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INSIDE:

MANHOLES AND CATCH BASINS/ **PUMPER & CLEANER EXPO RECAP**









COVER:

Fairfield (Ohio) believes in thinking long term. The city's manhole inspection and rehabilitation program has been going strong for a quarter-century and is a key to combating I&I. Here, maintenance worker Chris Croucher applies primer while using the Flex-Seal manhole rehabilitation system from Sealing Systems. (Photography by Mark Young)



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- ♦ The Human Side: Learning how to manage your boss
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- ♦ Sewer: Inspection and flow monitoring in Suburban Washington, D.C.
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SITTING DUCKS

Your streets are full of big and easy targets in the never-ending battle against inflow and infiltration and all its insidious costs

n the campaign against I&I, there are lots of enemies you can't readily see. Broken mains and laterals. Illegally connected sump pumps, downspouts and foundation drains. Pipe joints lying below seasonal high groundwater.

And then there are some you can see quite easily — manholes, which are part of the focus of this month's issue of *Municipal Sewer & Water*. You drive over them every day on the way to work. Your people pop them open regularly when cleaning and inspecting lines.

They are right there — and they can add a lot of clear water to your sewers and ultimately the treatment plant if they are old and decaying or are not properly sealed. While estimates vary, studies have shown that 30 to 50 percent of infiltration to sewer systems comes from manholes and other underground structures.

Of course, you knew this — or if not the actual numbers, the basic fact of leaky manholes and their costs. In a perfect world, you would have enough budget to go in and fix them all on some reasonable timetable. But you also know the reality, all too well.

Finding fixes

This month's issue looks at three communities that are going hard after manhole leaks — with different tools and technologies, but with similar dedication. What strikes me after reporting on public infrastructure since we launched this magazine in 2006 is the sheer variety of remedies for manhole leakage.

They range from incredibly simple and cheap to highly sophisticated and effective. It seems any community that's at all serious about tightening manholes can find workable solu-

What strikes me after reporting on public infrastructure since we launched this magazine in 2006 is the sheer variety of remedies for manhole leakage.

tions that fit the budget. Here are some I'm aware of without resorting to much beyond a search of the memory banks:

- Inexpensive metal or plastic dish inserts that sit just under the manhole cover and keep water from entering there.
- Watertight manhole frames and covers that help seal water out.
 - Internal chimney seals and external wraps that are costeffective and easy to apply.
 - Chimney and joint sealing compounds in a wide range of materials.
 - Cured-in-place liners that essentially create a new leak-free interior.
 - Poured-in-place concrete restoration that creates a new



FROM THE EDITOR

Ted J. Rulseh

structure inside the old.

- All manner of cements, mortars and patching products that can be applied directly to the structure.
- Chemical grouts that flow into the surrounding soil and stop leakage from the outside.
- Trowel-on or brush-on epoxy sealers.
- Machines that cut old manhole frames to enable easy replacement.
- Spray-on coatings that save time.
- Rapid-set sealers.

Many choices

Keep in mind that those are only the categories. There may be two, three, four or a dozen or more specific solutions within each of them. And that's not to mention all the tools for inspect-

ing manholes and assessing their condition.

If you're declaring war on I&I, you have a lot of weapons at your disposal. You don't need to spend a fortune to get started, and you don't need a ton of training before your people can go to work on the problem.

All this is a long way of saying: Where there's a will, there's a way to put a dent in leakage from manholes. Explore this issue and see what potential solutions you can find. Poke around online for a while. You just might discover something you didn't know about that fits your manholes like a glove, and works within your budget, too.

The manholes are out there — like sitting ducks. Maybe now is the time to go on the attack. ◆

Comments on this column or about any article in this publication may be directed to editor Ted J. Rulseh, 877/953-3301; editor@mswmag.com.

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help Fairfield, Ohio, prevent overflow and keep sewer user rates down

By Erik Gunn

airfield, Ohio, just might be a poster child for the power of thinking ahead — and thinking long-term. The city, a Cincinnati suburb, has a program of manhole inspection and rehabilitation that has been going strong for a quarter-century. It's a key to the city's strategy for combating inflow and infiltration.

