

World Engineers' Convention 2011 in Geneva

September 2011 will see Geneva become the key international venue for engineers. The World Engineers' Convention 2011 (WEC 2011) seeks to encourage innovative engineering aimed at solving the problem of globally sustainable use of energy.

How can we provide sufficient energy for everyone around the globe? How can we meet the energy needs of the world's population fairly? How can we prevent conflicts over energy? These are just a few of the burning issues to be addressed by WEC 2011.

Engineers from all over the world will get together in Geneva from 4-9 September 2011. The title of the convention, *Engineers Power the World – Facing the Global Energy Challenge*, reflects its focus on energy as one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. It will promote sustainable use and identify future-proof solutions in the areas of mobility and transport, urban development and construction, energy conversion, logistics, renewable energy and storage, and rational end use and large consumers.

Keynotes from All Over the World

Following on from Hanover (2000), Shanghai (2004) and Brasilia (2008), this will be the fourth WEC. More than 2000 delegates from 100 countries are expected in the host city of Geneva. The convention attracts decision-makers from all over the world: Nobuo Tanaka, Director of the International Energy Agency based in Paris, Professor Hiroshi Komiyama, President of the University of Tokyo, and Professor Chris Edward from Stanford University have already signed up as keynote speakers. "Everyone interested in thinking outside the box about energy will take inspiration from WEC 2011 in Geneva", concluded Daniel Favrat, EPFL Professor and Chair of the WEC 2011 Program Committee, speaking at the WEC 2008 closing ceremony in Brasilia. "WEC 2011 isn't just for engineers, it's also for representatives of business, government and education".

Talkshop

The convention will provide a major opportunity to gain an overview by reviewing, discussing and sharing engineering opinion. Its broad perspective will extend beyond scientific and technical aspects to consider

ways of influencing the socioeconomic and political framework. Sharing policies, technology transfer, the North-South divide and the need for creativity and entrepreneurial activities will also not be forgotten. Alongside the energy theme, WEC 2011 also aims to raise the profile of the engineering profession. Young people should see engineering as an attractive career option. The general public needs to gain a better understanding of the importance of engineering in achieving prosperity and tackling the big challenges of the future.

One highlight of the closing ceremony of WEC 2011 in Geneva will be the passing of a resolution answering the burning energy issues. These hot topics will be considered through a process of international discussion conducted between national engineering associations, universities and other organizations.

Working with Prestigious Partners for a World-class Outcome

Switzerland was mandated to host WEC 2011 by the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), the association of national engineering organizations from more than 90 countries, representing some 15 million engineers worldwide. The organizational aspects have been entrusted to the Swiss organizations Swiss Engineering STV, SIA, Electrosuisse and FTAL. Swiss partners include the two Federal Institutes of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ) and Lausanne (EPFL), the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences (SATW), Swiss universities of applied sciences, the Swiss Federal Government, and industry and business associations. International partners include UNESCO and FEANI (the European Federation of National Engineering Associations).

The Program Committee includes representatives of ETH, EPFL, the Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland's Federal Energy Commission, and international experts including representatives of the Association of German Engineers (VDI) and the US Alliance of Engineering Associations.

World Engineers' Convention 2011

Engineers Power the World – Facing the Global Energy Challenge

4-9 September 2011

International Conference Center Geneva (CICG), Switzerland

info@wec2011.org, www.wec2011.org

Supporting entities include the international organizations UNESCO and FEANI, and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO). Organization has been entrusted to the Swiss organizations Swiss Engineering STV, SIA, Electrosuisse and FTAL.

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Factsheet

World Engineers' Convention 2011 in Geneva

4-9 September 2011

International Conference Center Geneva (CICG)

Engineers from around the world will gather in Geneva from 4-9 September 2011 for the fourth World Engineers' Convention (WEC 2011). Under the title *Engineers Power the World – Facing the Global Energy Challenge*, WEC 2011 will focus on energy, one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century. It will encourage sustainable use and identify future-proof solutions.

Alongside the energy theme, WEC 2011 also aims to raise the profile of the engineering profession. Young people should see engineering as an attractive career option. The general public needs to gain a better understanding of the importance of engineering both for our prosperity and in tackling the big challenges of the future.

