

Monday, 29 May 2006

08.30 - 10.00

P1: Sustainable Strategies for Green Building

By thinking about sustainability in the planning and construction of new hospitals, their environmental impact may be remarkably reduced. During this session, strategies for achieving this will be presented among others by Ingemar Ziegler, vice president of Locum.

10.30 - 12.00

P2: Opening Session

Dr. Lena Sommestad, Sweden's Minister for the Environment, will officially open the congress. Anders Wijkman (awarded most successful member of the European Parliament 2005) will present strategies to achieve sustainable development in the European Union. Dr. Gavin ten Tusscher, Chairman of the Board of Health Care Without Harm, will discuss the environmental aspects of healthcare and how to meet these challenges.

13.30 - 14.45

S1: Energy Saving in Buildings

Reducing the energy consumption in health care facilities will result in both environmental and economic benefits. This session will suggest a number of measures that may be employed to reduce energy consumption, including energy conscious design, integrated systems, and effective use of daylight and solar heat.

13.30 - 14.45

S2: Environmental Classifications of Buildings

Environmental classification is a useful tool for comparing environmental performance of buildings. The acknowledged expert on this issue, Dr. Raymond J. Cole, University of British Columbia, will review the current environmental assessment methods in the building industry. A Swedish system for classification of buildings will also be introduced.

13.30 - 14.45

S3: Alternative Waste Management

The impact of waste on people's health and the natural environment makes waste management one of the biggest environmental issues worldwide. This session emphasises the context in which hospitals influence the community and provides information on reducing hospital waste, the EU legislation and best practices.

15.10 - 15.55

P3: "Revolution in Environmental Health Sciences: New Opportunities to Protect Our Health"

Dr. John Peterson Myers is founder and CEO of Environmental Health Sciences, an NGO dedicated to advancing public understanding of the scientific links between the environmental threats and people's health. Dr. Myers's lecture will mainly cover concerns about toxic chemical exposures – especially in small doses – and their relevance to people's health. Dr Myers is known as an accomplished and inspirational speaker.

16.00 - 17.30

S4: The Importance of Sustainable Materials in Building

The choice of materials dictates whether a building becomes an asset or a liability. During this session sustainable materials strategies, available data for hazardous substances, as well as techniques for mitigation of negative impact, will be addressed.

16.00 - 17.30

S5: Design of Buildings and its Importance for Wellbeing

The design of buildings is of great importance for patients, staff and visitors. The physical environment of health-care contributes largely to the wellbeing of patients. Learn about the psychology of design related wellbeing and view a concrete example.

16.00 - 17.30

S6: Integration of Environment Into Everyday Management

Environmental Management Systems (EMS's) may integrate environmental issues into everyday work, thus making it easier to carry out in a systematic way. Hospital representatives that have implemented and certified an EMS will tell you how.

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08.30 - 10.00

P4: Pollution and Health

Dr. Tord Kjellström has 35 years of academic and international experience within environmental health. He has been a Professor in Sweden, Australia and New Zealand, and has also worked for the World Health Organisation. Dr. Kjellström has published more than 300 reports on health effects of toxic metals, asbestos, air pollution and climate change and will give us a global perspective on pollution and health. An example of a regional project identifying the most important environmental issues with effects on health will also be reported by Magnus Svartengren, Professor of Occupational and Environmental Health at the Karolinska Institute, Sweden

10.30 - 12.00

S7: Green Transportation

Transportation is associated with extensive resource consumption and emissions of fossil carbon dioxide and noxious substances. Planning, coordinating and choosing the right means of transportation may result in great environmental as well as economic benefits. In this session you will find out how.

10.30 - 12.00

S8: Green Chemistry: The New Chemistry

It is desirable to substitute many chemicals with safer, non-toxic alternatives. Such substitution requires, a "new chemistry". This session will outline its components, and how many harmful substances can be avoided? Can REACH help?