To control I&I, Fairfield uses a variety of tactics: regular televising of sewer lines, a five-year repair cycle, and close cooperation with other city departments. The work has paid off, says Drew Young, public utility sewer superintendent. Since the mid-1980s when the program started, the city's population has grown by nearly one-third, while average daily wastewater flow has declined by 200,000 gallons.

"Our flows are lower today than they were 25 years ago," Young says. "And we've added more than 15,000 population. Not many communities can say that."

Suburban system

A bedroom community of 42,300 people with a mostly light commercial business base, Fairfield may have it easier than many cities. "If you can have an ideal flow, we are pretty textbook," Young says. "We don't have a high BOD — it's about 250 mg/l — and our total suspended solids are around 200 mg/l. We don't have slug loads from a lot of businesses. We have a very moderate stream coming into the treatment plant."

The system also is relatively new. The collection system was built starting in 1965, before which sewage treatment was handled by private septic systems and a couple of small neighborhood treatment systems (package plants). By 1986, though, the city was seeing stormrelated sewage overflows caused by I&I. So the Fairfield staff took action.

Regular inspections and scheduled repairs followed, focusing on manholes. "We started videotaping all of our sewer lines," says Young. "By 1992, we had televised every public sewer line in the city. We were way ahead of most cities by that time."

Making repairs

In 1986, the city began a campaign of spot sewer line repairs, **PROFILE:** Fairfield, Ohio, **Public Utility** Wastewater Division

POPULATION SERVED: 42.300

AREA SERVED:

INFRASTRUCTURE: 180 miles of sewer mains; 4,500 manholes

WASTEWATER FLOW: 5 mgd (average)

ANNUAL BUDGET: \$5 million (2009, sewer only)

WEBSITE: www.fairfield-city.org

(continued)



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Initially repairs to deteriorating

manhole seals used non-shrink

grout. Then the city experimented

with chimney seals. For the last

Varied solutions

Left, a torch is used to dry the surface before priming of the manhole in preparation for sealing. Right, the manhole surface with the topcoat in place.

using Insituform cured-in-place pipe lining. At the same time, the city began a program of regular manhole rehabilitation. Inspections of the 4,500 manholes take place mainly in December and January, when the weather prevents crews from doing other work. The city is divided into 30 sewer basins. "We take a basin at a time, starting with older neighborhoods," Young says. The sewer cleaning program targets onefifth of the city every year.

When the manhole rehabilitation program began, risers were an early target. In the past, brick riser sections — the top of the manhole chimney immediately below the frame — might be as high as 30 to 36 inches. "The higher the riser section, the greater potential for the mortar to fail, allowing additional inflow into the system," Young explains. "We redefined our ordinance to allow only 18 inches of riser."

Riser bricks were regrouted, but increasingly precast risers became the preferred style. After floods, crews would check the flooded areas; where manholes were submerged, the city replaced the vented lids with gasketed, solid models.

ber seal from Sealing Systems. "With grout we found the freezing and thawing at that level would sometimes cause pieces to break off," Young says. "It wasn't what we would call a permanent repair such as we're seeing with

> City crews learned how to do the job in a factory-provided training program that took one day. The repair process begins with

the Flex-Seal."

decade, crews have used mainly

Flex-Seal aromatic urethane rub-

the mid-winter inspection, which highlights the manholes in need of repairs (typically 60 to 75 per year) and the types of repairs needed.

Some manholes need to be raised. "You're looking at casting conditions - whether the manhole is subject to ponding or surface inflow," says Young. If a manhole has sunk to create an area that ponds in a storm, it is tagged to be raised to grade level. If a lid lets in water, it can be des-

"The higher the riser section, the greater potential for the mortar to fail, allowing additional inflow into the system. We redefined our ordinance to allow only 18 inches of riser."

Drew Young



CAMERAS AND MAPS

In Fairfield, Ohio, sewer maintenance doesn't stop with systematic manhole rehabilitation or the city's five-year sewer cleaning cycle. Sewer lines get televised on a 10-year cycle, using one of four cameras, all from CUES.

