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## PRESS RELEASE

### Winners Announced of the 2015 WEDA Environmental Excellence Awards

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(June 24, 2015) WEDA's Chair of the Environmental Commission, Craig Vogt, announced the 2015 winners of the WEDA Environmental Excellence Awards at the organization's annual Summit and Expo held at Westin Hotel in Houston, Texas, June 22-25, 2015.

The WEDA Environmental Excellence Awards are given annually in two categories: (1) navigation dredging and (2) environmental dredging.

For Navigation Dredging, the award winner was the project **Strategically Placing Dredged Material Enhancing Horseshoe Bend Island, Atchafalaya River, Louisiana** executed by the team of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research & Development Center New Orleans District, Weeks Marine Inc., Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company and Mike Hooks Inc. The silver award was presented for **Detroit Harbor Navigation Channel Dredging and Expansion Project, Town of Washington, Washington Island, Wisconsin** to the project team comprised of the Town of Washington, Wisconsin, Washington Island Ferry Line, Foth Infrastructure & Environment LLC and Roen Salvage Company.

For Environmental Dredging Award, the award was presented to the project **East Branch Grand Calumet River Remediation East Chicago/Hammond, Indiana**, and to the team of Great Lakes Sediment Remediation LLC, which consists of Environmental Restoration LLC, J.F. Brennan Company Inc. and Natural Resource Technology Company. The silver

award went to **Esquimalt Graving Dock Waterfront Remediation Project, Vancouver Island, British Columbia** executed by the team of Anchor QEA LLC, Klohn Crippen Berger, Golder Associates Ltd, SLR Consulting Ltd, Salish Sea Industrial Services, Tervita Corporation, Fraser River Pile and Dredge, Tsunup Ventures LP and JJM Construction.

The WEDA Summit & Expo is an annual event at which the highest levels of dredging expertise and technical advancement are on display through technical papers and exhibition booths. Environment and sustainability have long been priorities for the dredging industry and are considered in every dredging project. The WEDA Environmental Excellence Awards express the dredging community's continuing concern with environmental issues and aim to reward those who have shown exceptional levels of achievements in integrating environmental enhancement into dredging projects.

Each of these papers is available in the conference proceedings at the WEDA website: <https://www.westerndredging.org/> or by contacting the companies involved.

WEDA President & Chairman of the Board of Directors, Ram Mohan, noted that *“WEDA strongly supports the continued development of projects that enhance environmental benefits. These four projects are outstanding examples of how dredging projects can be implemented effectively resulting in a net positive benefit to the environment.”*

WEDA Vice President, Marcel Hermans, said, *“I am totally impressed with the planning, engineering, and outreach to stakeholders that was incorporated into these projects, all of which led to achieving outstanding environmental benefits.”*

For more information on the specific projects, see <https://www.westerndredging.org/index.php/environmental-commission/environmental-excellence-awards>, or contact Tom Verna, WEDA's Executive Director or Craig Vogt, Chair of the WEDA Environmental Commission, which sponsored the awards.

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WEDA is a member of The World Organization of Dredging Associations. (**WODA**) The **Western Dredging Association (WEDA)** region covers North, Central and South America. The **Central Dredging Association (CEDA)** covers most of Europe, Africa, and the Mid and Near East. The **Eastern Dredging Association (EADA)** covers the Far East and Pacific region. The three organizations constitute the **World Organization of Dredging Association (WODA)** with equal representation on the WODA Board of Directors. The goals and objectives are common for each of the three organizations, however, operations to attain these are independently carried out.

#### **WEDA Goals and Objectives**

- To promote the exchange of knowledge in fields related to dredging, navigation, marine engineering and construction by sponsoring or co-sponsoring national and international technical

conferences, seminars, and symposiums, including publication and dissemination of the proceedings.

- To provide a forum for improvement of communications, technology transfer, and cooperation among associations, societies, and all organizations interested in dredging, navigation, marine engineering and construction.
- To emphasize the importance of understanding and development of solutions for problems related to the protection and enhancement of the marine environment.
- To support educational institutions for students interested in pursuing dredging and marine engineering as a career.
- To promote membership in and furtherance of the Western Dredging Association through establishment and support of Chapters.
- To recognize individuals and organizations for outstanding engineering and operational achievement.

See the WEDA website: [www.westerndredging.org](http://www.westerndredging.org)

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