

## Smart Rivers 2017

The SMART Rivers Conference is a biennial international forum bringing together those involved in river transport to benchmark best practices for inland waterways around the world, and to better integrate inland waterborne transport into the global supply chain. Originally the "Strategic Maritime Asset Research and Transformation for 21st Century River Systems," SmartRivers began in 2004 with a cooperation agreement between U.S. and European partners. The first conference was held in October 2005 in Pittsburgh, so it is fitting that we return to the "City of Three Rivers" for this eighth SmartRivers conference. Beginning in 2011, the SmartRivers conference series was placed under the umbrella of PIANC, the World Association of Waterborne Transport Infrastructure.

Participants and presenters are sought to share their experiences, practices, and especially innovations. We invite you to submit an abstract and join us in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, to experience a week full of networking, technical presentations, short courses, and the latest science and information on navigation technology.

### Smart Rivers 2017 will include:

- Technical Short Courses
- Plenary Sessions
- Keynote Speakers from Around the World
- Concurrent Technical Session Tracks
- Industry Exhibition
- Technical and Cultural Tours

A number of networking events will be offered to maximize your opportunities for a lively exchange of new ideas. You can look forward to reconnecting with old friends and meeting new colleagues at the conference events.

### Key Dates

**Abstracts Due:** February 1, 2017

**Author Notification:** April 2017

**Presentations Due:** August 2017

**Conference:** September 18-21, 2017

## Promote Your Organization's Products & Services

**Sign up today to get the best booth locations!**

Organizations that provide services or goods related to any aspects of inland waterborne transport are cordially invited to join us at Smart Rivers 2017. This conference provides an excellent opportunity to maintain industry contacts, cultivate new customers, and increase recruiting potential. The professional interaction and exchange of ideas remains a hallmark of the SmartRivers conference series.

## For More Information

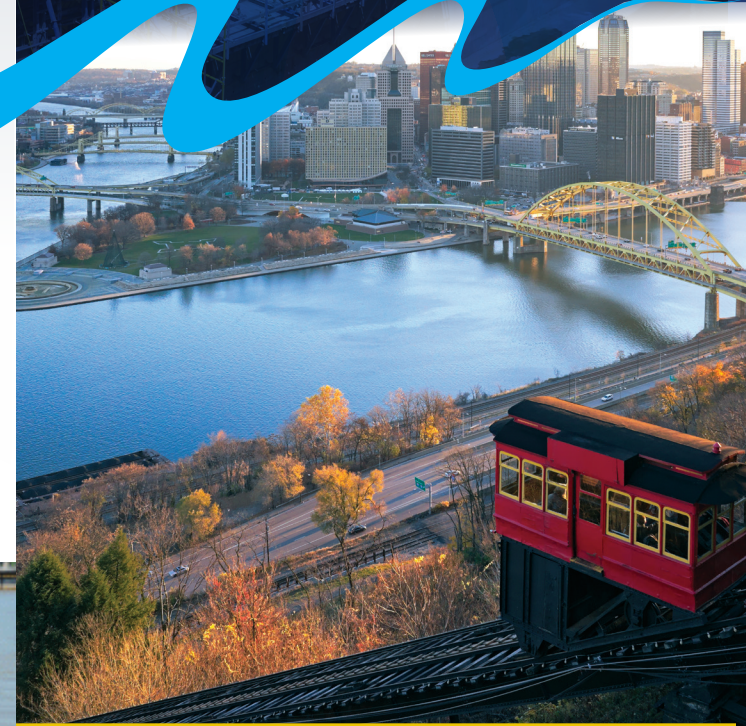
For more information about the conference, please visit our website at <http://pianc.sites.usa.gov> or contact us at [pianc@usace.army.mil](mailto:pianc@usace.army.mil) or (703) 428-8565.



**PIANC USA** was organized in 1902 with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers serving as the Secretariat located at the Institute for Water Resources in Alexandria, VA. Its goal is to advance the sustainable development of shallow and deep-draft navigation issues including dredging and dredged material disposal, navigation and port infrastructure, recreational navigation and related environmental matters.



# SMART Rivers CONFERENCE 2017



PITTSBURGH, PA  
SEPTEMBER 18-21, 2017  
Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square

<http://pianc.sites.usa.gov>

**Call for Abstracts**



## SMART Rivers 2017 Technical Topics

### 1. Smart Waterway Infrastructure

- Innovative waterway infrastructure design and construction; innovative methods and materials, including locks, weirs, flood protection barriers, and port facilities
- Operations
- Waterway maintenance — structural health monitoring, dredging technology
- Asset management/risk management

### 2. Smart Environment and Climate Change, Resilience, Sustainability, and Extreme Weather Planning

- Impacts and adaptation to extreme weather conditions and climate change
- Environmentally friendly inland navigation
- Institutional and social resilience of waterborne transport

