



## NPRA Plant Automation and Decision Support Call for Papers

The 2009 Plant Automation and Decision Support Conference provides practitioners and specialists with information on the tools, techniques and case histories on automation and decision support technologies. The conference brings together the leading vendors, adopters, and developers of these technologies in an event that stresses learning, sharing and problem solving.

The 2009 Program Committee has developed a list of the four main topic areas on today's top priorities in plant automation and decision support. We welcome abstracts from operating companies, suppliers, consultants, and academics.

The Program Committee is looking for presenters and panelists who have experience in one or more of the areas on the attached list. However, if you have expertise concerning a topic that is not listed, please visit the NPRA website and to complete the online submission form.

NPRA welcomes abstracts from operating companies, suppliers, consultants, and academics. Preference will be given to presentations that have real world case studies with refining and petrochemical companies and that offer the conference participant something they can use when they return to their company.

To submit an abstract for consideration, please click [here](#).

The due date for abstracts **Friday, May 8, 2009**

Please pass a copy of this call for papers along to anyone you know with related expertise and experience who might also be interested in taking part in the Plant Automation and Decision Support Conference. If you have any questions or need further information, please call or e-mail Dan Strachan of the NPRA at (202) 457-0480, [dstrachan@npra.org](mailto:dstrachan@npra.org)

The 2009 Plant Automation and Decision Support Conference will be a part of the NPRA Q&A and Technology Forum, October 11-14 in Ft. Worth, Texas.



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### **Why IT Matters**

This track concentrates on the growing influence of IT solutions into the manufacturing and process space, the value they add to the process, the IT technologies that are showing value on the plant floor and more.

### **Cyber Security**

This track concentrates on the latest issues with compliance, security, education and threat updates for both IT and DCS systems.

This track will be in lieu of a separate cyber security roundtable.

### **Getting the Fundamentals Right in Today's Economy**

This track highlights the areas of innovative applications of technology to address fundamental issues facing the Refining and Petrochemical industry in today's challenging economy.

This track will deal with applications such as:

- Driving cost out of the manufacturing process
- Plant Operations Excellence
- Remote support & Collaboration
- Energy Optimization & Carbon Footprint reduction
- Hydrogen Management
- Other areas considered to be the "fundamental" aspects of plant automation

### **Filling the Knowledge Gap**

This track deals with a range of topics from operator training to knowledge transfer. Additionally, issues such as "doing more with less," work process, technology education, and the future of the control room will fall into the scope of this track.