

**DESIGN INSTITUTE FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF SYSTEMS
of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers**

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DIERS 2016 SPRING MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Speakers and Tutorials are needed for all three dates. I need to prepare the agenda by the first of February, so please respond ASAP. Call (304) 776-6371 or E-mail fisherhg@suddenlink.net to arrange a presentation. Include Title, Duration, Speakers, and Desired Dates / Times.

Electronic Registration and Payment for the meeting is open at www.aiche.org/diers

DIERS dues payments for CY 2016 are due at www.aiche.org/diers

DIERS Members

The Spring 2016 DIERS meeting will be held on March 21 -23, 2016 (MONDAY to WEDNESDAY) at the Hilton Garden Inn Houston/Galleria Area, 3201 Sage Road, Houston, TX 77056. Call (713) 629-0101 to reserve a room. FAX (713) 629-0102. Room rates for the hotel will be \$169 (single / double) plus six percent state and five percent local tax. Guest room rates will be extended for three days before and after the meeting. Mention DIERS to get our rate. The hotel will hold our block of rooms until **February 25, 2016** (Reserve before this date). Provide reservations with the group code **DIERS** or the group name, DESIGN INSTITUTE FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF SYSTEMS. A credit card will be required to register at the hotel. Refunds will be made on reservations canceled more than 24 hours prior to the confirmed arrival date.

NOTE: Internet access in guest and meeting rooms is complimentary. Free parking is available at the hotel for meeting attendees. Complimentary shuttle service is available within a three mile radius of the hotel. A fitness center and outdoor pool are available for hotel guests.

Attendance at this and future DIERS meetings will be limited to those who have paid their yearly DIERS dues before or at the time of registration for the DIERS meeting. Registration for and payment of the actual cost of the meeting by DIERS (dues paying) members will be accomplished using the DIERS website with credit card payment. We no longer collect monies and pay for the meeting expenses on site. The daily fee to attend the meeting will be \$125 and includes a continental breakfast, coffee breaks, lunch, and meeting expenses (such as meeting room rental and audio/visual charges). Our catering contract must be guaranteed to the hotel **NLT** March 16 (Wednesday). There will be no refund after that date since DIERS has to pay the guarantee. The link to the AIChE credit card payment system is on the www.aiche.org/diers webpage. Use the REGISTER NOW link for both registration and payment of meeting fees or call AIChE Customer Service at 1-800-242-4363.

Professional Development Credits are available upon request for attendance at DIERS meetings.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
3 / 21 / 16 (Mon)	8:00-5:00	Mathematical Modeling of ERS Design
3 / 22 / 16 (Tue)	8:00-5:00	Business Meeting / Committee Reports / Technical Presentations
3 / 22 / 16		No Group Dinner (Informal groups formed at meeting)
3 / 22 / 16 (Wed)	8:00-3:00	ERS Design / Testing Methodology

The DIERS meeting agenda will be published by early February and posted on the www.aiche.org/diers website.

NOTE: Make early flight arrangements (six to eight weeks ahead) to find the best prices and available seats on desirable flights.

2. **DIERS Round-Robin Testing of a Phenol-Formaldehyde Reaction**

A new round-robin has been announced with details posted on the www.aiche.org/diers website at the ROUND-ROBIN Link. The submission deadline for experimental results is March 11, 2016.

3. Our new Research Programs and Projects and additional Outreach Activities will be presented and discussed at the meeting. Champions (leaders) and committee members will be solicited for previously identified topics. Suggestions for additional items are solicited and will be accepted. Cooperative Corporate – DIERS funded research opportunities will be available for certain specific research projects just as DIERS was originally funded. Further research details will be announced shortly.

4. AIChE / DIERS Course: “Advanced Emergency Relief System Design”

Dates: May 17 – 19, 2016

Instructors: Robert D’Alessandro and Benjamin McDavid

Location: Atlanta, GA

See the COURSES link on the AIChE / DIERS website www.aiche.org/diers for details and registration.

Other courses are also available at their respective links.

5. Dues-paying members should have received an E-mail with a temporary password and instructions as how to register on the website for access to the meeting minutes and presentations including the 2015 GCPS, the Joint US-EUROPEAN DIERS meeting, and the DIERS Fall meeting and extending back to 1999. The data base is searchable. Send an E-Mail or call if you have not received the registration instructions or have access problems.

6. I look forward to greeting all in Houston in March as we initiate the new DIERS research programs.

Harold G. Fisher
Chair, DIERS