### 3. Smart Inland Waterway Transport (IWT)

- Safety and security
- Port and vessel (both inland and sea, cargo and passenger) modernization and innovation, automation, propulsion, and greening
- Performance indicators for inland waterways
- Integration of IWT into the intermodal supply chain
- Energy — new fuels and propulsion systems
- Economic and logistical impacts of lock closures
- Knowledge management and transfer
- Education and training, including social changes and attracting young people to waterway careers, and reaching new audiences

### 4. Smart Information Technology

- Development of River Information Services (RIS) and e-Navigation — services, standards, navigational support, logistics services, sensors, AIS-GNSS-Precision navigation, crowd sourcing, open sourcing, and big data analytics
- Operation of RIS (financing, cyber-security)
- Human factors in IT — involving manufacturers and users in developing systems, human factors in face of changing technologies
- Data requirements — integrating legacy systems, formatting across platforms/agencies/nations, getting government data out to users

### 5. Smart Cooperation and Regulations

- Regulations and laws, including international conventions impacts on waterways, innovation versus regulatory approval, and policies
- Financing — innovations in financing, public private partnerships
- International cooperation and networks — comparative transport policies
- Case studies on unintended consequences of regulations

### 6. Smart Waterborne Transport in an Integrated Water Resource Management Context

- Strategic management/systems analysis of waterways
- Multipurpose use of inland waterways — flood protection/mitigation, ecosystems, recreation, hydropower, water supply
- Economics of inland waterways, including national/regional benefits, innovative models to estimate benefits; ecosystem services benefits
- Large multi-jurisdictional river basin management
- Social and Institutional considerations — challenges, innovative organizational structures

## Abstract Submission

On-line abstract submission is required and easy to complete; simply follow the instruction on the site. Each abstract must be written in English and limited to 300 words. It should NOT include graphics/figures. Abstracts shall be submitted online at:

<http://pianc.sites.usa.gov>

### Deadline for abstract submissions:

February 1, 2017.

### When Submitting Your Abstract

- Choose the theme from the available list that best fits your presentation.
- Provide the required contact information (name, company, business address, phone, and email) for the corresponding author and any co-authors. Also indicate who you expect to make the presentation at the conference.
- Submit a text-only summary description (limited to 300 words) of the presentation.
- Include a statement about why the presentation will be of interest and benefit to conference attendees.

Proposing authors whose abstracts are accepted are expected to attend the conference, pay the appropriate fees, and make the presentation in person. PIANC USA will accept or reject proposed presentations based on the information provided in the abstract. To the extent possible and appropriate, presentations will be assigned to conference technical sessions based on the theme identified by the author. PIANC USA reserves the right to assign presentations to other conference sessions. For questions about abstract submission, please contact PIANC USA at [pianc@usace.army.mil](mailto:pianc@usace.army.mil).

### Presentation Only! No Papers Needed.

Only the conference presentation is required. Papers are not necessary and will not be requested.

### Expenses

All expenses associated with the preparation, submission and presentation of abstracts are the responsibility of the authors and co-authors.

**All attendees are required to pay conference registration fees.**



## Welcome to Pittsburgh

In holding our conference in Pittsburgh, we are returning to the location of the first Smart Rivers Conference! Located at the confluence of three rivers, Pittsburgh has a long and historic tradition of waterway transportation and is fast becoming a must-visit destination for tourism as well. The conference venue is located on the bank of the Monongahela River and right below the famous Monongahela Incline, which offers a picture perfect view of the city. Pittsburgh is also increasingly being known as a food destination and has many famous dishes to try! Technical tours will highlight the diverse and dynamic role that Pittsburgh plays in waterborne transportation.

## Organizing Committee

**Jim McCarville**,  
*CHAIR, Port of  
Pittsburgh Commission  
ret.*

**Lillian Almodovar**,  
*USACE ret.*

**Pablo Arecco**, *PIANC  
Argentina*

**Helen Brohl**,  
*Committee on Marine  
Transportation System,  
U.S.A.*

**Liz Burkhardt**, *Collins  
Engineers*

**Anne Cann**, *USACE,  
PIANC USA*

**Geoffroy Caude**,  
*President of PIANC*

**John Clarkson**, *USACE*

**Ron Coles**, *W.R.Coles  
& Associates*

**Helene Gilkarov**,  
*PIANC Austria*

**Scott Hercik**,  
*Appalachian Regional  
Commission*

**Steven Kwok**, *St.  
Lawrence Seaway  
Corp., Canada*

**Jeff Lillycrop**, *USACE*

**Rich Lockwood**,  
*USACE*

**Joe Mantey**, *PIANC  
USA*

**Reinhard Pfliegl**,  
*PIANC Austria*

**Craig Philip**, *Vanderbilt  
University*

**Philippe Rigo**,  
*University of Liege,  
Belgium*

**Jose Sanchez**, *USACE*

**Louis Van Schel**,  
*Secretary General of  
PIANC*

**Otto Schwetz**, *PIANC  
Austria*

**Jurgen Trogl**, *Via  
Donau, Austria*

**Emily Vuxton**, *USACE,  
PIANC USA*




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