

To: WRS GC Members and Guests

From: Ravi Shukla , WRS GC Arrangements Chair,
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Subject: WRS GC Fall 2023 Meeting Invitation and Registration Information

On behalf of the Executive Board, I would like to cordially invite you to attend the Fall 2023 Western Regional Strain Gage Committee Conference to be held October 9th – 11th, 2023 at the **Marriott at the University of Dayton** located at 1414 South Patterson Boulevard, Dayton, OH 45409 US

We will continue the tradition of hosting the tour on Tuesday afternoon, allowing attendees a little flexibility in making their travel plans on Wednesday evening.

Here is an overview of the conference schedule:

Monday, October 9th: Executive Board meeting, starting at 1:30 PM, followed by the Executive Board dinner at 6:30 PM. Dinner details will be provided once finalized. Meal cost is waived for current board members and attendees who will be presenting papers at the conference.

Tuesday, October 10th: The program will include welcoming statements from the Chair and Host, several technical paper presentations, and an afternoon tour of Wright Patterson Air Force Base's structural test labs in Dayton, Ohio. The main facility tour may be closed to foreign national guests. In that case, we will be arranging a special tour for those individuals to the wonderful National Museum of the US Air Force, the details of which will be communicated separately. Breakfast and lunch will be provided as part of the meeting. After lunch, we will board a bus for a group tour of the WPAFB facilities, which is about a 15-minute drive from the hotel.

Wednesday, October 11th: The morning program will include Sponsor presentations as well as a continuation of technical paper presentations. The afternoon program will continue with the General Business Meeting and the Strain Workshop. Breakfast and lunch will be provided as part of the meeting.

Final program details with an agenda of all presentations will be provided in a subsequent email.

Meeting Registration: The WRS GC conference fee is \$500 (yes this is an increase from the previous fee of \$300 which we held for over two decades. Sorry but inflation is real)

The fee is waived for attendees giving formal presentations at the meeting. Please use Square to pay your fee in advance, at the following website. Please note this has been a change since the initial email which also noted Paypal. Because of ease of use for companies to expense the fee, our normal payment method of Square on the day of the event will also be used for early payment. Square will also allow one person to expense multiple attendees from the same company.

<https://western-regional-strain-gage-committee.square.site/product/Fall2023/8>

If you prefer, the conference fee may be paid at the registration table starting at around 7:30 AM on Tuesday, October 10th. Checks payable to "WRS GC" and credit cards will be accepted.

Hotel Information

Marriot at the University of Dayton
1414 S Patterson Blvd
Dayton, OH 45409 USA
Phone: (937) 223-1000

The WRS GC has arranged a special conference rate of **\$159 per night before taxes** for **standard attendees**.

The hotel has also setup a special conference per diem rate of **\$109 per night before taxes** for all **government or government contractors** that require booking at the local Dayton, OH per diem rate. There are separate links for these 2 rates. Please remember booking at a per diem rate requires proof when checking into the hotel.

You can receive this special rate by using the links noted below. Complimentary Wi-fi is available in the guest rooms. ***The final cutoff date for obtaining the guaranteed conference rate is September 11th, 2023.*** Note that WRS GC is under contract to meet a minimum daily room reservation commitment of 50 room nights for the week. Please act **promptly** and register ahead of the cutoff date.

Reservations for the room block will be made by individuals calling into Marriott direct at 1-800-MARRIOTT to get the established Group Rate or by using one of the customized reservation links listed below.

For Room Reservations:

Please use this special link to obtain the conference rate.

[Book your group rate for Western Regional Strain Gage Conference Attendees](#)

If you are attending on behalf of the government or a government contract that requires per diem rates. A special registration online link has been setup for \$109.00 plus 16.5% tax.

[Book your group rate for Western Regional Strain Gage Government Attendees](#)

Airports

The hotel is located just south of the Dayton city center which is approximately 15 miles or 20/25 minutes south of the Dayton International Airport (DAY).

The hotel is also located north of the Cincinnati /Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG Airport) by 65 miles (70 minutes, very much traffic-dependent) as an alternative option to the area.

The last alternative airport recommendation is the city of Columbus which is also a viable option. The John Glenn International Airport (CMH) is located 80 miles straight east of Dayton on I-70. This is also about (75-80 minutes, very much traffic-dependent)

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Sorry the airport doesn't have a shuttle that picks up from any of the local airports listed above. For convenience during the week though, it does have a shuttle service that operates within a 5-mile radius of the hotel between the hours of 7am and 10pm that can be used during your hotel stay. Since the Dayton airport is 13 miles away, renting a car or using a ride share service like Uber or Lyft is recommended. Airport rates will approximately be \$15-20 each way.

Please complete this conference registration form and return it to Ravi Shukla (ravi.shukla@gantner-instruments.com) no later than Monday, October 2th, 2023.

WRSGC Fall 2023 Conference

Dayton, Ohio

Registration Form

We need this information to complete our final arrangements for things like the bus size, board dinner, etc.

- Full name: _____
- Company Name: _____
- Phone number: _____
- Email: _____
- Country of Origin: _____
- Hotel Plans (which hotel and number of nights staying) _____
- I will be attending the WPAFB Tour **(Y/N)** ____
- I will be attending the Executive Board meeting **(Y/N)** ____
- I will be attending the Executive Board dinner Mon. night **(Y/N)** ____ and bringing _____ guest(s)

REMINDER: Registrations must be received by Monday, October 2th, 2023, if you wish to be included in the tour group.