"We have a pretty good arsenal of TV equipment," says Drew Young, public utility sewer superintendent. Three of the mainline cameras are pan-and-tilt models, and the city also owns two SeeSnake push cameras from RIDGID for lateral inspection. Sewer crews also conduct regular inspections of the storm sewer system, which are under the public works department.

Over time, the city has been mapping all manholes, sewer lines and laterals to its GIS database. "That's always being updated," says Young. "One of the most critical things in our operation is to have good maps."

It's a far cry from "the good old boy days" when veteran crewmembers carried the details in their heads and shared them via sketches on the back of an envelope or napkin. "When we started this, trying to determine what we had in the ground was difficult," Young recalls.



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ignated for replacement.

Roughly three-fourths of the manholes designated for repairs are likely candidates for Flex-Seal. The recommendation is up to the inspection crew's judgment. "Any manhole in a street that's got bricks on it gets Flex-Sealed, unless the mortar looks really, really good," Young says. "Clearly, if you see signs of leaking, that's pretty straightforward."

Young's department orders the material in May. Since Fairfield started using Flex-Seal in the late 1990s, about \$25,000 per year has been set aside to buy the product. At about two sealing kits per manhole, sealing costs about \$300 per manhole, plus labor. The annual order is more than enough to meet a yearly demand of 45 to 60 manholes needing the treatment.

The sealing process

Work crews use a custommade trailer to store the tools and materials for the sealing process. Step one is to sandblast and pressure-wash the inside of the manhole chimney to make sure it is completely clean for the sealant.

Maintenance worker Tony Stephens sandblasts the area near the top of the manhole.

While the surface dries, the crew moves on to a second manhole. "They come back when it's dry and put the primer on it," Young says. "Then they come back the next day and seal it."

A dry surface is important. "If it's not good and dry, you get little bubbles behind it," Young says. Then the seal can fail. To date, that has happened only to one liner the city has installed. "The guys really take time with the prep work," says Young. "That's critical to longevity."

Crews usually complete two manholes a day. Young contends that the procedures Fairfield uses are more painstaking than he's seen outside contractors use, but he believes the result is a more durable seal. "We've found that ours holds up better," he says.

The product's elasticity allows it to expand and contract as the weather changes from cold to hot. "And it's impervious to hydrogen sulfide and salts that may get on



it," Young says. "The high durability of it is probably its best feature."

Cooperation and results

Sewer and manhole repairs are coordinated with the city's street department to avoid duplication of effort. When a street is desigfield's success, but there isn't anything magic about it. "You don't let yourself get behind the 8-ball," says Young. "A lot of communities have become reactive instead of proactive."

But when it comes to making repairs, he concludes, "It's always

"We're not under any findings and orders. We're in an enviable position. But we've been at it a long time. Through aggressive manhole rehab and I&I reduction, we've bought back 15,000 people's worth of capacity that we didn't have."

Drew Young

nated for repair or resurfacing, sewer department crewmembers inspect any manholes to see if they need to be fixed or replaced. Before roadwork starts, the sewer work comes first, including replacing castings or installing a seal.

Young points proudly to the rewards of I&I abatement. "Today, we really don't have an inflow and infiltration problem," he says. "We're not under any findings and orders. We're in an enviable position. But we've been at it a long time. Through aggressive manhole rehab and I&I reduction, we've bought back 15,000 people's worth of capacity that we didn't have."

Savings like that have helped contribute to Fairfield's ranking as the city with the second lowest combined sewer and water rates among 68 communities in the region, he says.

