



**INTERNATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE®**  
Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania  
337 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Phone: (412) 261-0710 x10  
Fax: (412) 261-1606

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR IWC DISCUSSERS

As a **discusser** of a technical paper, your role in the success or failure of the technical session in which you are involved is crucial. Stated simply, your discussion is very important. Therefore, the first guideline for discussers is that the discussion should be formally prepared. All discussions are given **10 minutes**, unless suggested otherwise by the Session Chair or Discussion Leader.

The major purpose of your discussion is to help the audience evaluate the author's technical presentation. ***Under no circumstances should your discussion be a new technical paper.*** Therefore, please orient your comments to those items addressed by the author in his/her presentation.

Your discussion should be an evaluation which you prepare and not one which the author(s) request. Under no circumstances are you required to be either complimentary or not complimentary. The discussion should not be a flowery tribute to the author(s). Rather, your discussion should be an overview of the author's work and presentation. Where you wish to make criticisms, it is advisable that you make recommendations to overcome the criticized points. In other words, we are looking for constructive criticism and not destructive criticism.

To aid you in preparing your discussion, you might consider addressing questions like the following:

- ❶ Did the Author(s) cover the subject thoroughly?
- ❷ Was any significant material left out of the presentation?
- ❸ Was the data handled appropriately? If not, why, and how could it have been improved?
- ❹ Did the Author(s) use proper experimental design?
- ❺ Do the interpreted results logically reflect the experimental work?
- ❻ Are any other experiments suggested?
- ❼ Were adequate statistics used in the presentation?
- ❽ Are you aware of any other literature that might help the authors in verifying their work?
- ❾ What is the bearing of the Author's presentation on the state-of-the-art technology?

If you need any help in preparing your discussion, please call your Discussion Leader. Most importantly, please realize your discussion will make the technical PAPER a more complete presentation for the audience. A schedule of Important Dates has been included for your information.

**QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:**

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c/o Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania  
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