

DREDGING SUMMIT & EXPO 2015

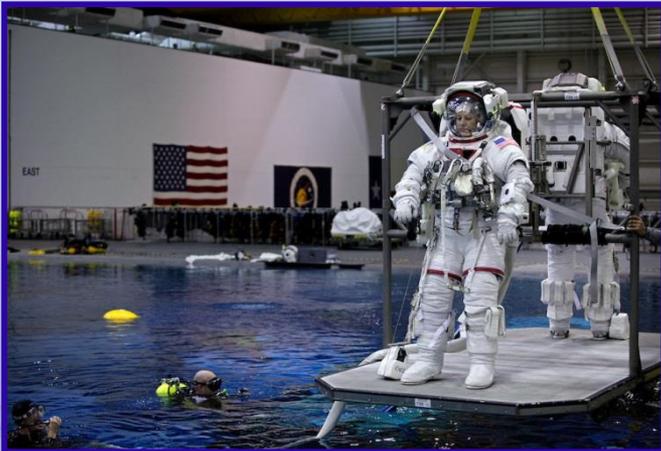
WELCOME REMARKS

By

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President, WEDA

WELCOME TO HOUSTON, TEXAS!



Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment

DREDGING IN TEXAS HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL

- *50+ miles long!*
- *Hosts approximately 50 ships and 300 barge movements/day*



Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment

BENEFICIAL USE IN TEXAS ATKINSON – BOLIVAR MARSHES

- *100's of acres of wetland restoration!*
- *Functioning ecosystem case studies*



WELCOME TO THE 2015 DREDGE SUMMIT!

- *Highlights:*
 - *Opening Keynotes from USACE and Port of Houston!*
 - *Safety Commission Panel (Wednesday, 8:00am)*
 - *Panama Canal Keynote (Wednesday, 12:00 noon)*
 - *Conference Dinner (Wednesday, 6:30 pm)*
 - *Environmental Commission Panel (Thursday, 8:00am)*
- *Technical Program*
 - *Pre-conference short course on 5R's of dredging*
 - *Over 50 presentations; 14 sessions*
 - *Post-conference Tour to Port of Houston (Thursday, 1:00pm)*

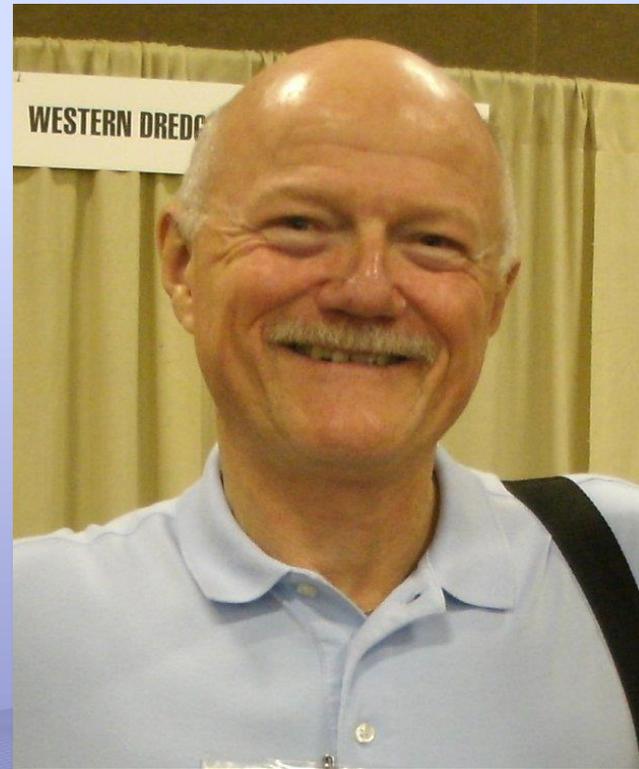
WORLD DREDGING ORGANIZATION



Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment

CELEBRATING WEDA FRIEND DR. BOB ENGLER (1941-2015)

- *Long time WEDA and PIANC Member*
- *Over 30 years at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ERDC*
- *Author of several Dredging guidance documents*



CELEBRATING WEDA FRIEND PROF. DR. KEN WILSON (1937-2015)

- *Pioneer, Slurry Pipeline Transport Theory*
- *Professor, Queens University, Ontario, Canada*
- *Author of several slurry transport papers and books*



CURRENT INITIATIVES

- *Improved communication with membership*
- *Improved annual conferences*
- *Renewed technical focus*
 - *Short courses, Post-conference technical tours*
 - *Invited technical sessions on major projects*
 - *Journal of Dredging*
- *Increased collaboration with OAS, NAMEPA & USACE*
- *Focus on Central & South America*
- *Improvements on the website: www.westerndredging.org*

FUTURE PRIORITIES

- *Planning for WODCON 2016 (Miami, Florida)*
- *Facilitating access to new business opportunities for WEDA members in Central and South America*
- *Increased focus on Canada and Mexico*
- *Continued educational outreach partnerships*
- *Selective collaboration with other organizations (e.g., OAS, NAMEPA, PIANC, ASCE), when beneficial*



HYATT REGENCY MIAMI



OUTSIDE EXHIBITORS HALL



LOBBY



Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment



WORLD FAMOUS MIAMI BEACH

WODCON XXI

**INNOVATIONS IN
DREDGING**

JUNE 13-17, 2016



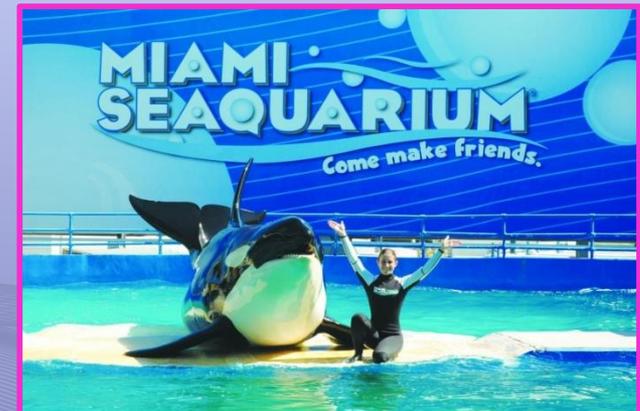
Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment

PORT OF MIAMI



Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment

BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY !



Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment



HAVE A WONDERFUL CONFERENCE!

Dredging Creates a Strong Economy and a Cleaner Environment