And that's where thinking ahead comes in. There's a secret to Faircheaper to do it on your timetable than it is on an emergency timetable." ◆

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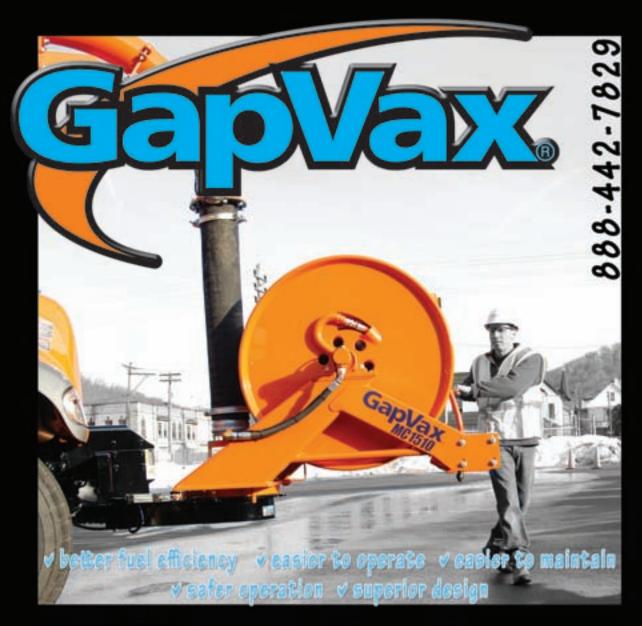
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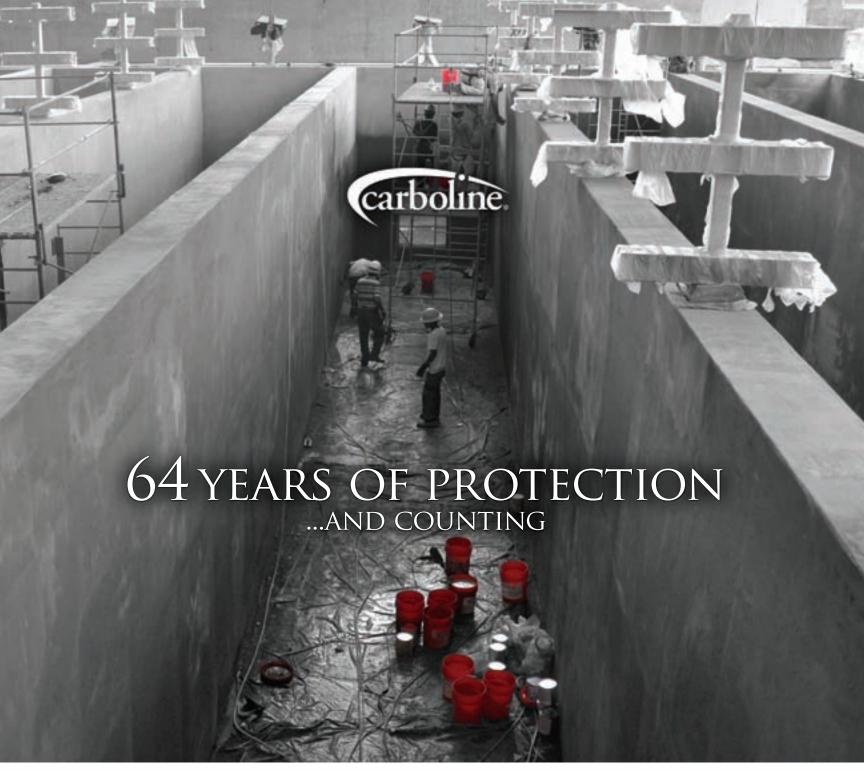
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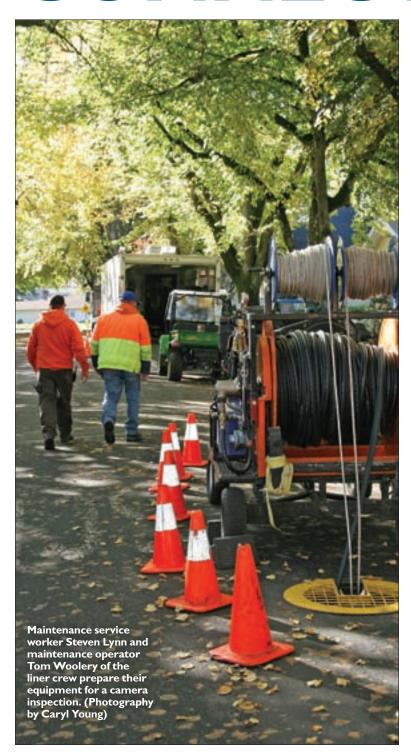
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SECURE CONNECTIONS



The City of Salem goes big with in-house grouting as part of a complete program of sewer inspection, maintenance and rehab for I&I control

By Scottie Dayton

astewater Collection Services in Salem, Ore., has come a long way since its grouting van was a converted horse trailer towed by a pickup truck transporting the camera equipment.

