



For Immediate Release

WGC YOUTH PROGRAM ADDRESSES GLOBAL GAS TALENT CRUNCH 25th World Gas Conference 2012

Kuala Lumpur, 16 February 2012 – For the first time ever, the International Gas Union (IGU) will feature a four-day Youth Program concurrent with the World Gas Conference 2012 (WGC2012), from 4 - 8 June, 2012 in Kuala Lumpur.

“Human capital is the power that drives this industry forward. Tackling the talent crunch, addressing human capital issues and shaping the future direction of the global gas industry are amongst our strategic approaches to ensure the industry’s sustainability,” said Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim Hashim, IGU President, 2009 – 2012 Triennium.

Over 250 youths, between 18 and 30 years of age, are expected to participate in the WGC2012 Youth Conference and Carnival, which will feature a myriad of activities including a Youth Roundtable, a Youth Night Out and a Fun with Gas Carnival.

Nurturing young people’s interest and awareness in the gas industry is part of a wider objective of the Malaysian Triennium (2009-2012) to ensure a constant pipeline of talent supply into the industry. This is critical given that the average age of personnel in the global gas and power industry is 49.

The IGU created a special Task Force to understand the challenges and devise approaches to ensure that the industry continues to remain relevant and appealing to the current and future generations.

IGU believes that with this, in the longer term, the global gas industry will have a better chance of developing a steady pipeline of qualified Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) candidates who can then be recruited and nurtured into talents that are much needed by the industry, given the world energy challenges ahead.

“World trends are changing, and the gas industry must evolve to harness the fresh talent which will shape the next era of this industry. Youths need to be attracted to make career choices in this industry. And to do this, we must first engage and excite the young generations about core STEM subjects, fostering an awareness and interest for the gas industry from the time they are young or we risk losing a huge stream of human resource,” said Soh Mey Lee, IGU Task Force 2 Chair, WGC2012.

Selected youths from around the world will dialogue with industry captains on global issues and concerns and address underlying barriers youths may face when entering the industry. Participants will also be exposed to career opportunities and related topics to the world of gas.

The main events of the Youth Programme include the following:

- I. A Youth Conference and Carnival featuring moderated discussion forum, keynote addresses, panel sessions, luncheon addresses and knowledge cafes
- II. A Strategic Panel Plenary Youth Round Table where selected Youths will be engaged in a forum with industry CEOs on the stage at the WGC2012 main event.
- III. A Masquerade Movie Magic Youth Night Out Dinner event.
- IV. A four-day “*Fun with Natural Gas Carnival*” at Petrosains targeted towards the young generation.
- V. An “Evening at Petrosains Dinner” event hosted by PETRONAS at the Petrosains Centre.
- VI. The prestigious international NRG Battle Competition.

Further information

IGU have also set up a website, ‘**It’s Not Magic, It’s Science!**’ (www.itsnotmagicitscience.com) dedicated to nurturing the future generations’ interest in STEM. The website features videos, factoids, science experiments, articles, games and competitions on gas and gas related areas with strong support from industry giants.

Various online essay, photo, video and blog competitions are now open, providing participants the chance to win an all-expenses-paid trip to Kuala Lumpur to attend the WGC2012 Youth Conference and Carnival, plus cash prizes of up to 1000 Euros.

At the WGC2012 main conference, industry participants will have be treated to 14 keynote speakers, 10 strategic panels, four luncheon addresses, 42 technical sessions, 135 Poster Sessions, 17 expert fora and three task force sessions. Designed to be fully integrated into the conference facility and programme, the exhibition will unite major players and suppliers over 10,800sqm of exhibition space focusing on the greater Asian region ranging from India, Korea and all the way across the Middle East.

For further information or to register, please visit www.wgc2012.com. To follow WGC2012 on LinkedIn, please visit <http://ow.ly/73nMx>.

About WGC2012

Since 1931, the International Gas Union has been organising the World Gas Conference once every three years; the triennial World Gas Conference and Exhibition is the biggest and most important global gas industry event, attracting 5,000 industry professionals from all over the world and showcasing the latest developments, with information on policies, strategies technologies, challenges and opportunities. The 25th World Gas Conference will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 4-8 June 2012 with the theme “Gas: Sustaining Future Global Growth.”

About IGU

The International Gas Union was founded in 1931. It is a worldwide non-profit organisation whose objective is to promote the technical and economic progress of the global gas industry.

The members of the IGU are associations and entities of the gas industries in 77 countries which account for over 95% of the natural gas traded around the world, and maintain very close ties with many other international energy organisations. It consists a total of 118 members, of which 78 are charter members and 40 are associate members.

WGC2012 Conference Secretariat

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Gas, Camera, Action! Finalists

Facebook 1st Round Shortlisted Finalists (15 November - 14 December)



Nicholas Aloysius: "A bubble of gas entraps the beauty of my nature"