



Solid Waste Processing Division

Objectives

- Peer review and disseminate information on the design and construction of solid waste processing facilities and components
- Encourage and foster research and development (liaison with, and support of, research projects by ASME Research Committee on Industrial & Municipal Waste)
- Cooperate in development of ASME Codes & Standards - QRO; PTC-34 (publication pending)
- Establish and maintain liaison with ASME Government Relations, industry and external environmental groups to help foster cooperation in matters of mutual concern

Technical Focus

Concerned with the design, construction, and operation of solid waste processing facilities/systems, including:

- Waste Combustors (thermal conversion plants)
- Resource Recovery Facilities (recycling)
- Landfills
- Composting Facilities (for bio-degradables)

Delivery Mechanisms

Conferences - annual North American Waste-to-Energy Conference, a three-way partnership with Integrated Waste Services Association and Solid Waste Association of North America; average 270+ attendees

- Facility Tours
- Seminars - Training of operators for waste processing facilities
- Facilities Operator Committees - forums for open communication and sharing of best practices among the operators of Waste-to-Energy Plants and Solid Waste Processing Facilities
- Manuals - Waste Combustor Operator Handbook (pending publication)

Structure

Regional Co-Chairs reporting to Executive Committee to ensure programs and activities are provided at level needed to support Division's members and industry in that region of North America and abroad

- Eastern Region
- Midwest Region
- Western Region
- Asia/Pacific Rim (correspondent in Philippines)

Scholarships

\$9,000/year in annual prizes to stimulate interest of undergraduate and graduate engineering students in solid waste management and to support colleges and universities that offer programs in solid waste management.

Honors & Awards

Sponsor up to 3 awards per year:

- SWPD Distinguished Service Award - for outstanding contributions to Division over period of at least 10 years
- SWPD Facility Recognition Award -for exemplary combustion facilities utilizing non-fossil fuels or for material recovery facilities
- SWPD Medal Of Achievement - for distinguished individual contribution to the industry

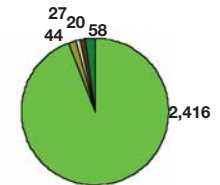


Membership Demographics

Total Membership - 2,565

- Primary Members 329
- Secondary Members 440
- Other 1,796

Membership Area



- North America
- Greater Europe
- Middle East & Africa
- Latin America & Caribbean
- Asia & Pacific Rim

SWOT Table

(STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES/OPPORTUNITIES/THREATS)

Strengths

- Small, cohesive core of long-standing volunteers
- Industry focus
- Solid reputation and recognition of ASME in the industry
- Experienced staff support

Opportunities

- Lack of thorough engineering in composting facilities
- Application of WTE technology increasing in developing countries, particularly in Asia
- Growth in management of special solid wastes, such as medical and hazardous waste, as well as other waste streams besides solids (e.g., liquids, slurries, etc.)

Weaknesses

- Small core of volunteer personnel
- Time constraints of volunteers
- Difficulty recruiting new volunteers
- Current volunteer interests limited to certain areas (e.g., WTE)
- Revenues emanate from one event
- Decreasing financial health

Threats

- Landfilling remains more economical over recycling and WTE
- WTE is "mature" market in US (construction of new plants in decline since 1990)
- Uncertain social, economic and political environment
- "Environmental" groups, such as Green Peace, that heighten public opposition to permitting of new WTE facilities and landfills, even as existing facilities are scheduled for closure
- Trade associations that offer competing products and services (conferences, publications, etc.)

Areas For Collaboration

Increase inter-Divisional collaboration through co-sponsorship of sessions/conferences on:

- WTE as "green energy"
- Research on air emission control (SO₂, NO_x, etc.)
- Heat transfer in combustion systems
- Corrosion
- Ash Reuse
- Medical/bio-hazardous waste
- Rail-haul of DOD and municipal solid waste
- Biomass fuel/energy issues
- Facility operations (Reliability, Availability & Maintainability)