

ACTU' ASSISES



December 2012

n°1

12th Assises des Déchets

Getting to the heart of the issues

On 2nd and 3rd October 2013 the 12th Assises des Déchets, the national conference on waste management, will be held at the Nantes congress centre.

The conference will address a number of issues including prevention and waste planning as well as waste statistics, the design basis for processing facilities, local recycling, organic waste recovery, waste-to-energy solutions, construction waste, new technologies and the dismantling of nuclear facilities.

Information will be regularly provided via the Actu'Assises newsletter, the website www.assises-dechets.org and the "assises des déchets Nantes" Facebook page



LES ASSISES ARE MOVING !!!



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Industrial partner

Renewed mobilisation

Hubert FERRY-WILCZEK
Secretary general of the Assises
Director of the DREAL Pays de la Loire

For 20 years, the Assises des Déchets, the conference on waste management, organised every two years with the DREAL (Regional Directorate for Environment, Development and Housing) network, under the aegis of the Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, have provided a platform for rich and vibrant discussions between environmental protection associations, local authorities, manufacturers and government bodies.

The last Assises, held for the first time in Nantes, ended with participants pledging to improve coordination between European objectives and territorial constraints, to increase the transparency of data and the clarity of regulatory obligations and to achieve their collective goals in the area of recycling.

Just a few months before gathering for the 12th conference, all the partners, the ADEME, the ANDRA, the ASN, the CEA, the Regional Council of Pays de la Loire, Eco-Emballages, EdF, Nantes Métropole, Paprec, Séché, Sita, Total, Veolia, the DREAL Pays de Loire and the Ministry of Ecology, have begun work on preparing for the next Assises which will be held in Nantes on 2nd and 3rd October 2013.

With legislation relating to waste management constantly being added to and updated, the first reflections on the issues to be discussed are beginning to emerge: planning, prevention, local recycling, the design basis for waste treatment facilities, the energy balance of waste treatment, new technologies, the improvement of statistics as well as more specific subjects such as the dismantling of nuclear facilities, the recovery of organic waste or building deconstruction waste.

The aim of these debates will be to offer solutions to the major challenges of the future: reducing the quantities of stored and incinerated waste and developing sustainable development channels for non-recyclable waste. The 2013 Assises will be the opportunity to carry out a collective assessment of the implementation of the 2009-2013 waste plan and to present and discuss the main areas of government policy with regard to the next stage of waste management policy, notably through the national prevention plan, which should be approved before the end of 2013, in accordance with the provisions of the waste framework directive.

The Assises programme will also be revised in order to improve and further develop exchanges between speakers and participants: a first plenary session will review the last two years, notably with regard to the conclusions of the 2011 conference, and a closing plenary session will enable each speaker to present his or her proposals for the future. So, make sure you block your diary out for 2nd and 3rd October 2013 in order to take part in the twelfth Assises des Déchets.



- Nantes Green Capital : the challenges of sustainable development

Karl FALKENBERG

Director general of the environment at the European Commission

Why was Nantes awarded the title of European Green Capital 2013?

Nantes demonstrated that it has been putting in place a clearly-defined environmental policy on several fronts. It impressed the jury with its contribution to the fight against climate change on a local level. The city also proved its commitment to finding solutions in the areas of nature and biodiversity, air quality, noise pollution and waste management.

The European Green Capital judges appreciated the city's efforts to innovate in the area of public transport over the last ten years. The new tramway network, the bus system, and the focus on bike hire and car-pooling particularly impressed the jury. Sustainable and efficient transport systems are essential elements of sustainable urban development: they increase mobility while reducing pollution and improving the quality of life of the city's inhabitants. The jury noted that the city of Nantes is clearly committed to this approach – in 2009, Nantes won the Civitas "City of the Year" award in recognition of its transport policies.

What must Nantes do to affirm its title of European Green Capital 2013?

Nantes must build on its commitment to the environment and the quality of life of its inhabitants. A major part of its role as green capital will be to share its good practices with other cities in Europe and even further afield in order to help move forward policies on sustainable urban development.

What was the main factor behind Nantes' successful bid?

As president of the green capitals jury, I believe that the main factor in Nantes' success is a whole package of policies and undertakings backed up by good communication and the strong commitment of the different players around this "green city" project. I was personally impressed by the programme to communicate the city's innovative actions, the creation of networks, the bringing together of specialists in different areas of research on a European level and the involvement of the inhabitants, among others. The Aéroflorale project, a flying plant laboratory, which aims to make inhabitants reflect on the place of nature in the city, is particularly original.

