

Newsletter April 2021

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We Welcome our New Member from Kazakhstan

Orion M2M

Our new member OrionM2M® trademark is a developer and manufacturer of devices for remote metering and transmission of readings of water meters in the LoRaWAN® Standard. OrionM2M® devices are compatible with any water meters approved for use in the European Union.



- The main competitive advantages of OrionM2M® devices:
- Simplicity and ease of installation of the radio modem on the meter;
 - Self-activation of the radio modem by the channel (provided resource);
 - Activation of the radio modem using magnet;
 - Alarm messages about the effect of a magnet, opening the radio modem, the reverse stroke;
 - EasyTool Technology allows wireless remote connection to a radio modem for configuration, software updates, reading accumulated data via a secure channel;
 - Application of BatteryCare® Technology allows operating the radio modem for up to 7 years without replacing the power source;
 - The nonvolatile memory of the radio modem allows storing data for up to 62 days of the hourly profile with the ability to request readings remotely

We are very happy to welcome you to the EWA!

Добро пожаловать !

Dr. Helmut Blöch Webinar - Last Chance to register

EWA Online Course

EU Policy and Legislation

► Save the Date: 20.4. + 21.4.2021

► For more Information: [Flyer](#)

Any questions regarding the development and principles of EU water policy will be answered in this event.
Don't miss it - Sign up now!!



31.05.2021 EWA Green Capital Event: Lahti

EU Green Week



Virtual Opening Event

The programme and events of the year are built around four themes – carbon-neutral life, circular economy, participation, as well as nature and water.

The EWA opening event for EU Green Week is about stormwater management in sensitive cities. The current and future challenges will be discussed on examples and innovative solutions will be presented.

Check out the programme on our [website](#)

22.06.2021 EWA 40th Anniversary Water Webinar:

Micropollutants



The original EWA Spring Conference will offer new perspectives on this important topic

The speakers of the event are presented on our [website](#)!!
Registration form is now online!

Micropollutants are a challenge, for waste water operators whose mission is to treat waste water to ensure the protection of the environment and ecosystems, and for drinking water operators, who have to rely on drinking water resources to produce drinking water. The 4th EWA Spring Conference will discuss the European approaches to the challenges of these organic or mineral contaminants which are of anthropogenic as well as natural origin.

For more information, please contact the EWA Secretariat!

News from Brussels

Topics covered in the News from Brussels

The articles in the News from Brussels section here below cover the following topics:

- 1) EU Environmental Action Programme
- 2) New EU LIFE Regulation 2021-2027
- 3) Waste Water Treatment - Beyond Utility Reach ?

- 4) COVID-19 and Waste Water Monitoring
- 5) Public Consultations: Environmental Crime; Competition
- 6) Bathing Water Management: Successes and Future Challenges
- 7) Eastern Partnership: Water Management Challenges
- 8) Parliamentary Question on Industrial Waste Water
- 9) Report on WFD Implementation by Environment and Justice
- 10) Upholding the Law
- 11) Forgotten fishes: Report on freshwater fish
- 12) European Parliament Questions Related to Water

1) EU Environmental Action Programme

EU Environmental Action Programmes have a long-standing tradition within the EU. Indeed the first ever action programme was adopted in 1973, even before "Environment" had been anchored as an objective in the Treaties through the Single European Act of 1987.

Read the full article:

➔ [EU Environmental Action Programme](#)

2) New LIFE Regulation 2021-2027

The Regulation is Close to Adoption

The political process for the new LIFE Regulation has been delayed by two factors, the COVID-19 pandemic and the budgetary provisions of the EU Multiannual Financial Framework (MFFF) being a precondition for the financial aspects of the LIFE Regulation.

At the end of 2020 the two EU legislators, European Parliament and Council, achieved agreement on a compromise text. This compromise text has already been formally agreed by Council and the EP Environment Committee. The vote in the EP Plenary is scheduled for 26 April 2021.

Read the full article:

➔ [LIFE 2021-2027](#)

3) Waste Water Treatment - Rural Gap

Beyond Utility Reach? – Not Necessarily!

The International Commission for Protection of the Danube River and the World Bank in the frame of the Danube Water Program have organized an online workshop on this topic. Held on 19-20 January 2021, it aimed to increase awareness and understanding of rural waste water issues, to present feasible approaches to overcome the present constraints, and to create a framework for enabling sustainable and decentralized wastewater treatment solutions for rural areas.

EWA NEWS provides you the findings and the presentations of the workshop.

Read the full article:

➔ [Waste Water Treatment - Rural Gap](#)

4) COVID in Waste Water

Commission Recommendation

Since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, wastewater has been investigated as a means to identify the virus presence in the community, both within the EU and internationally. Data gathered so far indicate that surveillance of wastewater is a cheap and reliable tool to track the virus presence. This should be done in conjunction with the information collected on the prevalence of the virus from other sources such as swab testing, blood test, tracing apps.

