IDA WORLD CONGRESS ON DESALINATION AND WATER REUSE HELD IN DUBAI SETS NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD

DUBAI, UAE, Nov. 12, 2009 – The International Desalination Association (IDA) announced that its 2009 World Congress on Desalination and Water Reuse was the most successful in its long history. Held Nov. 7-12 in Dubai at the Atlantis – the Palm Jumeirah, this year’s World Congress set new records for attendance as well as the scope of the event itself.

More than 1,350 delegates from approximately 60 countries attended the four-day Technical Program, Exhibition and Workshops, surpassing the previous record set during the 2007 World Congress in Maspalomas. “When coupled with the growth in IDA’s membership of more than 40 percent since November 2007, this indicates the strength and dynamism of the desalination industry even during the difficult global economic climate,” said Patricia A. Burke, IDA’s Secretary General.

The Technical Program was the most robust of any IDA World Congress, featuring more than 240 oral and poster presentations. In addition, the 2,000 square meter Exhibition featured the latest products and services from 67 companies from around the world, and stands were extremely busy throughout the Congress. Demand for Exhibition space at the 2009 World Congress was so great that it sold out in less than 30 days. Three day-long Workshops gave delegates additional opportunities to expand their knowledge and network with their colleagues.

The event, which has grown exponentially year after year, brought together the world’s most prominent industry players, including end-users (utilities), manufacturers and suppliers, government officials, researchers, financiers and members of academia from around the world.

Held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the 2009 IDA World Congress was hosted by TechnoPark and supported by Economic Zones World.

About IDA

The International Desalination Association (www.idadesal.org) is a non-profit association of over 2,200 members in 60 countries. The membership is comprised of 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).