

AUSTRALIAN WATER

ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

Ozwater'22 *Our Water Journey*

8 November 2021

The Australian Water Association (AWA) is excited to bring Ozwater'22 to Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Center from 10 – 12 May 2022.

The theme for 2022 is **Our Water Journey** which calls on the sector to unite and reflect on how far we've come as a collective.

Ozwater'22 Committee Chair and Urban Utilities' Executive Leader Service Delivery David Brooker said that the theme is about celebrating the evolution of the sector as a whole: Past, Present and Future. "I started my water sector journey as a graduate process engineer at, what was then, Brisbane Water.

Over the years, I've seen the role of the water industry expand to reflect the rapidly changing expectations of our customers and communities, and this has certainly made for an exciting career," he said.

"There is no doubt that our industry is facing a number of challenges but these also provide opportunities for us to improve, adapt and transform. The Ozwater'22 theme is all about recognising that the water sector is evolving and that this evolution is within our control.

"We must continue to embrace innovative thinking to help solve the complex problems we face and to help create liveable and flourishing communities." Brooker said the Ozwater'22 theme is also about celebrating connections.

"Connection within our communities, connection with First Nations People and connection between people. This unity is one of the great things about our sector," he said. "Ozwater'22 will also be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Australian Water Association and the development of the water industry over this time," Brooker said.

"We have some significant challenges ahead of us and we need to address them together. These include a changing climate, pressures on the environment, the need to protect public health and enabling our cities and towns to grow. We must ask ourselves, "How can the sector continue to effectively adopt new technologies so we can integrate and transform old ways of doing things? And how can we drive efficiency and better community outcomes moving forward?"

Brooker said the Ozwater'22 program will aim to reflect the evolution of the industry by expanding on some of the sub-themes of the event.

#Ozwater22

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About the Australian Water Association

Australian Water Association is Australia's biggest water network inspiring and driving a sustainable water future, with a membership of over 5,000 individual and corporate members. www.awa.asn.au