The city's sewers, mostly 4- to 75-inch concrete pipe with some brick and vitrified clay tile, date to 1910. With 65 percent of 785 miles of pipe compromised by grease, roots, defective service lateral connections or structural damage, the 36-member department meets the challenges with an aggressive inspection and maintenance program.

Grouting has been an integral part of the city's inflow and infiltration (I&I) control program since 1971. "Bringing the work inhouse instead of hiring contractors saves the taxpayers thousands of dollars a year and enables us to accomplish more even with a shrinking budget," says Jeff Winchester, supervisor of the TV inspection and grouting section.

In 2008, the city invested in cured-in-place sectional liners to repair defective pipe in inaccessible easements, and dedicated a four-man crew to the job. Last fall, the men received training on how to install saddle liners to seal broken lateral connections. The department's efforts have reduced SSOs from an average of 50 a year throughout the 1990s to 15 in 2009. Just one of those was stormrelated - the rest were due to roots or grease blockages.

Cost evaluations

Salem, built along the Willamette River and floodplain, has a high seasonally perched water table at 5 to 10 feet below the surface. During the wet season, October to April, sewers with bad joints act like dewatering systems. Once

PROFILE: Wastewater Collection Services, Salem, Ore.

1910 **INCORPORATED: SERVICE POPULATION: 227,000** 48 square miles **AREA SERVED:** 34.6 mgd **WASTEWATER FLOW: EMPLOYEES:**

785 miles of sanitary sewers; 29 lift stations; 17,300 manholes

\$6.5 million www.cityofsalem.net WEBSITE:

ANNUAL BUDGET:

INFRASTRUCTURE:



the water table drops, exfiltration occurs through the openings.

Wastewater Collection Services has 10 workers in the TV inspection section, another 10 in hydrocleaning, 10 in repairs, and six in technical support. Repair crews excavate and replace pipe or do sectional and saddle CIPP rehabilitation. Technical support handles paperwork, manages the map work and asset management database from Hansen Information Tech-

"Bringing the work in-house instead of hiring contractors saves the taxpayers thousands of dollars a year and enables us to accomplish more even with a shrinking budget."

Jeff Winchester

nologies (Infor Public Sector), and generates work orders.

In 2007/08, Jerry Smith, a sewer maintenance technician in the TV inspection section, conducted an asset study to determine the remaining extent of I&I and the cost of repairs. The study identified defects in 11,475 joints; 9,198 lateral connections; and 1,803 manholes. Smith compiled his findings in a PowerPoint presentation for city officials.

"The numbers were eye-popping, even when Jerry used the lowest amounts," says Winchester. "For example, 3,300 joints leaking one gallon per minute equals 1.74 billion gallons per year. Our esti-

Maintenance operator Shawn Bernards, left, and sewer instrument technician Ric Hines prepare to lower the Logiball 2001JS mainline grout packer into a manhole.

mated treatment cost for that is 7 cents per 100 gallons, or \$1.2 million per year."

While gathering data, Smith discovered that I&I defects had been historically under-reported because inspectors had counted consecutive similar defects as one. "The old reports read, 'I&I medium (1 to 5 gpm) 5 to 110 feet,' instead of recording 21 leaking joints in that section," says Winchester.

Savings add up

Grouting, at \$5.04 per foot, proved the most economical solution because the barrels of concrete pipes were usually in stable condition. "Half the grouting cost is labor and equipment, and the other half is the injection chemical," says Winchester. From 2007 to 2010, the city grouted 17,913 feet, 11,876 feet, 3,800 feet, and 10,700 feet for a cost of \$19,152 to \$90,282. Winchester projects 18,000 feet for 2011.

