



**Preliminary Program Released, Advance Registration Ends 7 September.**

**Global Humanitarian Technology Conference - GHTC 2012**

**October 21-24, 2012 Renaissance Seattle Hotel, Seattle, Washington, USA**

A unique event, GHTC fills the need for a major international annual conference in the humanitarian technology sphere, attracting a large international audience, covering a wide range of important topics, and facilitating communication, networking and coordination across the humanitarian technology community.

Building on the success of the inaugural 2011 meeting, the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual GHTC will again bring together communities and individuals - engineering, science, technology, industry, academe, government agencies, NGOs, charities, funders - interested in applying technology to develop effective solutions for the challenges facing the world's underserved.

GHTC has extensive and vibrant technical programs, unparalleled visibility for humanitarian work and projects, exceptional networking opportunities, and a varied social program which will include on October 23 a presentation of Hoover Award to Mr. N.R. Narayana Murthy, founder of Infosys Limited. The medal is a prestigious award for engineers, honoring individuals who tirelessly apply their extensive knowledge in the humanitarian field.

Numerous papers will be presented at the conference. A sampling of paper presentations includes: "Empowering smallholders and local food markets with smartphones and social networks", "Improving maternal labor monitoring in Kenya using digital pen technology: a user evaluation", "Technology transfer to rural population through secondary schools : the Vigyan Ashram experience". Four parallel half-day tutorials will be given preceding the conference on October 21 including "Building affordable wireless networks for research, education and humanitarian use", and "Innovation process for the Base of the Pyramid". Keynote speaker Byron Reese will talk about the world's massive accumulation of data seen as an unexpected benefit in ending nations' penchant for war. "You end war when you make peace a more attractive opportunity for everyone. Technology is making war extremely expensive and peace extremely profitable." said Reese on the ScienceNews Radio Network.

Conference Chair Paul Kostek stated that "the Program Committee has done an extraordinary job of assembling this year's program that addresses the leading issues, activities and technology applications in the humanitarian field. In addition, four tutorials give deeper understanding for real world solutions from the people that did the field work. We have a diverse group of keynote speakers from NGOs, government organizations and industry with Gretchen Kalonji, Assistant Director General for National Sciences, UNESCO, as an opening ceremony speaker. Their experience and range of topics will help set the stage for each day of the conference. We are also pleased that the Hoover Medal will be presented at the conference to Mr. Naravara Murthy, Founder of Infosys Limited."

GHTC 2012 is organized by **IEEE** [ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org), the world's largest technical professional society with over 400,000 members in over 160 countries, advancing technology for the benefit of humanity.

For more information on the preliminary program and to register, see <http://www.ieeeghtc.org/>. The advance registration fee is \$500 for IEEE members, \$550 for non-members and \$200 for students and IEEE Life Members.

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