

Know Before You Go - Important Information for

Beneficiation of Phosphates IX

An ECI Conference Series

June 5-10, 2022

Hilton Helsinki Kalastajatorppa

Helsinki, Finland

May 31, 2022

To: Participants, Beneficiation of Phosphates IX

From: Barbara Hickernell, CAE, ECI Executive Director

We are looking forward to your participation in this conference. Please read this note as there are items in it that may be helpful to you before your arrival at the conference. You will receive electronic copies of the program and abstracts later this week. Please pay special attention to the highlighted information regarding our approach to precautions for your safety during the Covid-19 pandemic.

For those arriving from outside Finland, we suggest that you visit both your airline's website and that of the [Finland government](#) for the latest Covid-19 testing and vaccination requirements from the Finnish government for those entering the country. This is important as the regulations are changing frequently and are different in each EU country. What I write today may not be in effect tomorrow.

Our community thrives by engaging with each other face-to-face but we wish to be safe in doing so. Thus, safety is our first priority. We cannot make guarantees but we can assure you that ECI will strictly follow the health and safety guidance of health authorities, consult best practices in the meetings community, and try to provide as "normal" a conference as possible during these circumstances.

Prior to registering, all conference participants and their guests submitted proof of full vaccination and agreed to properly wear masks (except when giving a presentation or actively eating or drinking) and social distance. Please continue to wear your mask. Your conference material will include a KN95 mask and the ECI staff has access to additional ones should you need them.

Our room sets will be structured to allow for the physical separation of participants. Please employ social distancing in informal settings. The cleaning and sanitation in the hotel will be robust.

We suggest that you bring a home test kit with you. Should you feel unwell at any time during the conference, please call Kevin Korpics (cell phone: +1-917-756-7513) or email him (kevin@engconfintl.org). If you test positive, please let us know immediately and stay in your room. We will notify the hotel. If you test positive once you arrive home, please contact us so that we may inform fellow participants.

The reverse side of your name badge (distributed at the conference) is where we suggest that you place emergency contact information.

We require all participants to provide a working mobile phone number to ECI (you may email yours to Kathy@engconfintl.org) in case we need to notify participants that contact tracing is required.

As we respect your privacy, we will dispose of your vaccination information/official identification and mobile phone number after the meeting.

Conference Hotel: [Hilton Helsinki Kalastajatorppa](#)
Kalastajatorpantie 1
00330 HELSINKI
+358 9 458 11

The hotel is located in Munkkiniemi, Helsinki's leafy neighborhood overlooking Laajalahit Bay. The Bastuviksvägen tram stop is a short walk from the hotel and the trip to the city center takes about 20 minutes. Alvar Aalto House, Didrichsen Art Museum, and Seurasaari Open-Air Museum are within three kilometers. The hotel is on the seafront and has a private beach, indoor pool, gym and restaurants. The hotel has 20 meeting rooms and more than 1,800 square meters of meeting space. It is located 20 km from Helsinki Airport.

Transfers from Helsinki Airport

[Helsinki Airport](#) consistently ranks among the best airports in the world and serves around 350 flights a day to locations around the world. The journey time between the airport and city center is around 30 minutes; however, the conference hotel is not in the city center but can be reached by tram. The Bastuviksvägen tram stop is a short walk away from the hotel and is a 20 minute ride. [Taxis](#) are readily available at the airport and the cost for a trip to the hotel is about 35 Euro for the 20-25 minute trip. Uber also operates in Helsinki.

Sunday conference check-in: Begins at 17:00 in the Merisali foyer in the hotel's Conference and Events Center and will be followed at 18:00 by the opening reception and dinner in Merisali I.

Monday morning: Breakfast is available starting at 06:30 on weekdays in the Oceana Restaurant. The technical session begins at 08:30 in the hotel's Conference and Events Center.

Weather: Temperature highs are expected to be about 60 °F (15-16° C) and lows in the high 40s °F (8-9° C) during the conference week. Please check www.weather.com for an update before you pack. In any case, we advise that you bring a sweater or jacket for the meeting room.

Excursion on Wednesday: We will have a group tour after lunch on Wednesday, June 8. Buses will depart the hotel at 15:00 for a guided tour of Helsinki. At 17:30, we will board a boat for a dinner cruise with additional sightseeing and return to the hotel by approximately 20:30. (Note: The cost of the excursion was included in the conference fee.)
Please email Kevin (kevin@engconfintl.org) if you will NOT participate in the excursion.

Speakers: We expect that all presentations will be on PowerPoint and we will have a computer projector as well as a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick for loading onto the ECI computer. There will be a graduate student (Gus Lipkin) who will be available to assist each speaker to load their presentation prior to the session in which they are speaking.

Be sure that you have provided your session chair with a **brief** biography for your introduction. You will have a well-informed audience, so you can omit introductory slides. The audience can always ask questions. Use large fonts in the figures (including graphs) so that they can be read in one glance.

It is essential to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time - and be certain that you allow enough time for questions/discussion. Keeping in the tradition of these conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social hours are perfect for discussion and questions.

Dress: ECI conferences are casual.

Currency: The currency in Finland is the Euro.

Electricity: Please be certain to bring the proper electrical adapter for your electrical devices. Finland uses the same type of outlets as in most European countries. See [here](#) for more information.

Guests/Accompanying Persons: If you decide to bring a guest at the last moment, please email Kathy (kathy@engconfintl.org) to arrange for payment.

Internet access: There is complimentary wireless access in the hotel

Miscellaneous: The following are a few housekeeping items that you need to be aware of:

- If you have special **dietary needs** (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you didn't communicate to Kathy when you registered, please do so now so that we can give the hotel this information. All those with special needs meals will be given a card to identify themselves to the wait staff.
- If your arrival or departure date should change prior to the conference, please notify the hotel and Kathy Chan (Kathy@engconfintl.org)
- A brief electronic evaluation form will be distributed on Thursday or Friday during the conference. Please complete it as your comments will be very useful to the planners of the next conference in the series. If you wish to volunteer to be part of the organizing team for the next conference, you may make your intentions known on this form.
- If you require **photocopying**, please make your arrangements at the hotel desk - the cost will be billed to your room incidentals.
- **Please note the final program booklet will be sent to you electronically and we will not provide a printed version on site. If you would like a hard copy, please print one out before you leave and bring it with you to the conference.**

As a courtesy to conference participants, we request that all mobile phones be turned off (or to "vibrate") during the technical sessions. If it is necessary to use your mobile phone, we request that you step outside the meeting room to an area that will not disturb other attendees. As usual, all conference functions are smoke-free.

Kevin Korpics (ECI Associate Director) is the site manager for this conference. We thank the conference chair, **Patrick Zhang** (FIPR Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute, Florida Polytechnic University) and his co-chairs, Erika Rova, Jan Miller, Marius Porteus, Laurindo Leal Filho, Ewan Wingate, and Andre Carlos Silva, who put in a great deal of effort to produce this program.

Last minute questions?

Email **Kathy Chan** (Kathy@engconfintl.org). If you need to contact the ECI staff from Friday onwards, you can text or call Kevin Korpics at 1-917-756-7513.

We wish you all an intellectually stimulating, productive and enjoyable conference.