10.30 - 12.00

S9: Sustainable Food

Public sector food procurement accounts for billions of euros every year. The link between healthcare and sustainable food will be given in this session, and the role of healthcare in promoting organic and local food through procurement will be emphasised.

13.30 - 14.15

P5: "What does 'sustainability' mean? And how do we do it?"

Alan AtKisson has been helping organizations, companies, cities, regions, and government agencies in four continents to accelerate progress toward sustainability since 1992. He is internationally known for his ability to inspire audiences with a compelling combination of visionary ideas, practical experience and creative expression. Alan AtKisson will also discuss what sustainability means in the healthcare sector - today and in the future.

15.30 - 17.00

S10: Information and Training

The provision of information and training of employees and/or members of an organisation is a great tool for creating positive attitudes and an active interest in the environment. Examples of different ways of communicating environmental knowledge to thousands of employees will be given.

15.30 - 17.00

S11: Ways to Green Procurement

As hospitals and other healthcare facilities are key customers to numerous companies, green procurement may be an effective driving force in the development and marketing of more sustainable products. Green procurement may also add value. This session will focus on how green procurement can be used as a tool for creating environmental and economic benefits. EU-rules and a method for working in a structured way with procurement will be presented.

15.30 - 17.00

S12: Working with Sustainability

This session will deal with the framework of working with sustainability in organisations. Learn about the sustainability strategy of the EU, an emerging global standard for social responsibility, and find out the hindrance and possibilities for sustainable reporting.

18.00

Reception at the City Hall

Wednesday, 31 May 2006

08.30 - 10.00

P6: Pharmaceuticals and the Environment I

Pharmaceutical substances are often persistent and may be harmful to the environment. In this session, Dr. Klaus Kümmerer, Associate Professor of Environmental Medicine and Hospital Epidemiology at the University of Freiburg, Germany will give us the European perspective on this issue. His research includes pollution analysis and ecotoxicology, particularly the ecotoxicology of pharmaceuticals. A method for environmental classification of pharmaceuticals will be presented.

10.30 - 12.00

S13: Waste Management of Infectious, Pharmaceutical and Other Special Waste

The management of special clinical waste involves safety, environmental, economical and legislative issues. Views on the clinical waste management differ between countries. This session will present the legislation and current situation in Europe with special focus on pharmaceutical waste.

10.30 - 12.00

S14: Green Procurement: Examples and Experiences

The importance of procurement as a measure for “greening” the market cannot be ignored. This session will introduce some practical examples of how procurement can be used for switching from PVC and Brominated Fire Retardants (BFR’s) to environmentally sounder alternatives.

10.30 - 12.00

S15: International Panel: The Global South Perspective

The environmental impact of healthcare in the global South has been largely ignored in the past. This session will be dedicated to the Southern perspective: to the current environmental issues and the work that is carried out in the South, to the relations between the North and the South, and to the future of green healthcare in the developing countries.

13.30 - 15.00

S16: Verification: Did We Really Do It?

The importance of verification in environmental work can hardly be overestimated. Environmental audits and reports are excellent tools to improve your work and to make great plans and policies happen in reality. Learn how to perform audits and reports and what to expect from them. Among the lecturers is Professor Torbjörn Brorson who is also the Chairman of the Swedish Association of Environmental Auditors (MIS).

13.30 - 15.00

S17: Alternatives to Hazardous Products

Many hazardous substances and materials might well be substituted. A well-known example of this is mercury, which has been extensively used in healthcare but which is also easy to replace, phase out and remove. Learn how this is done.

13.30 - 15.00

S18: Pharmaceuticals and the Environment II

The levels and risks associated with drug residues will be reported, as well as the environmental aspects in the development of new drugs. The American view of the issue will also be given.

15.15 - 16.15

P7: Closing Session

This will be a summing up and discussion of the impressions of the conference. What did we find out, how can we use our knowledge and what are our next steps to green the healthcare sector?