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## Dam Safety 2002 Attracts Over 600 Attendees

The Association of State Dam Safety Officials held its nineteenth annual conference and exhibit show September 8-11, 2002 at the Saddlebrook Resort, near Tampa, Florida.

Approximately 620 state and federal regulators, engineering consultants, manufacturers and suppliers, academicians, dam owners and operators, students and others attended the conference, hosted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The opening general session featured welcoming remarks by Deborah Getzoff, Director of the District Management, Southwest District, Florida DEP, and a review of ASDSO's accomplishments during the past year, by John Moyle, 2001-2002 ASDSO president. Keynote speaker Colonel Richard A. Searfoss, U.S. Air Force (retired), shared fascinating recollections and insights based on his experience as an astronaut.

A special general session, Security at Dams One Year After 9/11, co-sponsored by The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP), followed the opening session. Moderated by Rudolph V. Matalucci, developer of Sandia National Laboratories' Risk Assessment Methodology for Dams (RAM-D), the session featured talks by Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers, US Army Corps of Engineers Commander and Chief of Engineers; Commissioner John Keys, US Bureau of Reclamation; LTC Terrence P. Ryan, US Army Corps of Engineers Chief of Security, Intelligence and Law Enforcement; Larry Todd, US Bureau of Reclamation Director of Operations; and Frank Calcagno, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Senior Engineering Geologist.

Two more general sessions addressed Emergency Action Plans and Liability and Dam Safety Research Needs.

Eighteen concurrent sessions encompassed fifty-four presentations on hydrology; gates; dam construction and rehabilitation; roller compacted concrete; instrumentation and monitoring; innovations; environmental issues and dam removal; seepage; spillways and outlet works; scour; dam emergencies; case studies and lessons learned; dam owner issues; new technology for geotechnical investigations; inspections; and seismic, structural and stability evaluations.

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At the annual ASDSO Awards Banquet, the following individuals and organizations were recognized for outstanding contributions to the field of dam safety: [Details in separate press release.]

- Honorary ASDSO Member: Thomas A. Kelly, West Hills, California; former senior civil engineer, Southern California Edison Company
  - West Regional Award of Merit: Alan Pearson, consulting engineer, Cortez, Colorado; former Principal Engineer of the Colorado Dam Safety Branch
  - Midwest Regional Award of Merit: Samuel S. Doak, Chief Structural and Geotechnical Engineer, McClure Engineering Associates, Inc., East Moline, Illinois
  - Southeast Regional Award of Merit: Randall P. Bass, Program Manager of Water Resources, Portland Cement Association, Lilburn, Georgia
  - Northeast Regional Award of Merit: Dr. Arthur C. Miller, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Pennsylvania State University
  - National Rehabilitation Project of the Year: HydroPlus, Inc. and GEI Consultants, Inc. (Black Rock Dam, Zuni Indian Reservation, New Mexico)
  - National Award of Merit: Congressman Bill Shuster, 9<sup>th</sup> District, Pennsylvania
  - President's Award: Brian Pallasch, Director of Government Relations, American Society of Civil Engineers
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This year's annual pre-conference ice breaker - a swimming pool-sized "boating regatta" featuring cardboard-and-duct tape crafts fashioned by the participants - was well attended and hotly contested!

The conference concluded with a field trip to IMC Global, Florida's largest phosphate mining company. Attendees visited IMC's reclamation center and three clay settling areas, large, above-grade, offstream impoundments for the containment of waste phosphatic clays, in different stages of development.

ASDSO's 20th Anniversary Conference will be held September 7-10, 2003 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota. Details will be posted on ASDSO's website, [www.damsafety.org](http://www.damsafety.org).

For information on the conference proceedings, or for conference photos, please contact ASDSO (Tel: 859/257-5140, Fax: 859/323-1958, E-mail: [info@damsafety.org](mailto:info@damsafety.org)).

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The Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to improving dam safety through research, education and communication. Since its formation in 1984, ASDSO has served as one of the premier professional organizations for individuals committed to ensuring the safety of dams in the U.S. For more information, please visit [www.damsafety.org](http://www.damsafety.org).