To understand the savings, Winchester cites a case when the city hired a contractor in 2007 to air-test 87 joints in 760 feet of 36-inch concrete pipe. The contractor found 22 defective joints and used 220 gallons of grout to seal them.

"It took him two days and cost us \$50,000," says Winchester. "We could have done the same project for \$4,375, but we didn't have a

Ric Hines at the control panel of the city's TV/grout truck from Aries Industries.



SEEING FOR THEMSELVES

The TV inspection-grouting crews of Wastewater Collection Services in Salem, Ore., understand the importance of public relations and keeping the public aware of what they are doing.

That often begins when inspection technicians see roots coming from a lateral. To verify the house to which the lateral belongs, they ask homeowners to flush a dye tablet down the toilet. "Residents often don't have a clue that they have a problem," says supervisor Jeff Winchester. "They haven't had a backup, and their sinks and showers aren't gurgling, so they tend to be skeptical."

The technician's solution is to invite homeowners into the van to watch the live inspection. "There is no faster way to help them comprehend the extent of the problem," says Winchester. "My people are very good at taking care of customer situations right in the field."

36-inch packer at the time. Based on those figures, if the city were to contract for the testing and sealing of 51,000 feet of 36-inch pipe, it would cost \$3.4 million. Our people can do the same amount of work for just under \$300,000."

That episode convinced the city to spend \$30,000 on more grout packers from Logiball. From 2005 to 2007, it purchased 10 units for pipes from 8 to 36 inches. To grout a defect, a winch pulls the packer and camera downstream. Guided by the camera, the technician positions the packer at a joint, then inflates the ends to seal them against the pipe wall.

Separate hoses deliver the twopart AV100 chemical grout from Avanti International to the packer. Once injected, the grout fills the annular space around the packer, flows out the defective joint into the soil, and gels to form the seal.

This year, the city bought a lateral launcher from Logiball. The unit cleans 4- to 6-inch laterals as far as 50 feet from the connection. A motor, winched in tandem with the camera, rotates the launcher's guiding arm and sewer nozzle.

When the water pump is turned on, back jets propel the hose into the lateral for cleaning and removing roots, grease and other buildups.

Building the fleet

In 1978, the city purchased a TV/grout step van, mainline packer, reinstatement tool, and Avanti grout from CUES Inc. In 2008, the city added four TV box-on-chassis trucks and one grouting van.

Inspection equipment includes color zoom-pan-tilt cameras with wheeled and tracked transporters and Seeker portable push cameras from Aries Industries. Two transporters have LETS lateral evaluation systems with PE3600 pan-and-tilt push cameras, also from Aries.

A main concern for Winchester is the potential for cave-ins when sections of sewer fail. "Salem experiences a lot of sinkholes that are always about to collapse the street," he says. "When dispatch reports one, we respond within an hour."

One of the worst sinkholes formed a 2-inch-deep depression

"A city is wise to search for an experienced technician, because the money he will save taxpayers will more than cover his salary."

Jeff Winchester

Winchester. "That project was especially difficult because of the depth, location, and working at night to avoid disrupting traffic or compromising public safety."

The city learned early on that successful grouting needs a technician who knows how to apply grout. That man is Ric Hines, a sewer instrument technician with 27 years of grouting experience. Hines, with an assistant to ensure his safety, worked manhole to manhole for three nights. He airtested 176 joints and sealed 175 using a Logiball mainline packer and 616 gallons of Avanti grout. The job cost \$7,000.

"We looked at all repair options," says Winchester. "Hiring a grouting contractor averaged \$30,000, rehabilitating the section with CIPP pipe averaged \$80,000, and replacing the pipe averaged \$400,000. It was a very demanding job, and I'm really proud of Ric and his crew. He's a take-charge individual and a huge asset to our department."

Another demanding job at which Hines excels is sealing joints in 2-foot lengths of 8-inch concrete pipe. "It's touchy work and almost impossible to see the next joint without a pan-and-tilt camera," says Winchester.

