



Special Issue

2004 EPA Science Forum "Healthy Communities and Ecosystems"

The 2004 EPA Science Forum "Healthy Communities and Ecosystems" was held June 1-3, 2004, at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Washington, DC. With more than 220 posters and 23 exhibits—including the drinking water research mobile lab and vapor intrusion detection demonstrations throughout the first 2 days of the Forum—EPA science received excellent exposure to an audience of more than 1,000 attendees. Participants learned more about the importance of promoting scientific collaboration and moving the results of our scientific efforts into action. This exciting EPA-wide event helped



Mike Leavitt,
EPA Administrator



Jimmy Palmer,
Regional Administrator,
Region 4



Kim Nelson,
Assistant Administrator for
Environmental Information



Paul Gilman,
Assistant Administrator for
Research and Development

to reinforce the very prominent role science continues to play in achieving EPA's mission. Plenary speakers included Mike Leavitt, EPA Administrator; Jimmy Palmer, Regional Administrator, Region 4; Kim Nelson, Assistant Administrator for Environmental Information; Paul Gilman, Assistant Administrator for Research and Development; R. Steven Brown, Executive Director for the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS); Dave McQueeney, Chief Technology Officer, IBM; and John Marburger, Director, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

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This year's Forum featured a Product Expo, which was the first in a series of events to showcase how specific ORD science products can and are being used by the EPA Regions and States to address high priority environmental problems. The Expo highlighted selected ORD products and their programmatic applications. Subsequent events, such as hands-on training workshops, will be scheduled in Regional Offices to transfer the products featured at the Science Forum and other ORD products of Region-specific interest to Region and State end-users of these products (e.g., bench scientists, modelers, risk assessors). For more information about the Product Expo Series, please see the special one-page Fact Sheet on this effort or contact Larry Fradkin (513-569-7712 or fradkin.larry@epa.gov) or David Klauder (202-564-6496 or klauder.david@epa.gov).



Drinking Water Research Mobile Lab



Product Expo Exhibit

Periodic demonstrations were conducted during the first 2 days of the event to show how dogs can be used in pollution prevention. The star of this segment was

an AKC registered Swedish Vallhund ("Sammy"), who was more than happy to show off his unique skill of vapor intrusion detection.



**"Sammy,"
a Swedish
Vallhund, the
vapor intrusion
detection dog**

A poster awards ceremony was held on the first evening of the Forum followed by a reception on Capitol Hill on the second evening. The Capitol Hill event was tailored to acquaint Members of Congress and their staff with ongoing EPA science efforts. This evening session includ-

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ed Small Business and Innovation Research (SBIR) projects (also part of the Product Expo), and the very prestigious Scientific and Technological Achievement Awards (STAA), which recognize exceptionally high quality research and technological efforts of EPA scientists.



Science Forum Poster Session

In addition to the very proud STAA Award recipients, attendees at the Capitol Hill session included key science officials, principal investigators, Environmental Fellows from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and representatives from featured SBIR projects including, ADA Technologies, Littleton, CO; HydroTech Engineering, Rapid City, SD; VEETech, Aiken, SC; Sorbent Technologies Corporation, Twinsburg, OH; and Advanced Fuel Research, Inc., East Hartford, CT. Four members of Congress spoke at the event—Congressman Sherwood Boehlert of New York, Congressman Vernon Ehlers of Michigan, and Congressmen David Price and Brad Miller of North Carolina.

Science and Technological Achievement Awards— 2003 Level 1 Awardees:

Developing a Novel, Useful, and Defensible Method for Determining the Causes of Impairments in Eco-

systems—Dr. Glenn W. Suter II, National Center for Environmental Assessment, Cincinnati, OH; Dr. Susan Braen Norton, National Center for Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC; Dr. Susan Cormier, National Exposure Research Laboratory, Cincinnati, OH

Outstanding Contributions to the Further Understanding of the Mode of Carcinogenic Action of Arsenic as a Water Contaminant—Dr. Stephen Nesnow, National Health & Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, RTP, NC; Dr. Guy Lambert, National Health & Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, RTP, NC; Dr. Barbara Roop, National Health & Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, RTP, NC; Dr. Marc J. Mass, National Health & Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, RTP, NC

Evaluation of Metabolism and Organ Toxicity Data to Inform Characterization of Risk from Exposure to



The STAA Awards Reception on Capitol Hill, featuring Dr. William Glaze, Chair, SAB; Congressman Vernon Ehlers, Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards, Committee on Science; and Dr. Paul Gilman

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Perchloroethylene—Dr. Jean C. Parker, National Center for Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC

Insightful Reviews that Authoritatively Summarize the State of Knowledge of Drinking Water Contaminants—Dr. Edward Todd Urbansky, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, Cincinnati, OH

Developing Modeling Methods to Improve the Usefulness of Stable Isotopes as Environmental Tracers—Dr. Donald L. Phillips, National Health & Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Corvallis, OR; Dr. Jillian W. Gregg, National Health & Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Corvallis, OR

Discovery of the Effects of Volatile Organic Compounds from Central American Rain Forests on At-

mospheric Composition and Chemistry—Dr. Christopher D. Geron, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, RTP, NC

A Book that Critically Reviews Every Aspect of the Application of Mass Spectrometry to Environmental Analysis—Dr. William L. Budde, National Exposure Research Laboratory, Cincinnati, OH

More on the 2003 STAA Awards can be found at http://www.epa.gov/sab/pdf/sab_04006.pdf.

Overall, the 2004 EPA Science Forum was successful in reinforcing the prominence of science in achieving EPA's mission. For more information about the Forum, including session presentations, posters, and photos from the event, please visit www.epa.gov/ord/scienceforum. ■

2005 EPA Science Forum

Please mark your calendar for next year's Forum, which will be held May 16-18, 2005, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. The theme, "Collaborative Science for Environmental Solutions," will focus on collaborations among public and private partners, federal agencies, and international partners. Topics will include technology for sustainability, information and data systems, and measuring and quantifying environmental benefits.

We look forward to your input and participation! ■

Join Us Next Year!

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Collaborative Science for Environmental Solutions

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Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
Washington, DC