in organizing IDA's highly successful conference "Water Recycling and Desalination for the Oil & Gas Industry." Presented in Banff, Alberta, Canada in May 2013, this conference raised more than \$250,000 to support water-related humanitarian projects.

Mr. Michel Canet in recognition of his long-term and outstanding dedication and commitment to IDA and for his clear, professional and proactive performance as IDA's Treasurer for the 2011-2013 Term.

Mr. Ghassan Ejeh in recognition of his significant contribution to IDA's development during his presidency and for his years of commitment to IDA's goals and mission, particularly as an advocate of international cooperation while serving on the IDA Board of Directors. His commitment continues today through his ongoing and active participation in IDA programs.

MASDAR for conceiving a milestone initiative on low energy footprint, renewable desalination and for its focus on bridging the gap between research and commercialization of new desalination technologies. This visionary initiative has established a framework to leverage a new generation of low energy footprint, more sustainable and environmentally friendly desalination.

PUB, Singapore's Public Utilities Board, for its longstanding commitment to the sustainability of water and desalination, and in recognition of the special relationship between PUB and IDA, reflected in ongoing collaboration on many important events and initiatives. These include organization of the 2005 World Congress in Singapore; PUB's leadership as the first host agency for IDA's Fellowship Award; the successful launch of the IDA Desalination Academy; and continuing cooperation on Singapore International Water Week.

All Presidents Award

Patricia A. Burke became the first recipient of an **All Presidents Award**, presented on the occasion of IDA's 40th Anniversary on behalf of IDA's membership and all IDA Presidents, current and past, in recognition of her enduring commitment to the organization. Ms. Burke has been dedicated to IDA since its inception, and the award acknowledges her many contributions, leadership, and passion towards the mission of IDA and its developments, achievements and success.

About IDA

The International Desalination Association (www.idadesal.org) is a non-profit association that serves more than 2,400 core members in 60 countries and reaches an additional 4,000 affiliate members. Its membership comprises scientists, end-users, engineers, consultants and researchers from governments, corporations and academia. IDA is associated with the United Nations as part of a growing international network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

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