

New Wetsus members

[Nordvastra Skanes Vatten och Avlopp AS](#) (NSVA, Sweden) joined Wetsus as a theme participant in the advanced water treatment theme. NSVA is an inter-municipal company, that supplies drinking water and purifies wastewater. NSVA was formed in 2009 by a group of municipalities, employs almost 200 people and is headquartered in Helsingborg, Sweden.

[Westra B.V. Roestvaststaal industrie](#) along with its sister company [Idee Techniek Engineering](#) became participant in the resource recovery theme. Westra specializes in manufacturing and supplying high-quality products from stainless steel and aluminum. Idee Techniek Engineering is active in the field of engineering, 2D and 3D drawing, project supervision, work preparation and product development.

[HydroUnity Qlabs GmbH](#) became a platform member, working on Hydrodots, a worldwide gamechanger in agriculture enabling 100 % faster growth of plants and simultaneously reducing water consumption of up to 50%. HydroDots can store water and are 100% naturally degradable.

Finally, [Sanagua](#), [Qblue Solutions](#) and [Aqua consultancy](#) got connected to the theme Applied Water Physics.

Wetsus Congress 2021: Innovation for a fair and sustainable society

After a year without our traditional Wetsus Congress, we are very happy to welcome you in person again, on October 4 and/or 5, 2021, in Theatre De Harmonie, Leeuwarden.

We look forward to hosting the first real-life event in the water sector after the Covid-

pandemic, to refresh your knowledge and to update and expand your network.

We expect the Wetsus Congress to be held as a congress should be: a place to meet each other, enjoy high-quality presentations and getting to know new developments. Innovation for a fair and sustainable society is the theme. On Monday this will be addressed by speakers with diverse backgrounds (business, policy, science) and on Tuesday we will fully focus on science, with keynotes by renowned speakers and parallel sessions based on Wetsus research themes.

Program and registration <https://www.wetsus.nl/wetsus-congress-2021/>



ESEE 2021 a great success!

After two years of preparation, the 12th European Symposium on Electrochemical Engineering (ESEE 2021) has been a great success, with a 4-day program full of inspiring talks, 142 speakers, and almost 300 participants from 30 countries. Quoting the chairs of the EFCE Working Party on Electrochemical Engineering (prof. Karel Bouzek – UCT Prague, and dr. Claudia Weidlich – DECHEMA): “In this virtual event the talks were organized outstandingly professional and at the same time so kind and well supported by the technical moderators”. The ESEE 2021 conference, which has been fully organized by Wetsus and chaired by Dr. Michele Tedesco, confirms the growing international role and reputation of Wetsus in the field of electrochemical engineering



EMPOWER launch

This September, Wetsus will launch the first call of the new Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (MSCA) COFUND doctoral program called EMPOWER.

Wetsus will recruit 14 PhD candidates, who will be enrolled for 4.5 years to earn their PhD degree together with an integrated business-oriented training.

EMPOWER is an innovative entrepreneurial-based doctoral program, aiming to train scientific entrepreneurs with the skillset to operate between academia, companies, start-ups, public authorities and the general public. Within the EMPOWER program, Wetsus will create a brand-new model of doctoral training where science and marketing speak the same language.

An introduction webinar will be held on Monday 6 September, presenting of the program, the Wetsus international community and the PhD life, and a tour of Wetsus lab facilities. Moreover, it will be possible for the attendants to interact with the project coordinator, the program director and the current Wetsus' PhD students who will answer specific questions. More info: Dr. Cristina Gagliano (EMPOWER project coordinator) Cristina.Gagliano@wetsus.nl.



Wetsus spin-off companies form partnership to accelerate the energy transition

Wetsus spin-off company [AquaBattery](#) announces a strategic partnership with [REDstack](#) and [PureWaterGroup](#). The primary goal of their collaboration is to optimize, modularize and scale up of AquaBattery's energy storage technology. The mission is to revolutionize the long-duration energy storage market by offering their flagship flow battery technology that stores energy in table salt and water.

This sustainable water-based battery technology was first researched and developed in the Blue Energy theme of Wetsus. As part of the Horizon 2020 project [BAoBaB](#) project, initiated and coordinated by Wetsus, AquaBattery completed a successful pilot installation on Pantelleria Island in Sicily. The AquaBattery team is now finalizing a modular battery design, further optimizing the process, and setting up a solid supply chain with their strategic partners. Dr. Jiajun Cen, CEO and founder of AquaBattery: "At AquaBattery, we aim to revolutionize the energy storage market, cutting energy bills and fostering the development of renewable energy technologies. This exciting strategic partnership will speed up the development, optimization, and production of our battery."



REDstack, an early-day spin-off company of Wetsus, has over a decade of experience developing outstanding membrane stacks for power generation from mixing fresh and saltwater. PureWaterGroup is a leading manufacturer of advanced and sustainable water purification equipment. Ir. Pieter Hack, REDstack's Chairman and Pure Water Group's Managing Director: "The recently established synergy between REDstack and PureWaterGroup, combined with the collaboration with AquaBattery, enable us to optimize the energy storage technology and to supply and support scaled-up equipment to accelerate the energy transition through the use of electrochemical water technologies."

Interview with Annemieke Nijhof and Thecla Bodewes (Topsector Water & Maritime)

Every month Ronald Wielinga, manager entrepreneurship at WaterCampus, talks to inspirators: people who play a prominent role in the field of entrepreneurship and/or in the water technology sector. He uses these conversations to reflect on the WaterCampus entrepreneurship program. Annemieke Nijhof and Thecla Bodewes (past and current chair Topsector Water & Maritime) were his latest guests, read their story [here](#).