What support does Europe give to the Green Capital?

The European Green Capital award does not involve any financial support but does have a very positive impact on the city's image. However, funding is available from Europe to support and encourage towns and cities in their efforts in the area of sustainable development notably through the European Regional Development Fund or the Research and Innovation policy. The LIFE programme, the European financial instrument for the environment, also funds projects which contribute to the protection of the environment in towns and cities.



Partners word 1st part.....

Isabelle MARTIN

Director of regulatory affairs at SITA France
Industrial Partner

"The Assises? A platform for highly constructive discussions, like an Environment Round Table on a smaller scale..." »

Since the very first Assises Nationales des Déchets (national conference on waste management), manufacturers have been among the conference's leading partners. Time after time, from its preparation and its development through to the quality of the discussions which take place, their involvement helps to make the event what it is, explains Isabelle Martin speaking on behalf of manufacturers involved in the Assises.

Why do you think so many manufacturers choose to take part in the Assises des Déchets?

Firstly, because every manufacturing activity produces waste and it is an area which is strictly regulated and which is constantly evolving. The Assises are a unique platform for information and discussion bringing together different players: the Ministry of Environment and its representatives, elected officials and technicians from local authorities, associations, manufacturers and eco-manufacturers. I should stress that more than 70% of the audience of this event is made up of players involved in waste management: 40% from the private sector, 15% from government bodies and 15% from local authorities. Moreover, it is rare to have such an opportunity to take part in two days of open, cross-sector debate, enabling us to go beyond sector-specific visions and which are brought to a close by the Minister of Environment putting forward his or her vision of regulatory and legislative changes.

What specific contribution does the vision of manufacturers bring to the Assises?

We bring the voice of the professionals as the event is being designed and set up by putting forward suggestions for topics and expressing expectations. For example, we promoted the idea of opening up the event on a European level, which we saw as essential as most of the regulations which concern us stem from European legislation. As a result, over the last few years, not only have the Assises enabled exchanges with the Commission to increase, they have also provided a platform allowing us to show what is being done in our country, which is not always known and recognised, thereby helping to enhance the image of France. Likewise, we always insist that the open discussions at the Assises relate to current issues directly linked to the reality in the field.

- Partners word.....2nd part.....

Isabelle MARTIN

Director of regulatory affairs at SITA France
Industrial Partner

How does this “field approach” work in practice?

The Assises des Déchets are made up of two types of events. On the one hand there are the plenary sessions, in which a topic is discussed at a roundtable where different players express their point of view with a question and answer session with the room establishing a debate. On the other, there are technical workshops, where the issues are narrower and discussed in front of a smaller and more specialist audience made up of people directly concerned about the topics under discussion. These workshops are remarkable opportunities for informal exchange, where nothing is taboo, where I believe everyone really discovers their respective realities which can sometimes lead them to develop or change their opinion on certain issues. These are constructive moments, where there are no spectators, only players. We have suggested that the next Assises shares the vibrancy of these workshops during a plenary session.

How would you describe the specificity of the exchanges of the Assises des Déchets?

At the Assises, we get the chance to talk with people who we don't usually meet in our day-to-day business. As manufacturers or eco-manufacturers, we appreciate the opportunity to talk to elected officials, technicians, representatives from the government or European commission. What really stands out is the freedom of our exchanges, both during and between sessions; something always happens at the Assises, even over a coffee! The Assises des Déchets are like a Environment Round Table on a smaller scale, where we choose to all get around a table, with our different beliefs and practices, taking the time to consider every aspect of the issue, even if it means the discussions can sometimes get quite heated, but where we always leave on good terms knowing that we have “pushed back the boundaries”. It is undoubtedly one of the reasons the event is so successful.



ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE

MEDDE

ECO-EMBALLAGES

TOTAL

12^e



Assises des déchets

ADEME

2 et 3 octobre 2013 Cité des Congrès de Nantes

DREAL

NANTES METROPOLE

ANDRA

CEA



ASN

PAPREC

SITA FRANCE

CONSEIL REGIONAL DES PAYS DE LA LOIRE

VEOLIA PROPRETE

SECHE ENVIRONNEMENT