

Editorial

Resilient water supply systems: pursuing safety, sustainability and environmental friendliness

In November 2012, the Japan Water Research Center (JWRC) hosted the Ninth International Symposium on Water Supply Technology in Yokohama, Japan, partnering with the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau. Under the theme of 'Resilient Water Supply System – Pursuing Safety, Sustainability and Environmental Friendliness', the symposium covered a variety of latest water topics, attracting 800 participants from both domestic and international water communities. This issue of *Journal of Water Supply: Research and Technology – AQUA* is a special edition dedicated to some of the best papers presented there.

The symposium is a triennial event, which was organized for the first time in 1988, the year JWRC was established. From that time to the present, the Japanese water sector has undergone not a few major changes and events, among which was the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. As water facilities still remain severely damaged in wide areas, it is more important than ever for Japanese water utilities to upgrade the current water system and protect this vital infrastructure from future seismic and other natural disasters.

This is why the ninth symposium had a special session on earthquakes entitled 'Toward Water Supply Systems Resistant to Earthquake and Tsunami'. From this session, two papers are included in this issue of the journal. One is from New Zealand on two large earthquakes that struck the country's Canterbury region in 2010 and 2011. The other is from Japan on observed damage in the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. From the regular technical sessions, on the other hand, we are glad to share with you nine outstanding papers written on the subject of water treatment and analysis, preventive pipeline rehabilitation, earthquake resistance upgrade and evaluation of water facilities, performance assessment, and efficient power consumption.

As one of the organizers of the symposium, I would like to thank all the people who made this special edition possible, and I hope it will be useful to all readers.

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President

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