In light of the progression of the pandemic and the emergence of further waves wave in several countries, tracking the presence of the virus in wastewater is highly recommended, as a relatively cheap and reliable way of gathering essential information. It should be used in conjunction with other public health indicators and can be very useful to establish and adjust public health management strategies. The tool also appears useful in providing targeted ad hoc support in less favoured countries where epidemiological data are not available.

Read the full article:

➔ [COVID in Waste Water](#)

5) Two Public Consultations

Consultations Competition + Criminal Law

1) Competition: important projects of common European Interest

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the planned review of the Communication on important projects of common European interest (IPCEI).

2) The Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law

2008/99/EC is the EU's main instrument to protect the environment through criminal law. The Commission evaluated the directive in 2019-20 and the findings of the evaluation show that the Directive did not fully meet its objectives. Through this consultation, the Commission seeks stakeholders' opinions and experiences on possible ways forward to improve the Directive.

Read the full article:

➔ Consultations competition + criminal law

6) Bathing Water Management in Europe

Successes and challenges: Report by the European Environment Agency

This EEA report, which was published 21 February 2021, showcases the success story of the improvements in bathing water quality since the introduction of the EU Bathing Water Directive in 1976, while also identifying challenges for future bathing water management.

Read the full article:

➔ BWD Successes and Challenges

7) Eastern Partnership Waters

European Environment Agency report : "Water availability, surface water quality and water use in the Eastern Partnership countries"

The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a joint policy initiative, which aims to deepen and strengthen relations between the European Union (EU), its Member States and its six Eastern neighbours: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

In this framework, guiding the EU's relations with its neighbours is the EU's Global Strategy and the revised European Neighbourhood Policy which call on the need to focus on increasing the stabilisation and resilience of the EU's Eastern neighbours.

Read the full article:

➔ Eastern Partnership Waters

8) European Parliament Question on Industrial Waste Water

Parliamentary question by Mr Sirpa Pietikäinen (Finland / PPE) to the Commission/ Answer given by Environment Commissioner Sinkevičius

EWA News regularly reports on Parliamentary questions related to water. This edition has selected one question on industrial waste water, setting out in full text the question and the answer.

Read the full article:

➔ EP Question on Industrial Waste Water

9) Report by Green NGO Network on Implementation of the WFD

"Is the WFD Fit for Purpose?"

Environment and Justice is a network of 15 green law NGOs located in several EU countries and beyond. It has just published a comprehensive document "Is the WFD fit for purpose? Recommendations for the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD)". The document arrives at the conclusions and recommendations as stipulated in the EWA Newsletter article as linked below.

Read the full article:

➔ Environment and Justice on WFD

10) Upholding the Law

Infringement Procedures Update April 2021

The European Union is constitutionally designed as a Union of Law. According to the Treaties (Treaty on European Union, Treaty on Functioning of the European Union), Member States are obliged to comply with EU legislation adopted by the legislator (European Parliament and Council), and the Commission has the right and the obligation to scrutinise such compliance and where appropriate take legal action.

Past weeks have seen a range of legal enforcement actions by the Commission for non-compliance with EU water-related legislation, in particular;

- Nature protection legislation (Habitats and Birds Directives),
- Environmental Impact Assessment Directive
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive

Read the full article:

➔ Upholding the Law

11) World's Forgotten Fishes

Vital for hundreds of millions of people, but one-third face extinction, warns new report

Report published by 16 organisations and alliances is a celebration of freshwater fishes – and it's a call for action too.

Rivers, lakes and wetlands are among the most biodiverse places on earth. They cover less than 1% of the planet's total surface, yet they're home to almost a quarter of all vertebrate species – including over half of all the world's fish species.

Read the full article:

➔ Forgotten Fish

12) EP Parliamentary Questions

23 water-related questions from Parliamentarians on trifluoroacetic acid pollution in groundwater via waste water treatment plants to pesticides

The topics range from trifluoroacetic acid pollution in groundwater via waste water treatment plants to pesticides.

The European Parliament is directly elected by citizens of all Member States. One key element within its right to political control is the right to table written and oral questions to European Institutions, largely to the Commission, to a smaller extent to the Council.

Between 1 February 2021 and 12 April March 2021, 23 water-related questions have been tabled. EWA News provides you in each edition with the summary text of the questions and their authors and date, and links to the full texts of the questions plus - once available - answers.

Read the full article:

➔ EP Parliamentary Questions 2-2021"

Inside EWA

New EWA Position Papers



Position Paper for the Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive Targeted Stakeholder Consultation

[Position Paper for the Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive](#)

EU rules (Directive 86/278) aim to ensure that the use of sewage sludge in farming does not harm the environment, animals and humans.

