

## Conference Chair Report for the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Stationary Source Sampling and Analysis for Air Pollutants Conference

## Dear Attendees:

I want to say what an honor and privilege it has been for me to serve as the 44<sup>th</sup> SSSAAP Conference Chair. I believe the SSSAAP is the most comprehensive conference aimed at the sharing of technical information about measurement and analysis of air pollutant emissions.

It was wonderful to see everyone in person again after a three-year hiatus due to COVID-19 safety protocols. We had great weather, tasty food, and worthy competition in the sporting clays, volleyball, and golf tournaments. We were able to share updated information, innovative technology, and old war stories during the conference sessions and other meetings.

The continuing trend of the conference selling out months in advance was again a challenge this year. The conference sold out in November 2022. A waiting list was created to accommodate registrants after the cap was reached, and all those on the waiting list cleared. The venue had an ownership redirection that made getting additional rooms a challenge. I encourage you to be responsive to next year's conference registration announcements. The informal setting promoting the free exchange of ideas and information between attendees makes this conference incredibly unique and popular.

Altogether, 214 people participated in this year's conference with attendees representing interests ranging from testing firms, laboratories, regulators, industry representatives, equipment vendors, suppliers, and consultants. An estimated breakdown of the attendees is shown below.

Conferee Affiliation	Percentage of Total Attendees
Academic/Research Institution	6.5%
Consulting/Source Testing Firms	34.1%
Industry	15.4%
Laboratory	5.6%
Regulatory Agency	14.0%
Supplier/Vendor	22.4%
Other	1.9%

The Session Chairs were vital to the success of this year's conference. They performed an outstanding job soliciting the papers pertinent to the current issues. Our presenters were all leading experts and professionals in their respective fields of interest. The presentations were well organized, with informative content and data. The conference had forty-five oral presentations and ten poster presentations. I would also like to acknowledge the considerable number of first-time presenters at this year's conference.

The inherent dangers in the industry were recognized and discussed again this year with a five-minute safety presentation during each of the sessions. Attendees also received a safety t-shirt. Safety Short presentations were included to help remind us that the stack testing industry can be dangerous, and we always need to be aware of potential hazards while performing our work.



On Thursday evening Jeff Ryan of the US EPA received the well-deserved honor of being inducted into the SES Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Jeff and kudos to the Hall of Fame Committee for their excellent job in organizing the roast. I would also like to thank Mike Hutcherson for serving as the Master of Ceremonies for this year's roast. The SES House Band, The Blues Testees, did a fantastic job opening the HOF ceremonies with a unique musical show that set the tone for a fun evening. Thanks to all the band members for bringing equipment and preparing for the night.

Thank you to the Source Testing Association (our sister group in the UK), and the National Association of Clean Air Agencies for their endorsement of the SSSAAP conference. Their continued support and recognition of the SSSAAP Conference reinforces the credibility of the conference, especially with those individuals and organizations that may not be familiar with the SES or our profession. I would also like to thank all the individual event sponsors. They step up and do a wonderful job each year to make the dedicated events that happen during the week possible for everyone to enjoy.

An important aspect of each year's conference is the extracurricular activities. Time spent with fellow attendees on the golf course, the volleyball court, the shooting range, the multiple social hours, at dinner and elsewhere away from the conference room are important opportunities to exchange ideas and information. Thank you to all our benefactors for their sponsorship of our fun during what turned out to be a remarkably busy and productive week of learning.

In closing, based on the feedback received, the technical program accomplished the conference's goal of sharing and advancing new technical ideas in the field of air emissions measurement and monitoring. I want to personally thank Angela Hansen for all the behind the scenes work that she did to keep me and this conference on track. In addition. I must thank Antoinette Chartier and the staff at Hospitality Management Systems, the staff at Bluegreen's Bayside Resort & Spa, Eric Ehlers for mentoring me in my role as the 2023 Conference Chair, the SES Steering Committee for guidance, the various reviewers that provided invaluable assistance with the printed program, and my Co-Chair Tommy Leach for all of their support and hard work which helped make this conference a success. I wish Tommy and his team continued success in planning the 2024 conference.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Wade Bice

2023 Conference Chair

Wade Bice

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