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Program topics

WEC 2011 broadens the current focus on the future of energy with the following key topics:

- Global challenges
- Education in engineering
- Mobility and transport
- Urban development & building
- Centralized and decentralized energy conversion, transport & delivery
- Renewable energy & storage
- Rational end use & large consumers

The convention will provide a major opportunity to gain an overview by reviewing, discussing and sharing engineering opinion. Rather than being limited to the scientific/technological perspective, it will also consider holistic and systemic issues, and ways of influencing the socioeconomic and political framework. Sharing policies, technology transfer, the North-South divide and the need for creativity and entrepreneurial activities will also not be forgotten.

Keynote speakers

Prestigious keynote speakers from all over the world will introduce the subject matter. The following well-known personalities have already confirmed their commitment:

- Federal Councilor (member of the Swiss government)
- Maria Jesus Prieto Laffargue, President of the WFEO
- Nobuo Tanaka, Director of the International Energy Agency, Paris
- Prof. Hiroshi Komiyama, President of the University of Tokyo, Japan
- Prof. Chris Edwards, Stanford University
- Dr. Willi Fuchs, General Manager of the Association of German Engineers (VDI)
- Member of the Board of Management of Audi

Other keynote speakers from various countries have been asked, including German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Program

Sunday Sept 4, 2011	Monday Sept 5, 2011	Tuesday Sept 6, 2011	Wednesday Sept 7, 2011	Thursday – Saturday Sept 8 – 10, 2011
	Opening Session	Plenary Session Topic	Plenary Session Topic	
	Opening Session	Plenary Session Topic	Plenary Session Topic	
	Opening Session	Plenary Session Topic	Plenary Session	
Registration	Opening Session	Round Table	Round Table	Assemblies / Excursions
Welcome	Topic 1 Topic 2 Topic 3 Topic 4 Topic 5	Topic 1 Topic 2 Topic 3 Topic 4 Topic 5	Topic 1 Topic 2 Topic 3 Topic 4 Topic 5	
	Free	EPFL Night	Convention Dinner	

Assemblies

- WFEO: Standing Committees, Executive Council, General Assembly
- FEANI: Annual Business Meetings, General Assembly
- European Young Engineers: EYE conference (planned)

Resolution: addressing the burning energy issues

As part of the closing ceremony of WEC 2011 in Geneva, a resolution answering the following questions will be passed:

- How can we provide sufficient energy for every one around the globe?
- How can we secure access to the necessary energy?
- How can we satisfy the needs of energy of the world population in a fair way?
- Do engineers have solutions to provide energy for the world population?
- Do we have enough qualified engineers to meet the challenge?
- How can we prevent conflicts over energy?
- What is the roadmap for the roll-out of such solutions?

WEC 2011 will consider these issues through a process of international discussion, involving national engineering associations, universities and other organizations.

Excursions and partner program

Delegates will have an opportunity to take part in a wide variety of technical excursions looking at Switzerland and its engineering achievements.

- Geneva area: CERN, small hydro project, biogas from conversion of green waste, heat-pump district heating and cooling, photovoltaics (Mont Soleil), wind (Mont Crosin), hydro pump-storage (Hongrin), EPFL, wood cogeneration (Bière), biodiesel production (Etoy), waste incineration coupled with combined cycle cogeneration
- France: ITER-Fusion (Cadarache), EPR Flamanville, La Hague
- Zurich area: ETHZ, PSI
- Alps: longest train tunnel (57 km) and hydro power plants
- Various locations: visits to companies

A separate program with excursions is being organized for partners.

Exhibition

Companies and organizations are preparing the initial concept for an exhibition of their projects to complement their presentations and workshop.

Target audience

Some 2,200 delegates are expected. WEC 2011 will primarily appeal to:

- National engineering associations and other WFEO members
- Engineering companies and individual engineers
- Policy-makers (experts in energy, transport, environment, technology and education)
- Energy companies and production facilities
- Representatives of research institutes, universities and colleges
- Students and young engineers
- The media

Platform for sponsors and other partners

WEC 2011 and the related promotional activities offer a range of attractive sponsorship platforms for profile-raising, networking or recruitment. WEC 2011 provides opportunities to place key messages and establish contact with customers, contractors, network partners, students, young engineers, universities, engineering schools, engineering organizations and government representatives.

Further information

The following people are available for further information or a one-to-one chat about the convention:

- Ruedi Noser, President of the Steering Committee of the National Council, +41 76 355 66 64
- Prof. Dr. Favrat, EPFL Lausanne, President of the Program Committee, +41 79 334 97 85
- Prof. Dr. Lino Guzzella, ETH Zürich, Member of the Program Committee, +41 44 632 54 48
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For further information please see www.wec2011.org

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