Welcome...

Anyone who has heard me talking about the Nereda team, and indeed the wider Nereda Community, will know how proud I am to be leading this incredible team. In this issue of Footprint, we have some big news to celebrate, as we announce that Royal HaskoningDHV has been awarded ‘Water Technology Company of the Year’ at the 2020 Global Water Awards. Working closely with our partners on our technology innovations – from Nereda technology and the introduction of the Nereda Package and Mini Plants, to the opening of the first Kaumera production facility in Zutphen – has played a big part in the business achieving this award, which you can read more about on the following page.

In addition, we are also proud to announce two significant recent project wins for the team – our first project in the Middle East, the Jeddah Airport 2 ISTP and our fourth Nereda wastewater treatment plant in France at Saint Gilles Croix-de-Vie.

2020 has been – and continues to be – a challenging year in many ways, but as we all adapt to the changing landscape, the increasingly virtual way of working and the ongoing uncertainty, I am delighted that we still have so much to be thankful for.

Stay safe!
René Noppeney MSc MBA
Global Director Nereda.
Royal HaskoningDHV wins ‘Water Technology Company of the Year’ Award

Royal HaskoningDHV has been announced as winner of the 2020 Global Water Awards for ‘Water Technology Company of the Year’ for its significant contribution to the sector’s innovation.

Niels Schallenberg, Royal HaskoningDHV’s Global Director Water, commented on the award: “Water and digital technology are at the heart of everything we do, so it is a huge honour to be recognised for our commitment to the sector. We work closely with key partners across the globe and, through our ongoing innovations, we aim to achieve our vision for water through water reuse, resource recovery, energy gain – all virtually operated. Ultimately, helping us to enhance society together.”

MyNereda mobile

MyNereda is the user support platform for the Nereda community. Clients and partners can benefit from the wide variety of tools and resources available. Initially only available as a web-based platform, this extensive resource is also available as an easy-to-use mobile app.

Crucially operators can explore and optimize the performance of their plants and receive alerts and early warnings on relevant events. There is also the opportunity to view the plants in real time, even when remote, via the site’s webcams.

MyNereda users can access and browse more than 2000 documents in the extensive library. These include FAQs, plant information and training videos, along with information on the Nereda partners and preferred suppliers.

With more than 350 users active on MyNereda, it is possible to connect with Nereda users all over the world to discuss challenges and share best practice through the forums. Check it out on Apple app store or Google play store!
Project Wins: Jeddah & Saint Gilles
We are pleased to announce our new Nereda project awards.

A landmark project: Nereda® technology has been selected for the new Jeddah Airport 2 Independent Sewage Treatment Plant (ISTP). This project is the largest wastewater treatment plant of the country’s wastewater investment programme, led by the Saudi Water Partnership Company (SWPC). Once completed, the plant will treat the wastewater for more than 1.2 million people in Jeddah City, Saudi Arabia. Our Nereda technology package will be provided via our Indian licensee, VA Tech Wabag, to the consortium in place.

Expanding our European base: Together with our French licensee SOURCES SA, we are implementing a greenfield Nereda installation at Pays de Saint Gilles Croix de Vie in Brittany, with a capacity of 102,000 pe. This will be our fourth Nereda wastewater treatment plant in France. The new plant will treat the growing population and seasonal fluctuations, but also minimise the environmental impact with a combination of high efficiency, aesthetics and compactness.

Technology & Innovation: Kaumera

Representing a huge step towards creating a truly circular economy, Kaumera is one of the technologies being celebrated as part of our ‘Water Technology Company of the Year’ win.

Following optimization steps made over the last few months, the extraction process of Kaumera in Zutphen is working well. The second extraction unit in Epe has also been started. In collaboration with our partners, we are now focusing on applications research with identified market key players and specialized Institutes. The prioritized research is on biostimulant and coating for slow release fertilizers used in agriculture, binders for specific use in horticulture, composite material with cellulose for the building sector and superabsorbent characteristics of Kaumera.

Last March the Zutphen installation delivered its first large batch of Kaumera (20 m³) to be used as biostimulant by the company Koppert Biological Systems. The next delivery is in the pipeline.
First Virtual Licensee Training
With restrictions around traveling in place, we are discovering new ways to work. The training for new licensee partners usually takes place in the Netherlands. However, for the first time, it was done remotely. Nothing replaces face-to-face contact, but during these times of change, it is good to know we don’t stop, despite the challenges. Feedback from participants was positive which is encouraging.

New roles in the Nereda team

Congratulations to Hennie Erwee, who has become the Global Director of Nereda Partners. This role will see Hennie develop the important Nereda partnerships across the globe. Replacing Hennie in his former role as Regional Sales Director APAC, we are delighted to announce that this vacancy has been filled by Roger Pung. Roger joins the business unit from Biwater APAC and brings with him 26 years’ experience in the water and wastewater industry.

Nereda Teambuilding Event
While unable to meet in-person, COVID restrictions did not stop the Nereda team from joining our annual teambuilding event virtually. This year’s theme was ‘True Grit’, based on the capacity of our team to persevere through the challenging times of distanced working, while still winning new projects, developing new offerings, improving our operational services, and innovating with partners. The digital session included an inspirational keynote, as well as some fun activities, culminating in a very competitive game of Music Bingo!

Focus on...

Fabian, Process Engineer
Our focus this issue is on our Process Engineer Fabian Renaux. Based in Johannesburg, South Africa, Fabian joined Royal HaskoningDHV in 2018. Having worked on multiple Nereda projects in his role as a civil engineer, in 2019, he officially joined the Nereda team as a process engineer focusing on operational support and plant performance monitoring. He has a BSc from University of Cape Town in Civil Engineering and is currently working towards his MSc in Wastewater Treatment.

Originally from Zambia, Fabian explains that the ‘scope and influence’ of the water sector is important to him:

“I have a strong connection to water and sanitation from my experience in Zambia, where water is still an issue. When I moved to South Africa it was a new experience to get water from the tap. I am keen to learn and acquire skills, then be a driver for change back home. By working within Royal HaskoningDHV I have expanded my understanding of these possibilities.”

When asked about his favourite part of being part of the Nereda team, Fabian commented: “It’s the energy! Always so much energy. Everyone works with passion.”

For more information visit nereda.net