



## CalDesal Annual Virtual Conference Agenda

- **Dates:** Wednesday February 10th and Thursday February 11<sup>th</sup>—two half-days of programming
- **Format:** Half-day Virtual Tour Wednesday afternoon with live Q&A
- **Theme:** Virtual Passport to the World of Desal

### Wednesday February 10

12:00-12:10 p.m. – Welcome, thank sponsors and virtual housekeeping (Ridderbusch)

12:10-1:25 – **Session 1** (75 minutes)

- **What's the Deal with Desal?** What's the desalination situation? Everything you ever wanted to know and more about the people, places and processes related to desalination. Tune in to hear myths busted and the real facts about desal – a brief overview of desal for newcomers as well as information for seasoned desal veterans.
  - Moderator Mike Lee, San Diego County Water Authority, and subject matter panelists

1:25-1:35 – Sponsors “slide show” with logos and web addresses scrolling during Break

1:35-2:55 – **Session 2** (75 minutes)

- **Emerging Technologies** – Panel discussing and considering feasibility of new technologies including artificial intelligence for desal. New program twist will be receiving input from attendees about what technologies they feel will make the biggest impact in real time via virtual voting (using Slido).
  - CalDesal Chair, Moderator Mark Donovan, GHD
  - Dr. Mike Dixon, Synauta – artificial intelligence
  - Chad Unrau, Magna Imperio Systems – advanced electro-dialysis reversal
  - Yoram Cohen, Noria Water Technologies – reverse osmosis membrane performance monitoring
  - Andrew Schevets, Amorphic Tech – energy recovery device

2:55-3:05 – Virtual Presentation thanking and recognizing the original CalDesal Founders

3:05-4:25 – **Session 3** (75 minutes)

- **The United States of Desal:** Policy and politics contrasted and compared between the representatives of desal associations in California, New Mexico, and Texas.
  - Moderator Tom Pankratz, editor of the weekly *Water Desalination Report*
  - Kyle Frazier, Texas Desal
  - Mike Hightower, New Mexico Desalination
  - Wendy Ridderbusch, CalDesal are the three panelists.

4:25-4:35 – Sponsors “slide show” with logos and web addresses scrolling during Break

4:35-5:25 – **Desal Around the World: Virtual Facilities Tour and Q&A** (80 minutes)

- Sit back and relax for a tour of two desalination facilities from the comfort of your own armchair! Moderator Joe Monaco, Dudek, anchors the tour mix of pre-recorded video footage and live shots featuring plant operators and Q and A from our audience.
  - Hadera Desalination Plant, Israel
  - Claude “Bud” Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant, United States, San Diego County

5:25-5:30 – Wrap up and reminder of Thursday Start time at 9:00am.

## Thursday February 11

9:00-9:05 – Welcome, again thank sponsors, housekeeping reminders

9:05-10:20 Session 4 (75 minutes): **Advanced Recovery: Research, Technologies, and Processes enhancing the efficiency of Reverse Osmosis.**

- Moderator Brent Alspach, Arcadis
- Michael Boyd, Regional Director at Desalitech
- Shane Walker, Associate Professor in Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Texas and Director of the UTEP Center for Inland Desalination Systems
- Steve Wait, Director of Sales, IDE Americas

10:20-10:30 – Sponsors “slide show” with logos and web addresses scrolling during Break

10:30-11:00 – **Keynote Speaker: Congressman Mike Levin** (D-San Juan Capistrano).

Representing the 49<sup>th</sup> Congressional District encompassing parts of southern Orange County and northern San Diego County which is home to both the Carlsbad Plant and a future Doheny facility. Freshly re-elected to a second term, Congressman Levin will discuss the new Administration in D.C., his efforts to obtain funding for desalination projects, and his interest in infrastructure among other timely issues. This program will be streamed live with an

opportunity for questions and answers. Congressman Levin will be introduced by CalDesal Vice-Chair and Mesa Water District Director Marice DePasquale.

11:00-11:10 – Sponsors “slide show” with logos and web addresses scrolling during Break

11:10-12:20 **Session 5** (70 minutes)

**Emergency Response in the Era of Covid 19:** Protocols and lessons learned during recent natural disasters including the current coronavirus pandemic. How have these events -- out of our control -- impacted operation and planning approaches to future emergency response for facilities?

- Moderator Jessica Jones, Poseidon Water
- Gilad Cohen, IDE Americas – Carlsbad and City of Santa Barbara Desal Plants
- Heidi Luckenbach, Deputy Director/Engineering Manager, City of Santa Cruz Department of Water
- Dave Pederson, General Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- Rich Svindland, President, California American Water

12:20 – Final Remarks and Close (CalDesal Chair Mark Donovan)

12:30 Adjourn