Adopted 30 years ago, the Directive no longer matches current needs and expectations, such as properly regulating pollutants found in sludge ('emerging contaminants' like pharmaceuticals and microplastics). The EWA Position Paper for the Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive shows the position of the EWA on the risks and opportunities related to sewage sludge management.

[EWA Position Paper on the Evaluation to Review the Bathing Water Quality:](#)

In the 1970s, the EU introduced rules to ensure clean coastal and inland bathing waters. The 2006 Bathing Water Directive updated and simplified these rules.

This initiative will examine whether:

- the updated rules, supplementing national efforts, have helped protect public health and improve water quality
- there is a need to improve the existing rules and propose relevant updates, if necessary.

EWA Position Paper on the Evaluation to Review the Bathing Water Quality presents its key perspectives which are imminent for the path going forward to establish a Directive on Bathing Water Quality.

EWA Online Events

An exciting programme of activities for 2021 is currently being planned.

Among the topics, which will be covered by EWA in 2021 are: **Phosphorus Recovery**, **Building Information Modeling (BIM)** and **Sludge Management** in connection with the revision of the Sludge Directive.

Information about content and registration will be posted here as soon as available:

- ★ [EWA website](http://ewa-online.eu) (ewa-online.eu)
- ★ [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ewa.online.eu) (@ewa.online.eu)
- ★ [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ewa-online-eu)
- ★ [Twitter](https://twitter.com/water_ewa) (@water_ewa)

Other Events

ÖKOINDUSTRIA 2021

28. - 30. April 2021

The future is green or none at all: with the spring comes the biggest ÖKOINDUSTRIA.



The international trade fair traditionally organized by the Association of Environmental Enterprises presents the latest results and innovations of the Hungarian environmental industry in the following areas:

- circular economy
- eco-innovations in Hungary,
- green mobility, energy efficiency, renewable energy,

- protection of our living waters, innovations in water and wastewater treatment,
- education for sustainability, raising awareness
- startup in the green industry, job fair

This year's program focuses on the circular economy, e-mobility, the green economy, water management and living water protection, smart solutions and environmentally friendly products.

The EWA is contributing to the event by Keynote speaker Dr. Richard J. Vestner during the conference on Digitalisation of Water Management on 30 April!
Please sign up and enjoy!

SIDISA 2021 XI International Symposium on Environmental Engineering

29 June - 02 July 2021

The National Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (ANDIS), the Italian Group of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (GITISA) are pleased to announce the 11th International Symposium on Environmental Engineering (SIDISA 2020).

Three specialized sessions are foreseen:

- 1) Water management in developing countries (organized by Hydroaid)
- 2) Waste Management in developing countries
- 3) Environmental sustainability of mining activities (organized in the framework of EC Remind Project: Renewable Energies for Water Treatment and Reuse in Mining Industries).



IFAT India

28-30 September 2021

Messe Muenchen India is planning to organise the environmental technologies community together despite these challenging times. It will enable you to showcase your products and services and to enhance exposure to a large audience from the environment sector, including a vast global network of potential buyers. IFAT India translates the passion of India's game changers and leading environmentalists to bring holistic sustainable solutions to pressing environmental issues-for a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable country.



New Date: IFAT Eurasia

21-23 October 2021

IFAT Eurasia, the meeting point of the Environmental Technologies in Eurasia, will gather the international technology providers and users once again at Istanbul. Solution alternatives for environmental problems will be exhibited and measures to be necessarily taken for the future will be discussed.

The previous fair attracted almost 10,500 visitors from 84 countries and 215 companies exhibited and represented 339 brands.



IFAT Africa

02-04 November 2021

Food waste, pollution, water and waste management and energy - among the key environmental challenges facing the country – will all come under the spotlight at a cross-sector trade show to be staged by Messe Muenchen South Africa this year.

Suzette Scheepers, CEO of Messe Muenchen South Africa, says:
“Energy reliability is a challenge across sectors, with a growing awareness among enterprises that they need to look to cleaner, renewable sources of power for manufacturing. At the same time, our environment faces waste, refuse, water and wastewater challenges, and a significant food security and waste problem. These challenges are interlinked to a large degree: water scarcity and poor water quality impacts food manufacturing; manufacturing waste impact water and air quality; food packaging and production methods impact environmental quality and food security.”



Until we meet again ..

The next EWA Newsletter is due in June/July 2021.

Until then, please visit us at:

★ [Facebook](#) (@ewa.online.eu)

★ [LinkedIn](#)

★ [Twitter](#) (@water_ewa)

★ [Youtube](#): EWA Online



Any suggestions, comments or content from the members to the next issue may be send to this [email](#).

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