"Setting up the packer requires an operator with finesse and a steady hand. Ric has both. A city is wise to search for an experienced



Maintenance operators make adjustments to the Aries pan-and-tilt camera.

in the center of a major downtown intersection. The street department filled the hole with cold mix, then a dye test confirmed the damaged line to be an 18-inch concrete pipe buried 14 feet deep. "We decided to air-test and seal the entire 440 feet of sewer," says technician, because the money he will save taxpayers will more than cover his salary."

Sustaining flows

Salem's I&I program includes inspecting and cleaning problem clay and concrete lines every three



From left, sewer instrument technician Ric Hines, maintenance operator Shawn Bernards, and TV inspection/grouting supervisor Jeff Winchester.

years and PVC lines every five years. Crews smoke test 150,000 feet of pipe per year and dye test 80 locations. The city has 36 permanent flow-monitoring stations and 20 to 40 temporary sites during the wet season.

In winter, a dedicated two-man crew inspects 1,500 manholes to check the amount of infiltration and stay ahead of structural failure. Crews take two approaches to rehabilitating manholes.

"Grouting a structure costs \$542, and we do about 100 per year," says Winchester. Crews also pressure-wash manholes and grout active leaks before a contractor coats them with Parsonpoxy SEL-80 epoxy from Parson Environmental.

Keeping lines open is another challenge. When an inspection crew finds a buildup of roots, a call goes out and one of five hydrocleaning crews responds immediately. After using a root cutter

with a spiral saw blade to clear the heaviest blockage, they remove the blade and attach a set of 1/2inch cable brushes to remove the remaining buildup without harming the walls.

A contractor treats 100,000 feet of pipe per year with Sanafoam herbicide from Vaporooter. "We spot-check the results six months later," says Winchester. "If the kill is good, we wait a few years before treating the line again."

Attacking grease

Grease from residential laterals is the prime reason for FOG buildup on sewer main walls. A call from an inspection team brings a hydrocleaning crew on the double. They use trucks from Aquatech (a division of Hi-Vac Corporation), Super Products (Camel), and Vac-Con carrying tools from O'Brien Mfg. (a division of Hi-Vac Corporation), Shamrock Pipe Tools



Flow monitoring technician Archie Richardson prepares to enter a manhole to do urethane grouting. Maintenance operators Jay Smith, left, and Randy Tadlock assist.

MORE INFO:

Aries Industries, Inc. 800/234-7205 www.ariesindustries.com (See ad page 7)

Avanti International 800/877-2570 www.avantigrout.com (See ad page 24)

Certified Laboratories 800/527-9929 www.certifiedlabs.com

CUES, Inc. 800/327-7791 www.cuesinc.com (See ad page 29)

Hi-Vac Corporation 800/752-2400 www.hi-vac.com (See ad page 25)

Infor Public Sector/ **Hansen Technologies** 800/821-9316 www.infor.com

LMK Technologies 815/433-1275 www.performanceliner.com (See ad page 67)

Inc. and USB - Sewer Equipment Corp. Tools include root cutters, saw blades, brushes and chain flails.

A major concern for Winchester was grease accumulating in easement lines with no access. "We had to think of something as we couldn't find an answer anywhere," he says. "Scott Branch, the lift station supervisor, said that he used Flow-Mate (Certified Laboratories) to cut grease in the wet wells. We tried it on two lines in 2009 and it worked great."

A technician punches a small hole in the two-gallon jug and suspends it in a manhole. The product, dripping into the flow line, dissolves grease downstream.

The need to reach leaks beyond the limit of 500-foot grout hoses led the city to invest in the Performance Liner sectional process for point repairs of radial cracks and fractured pipes, and the T-liner system for repairing broken connections at the main. Both products are from LMK Technologies. A dedicated four-man crew works manhole to manhole with the liner trailer and a CUES camera van.

Winchester finds it gratifying to see how well the crews work together. "They accomplish a lot in a safe, productive manner," he says. "They are the city's front line, the people who make things happen." ◆

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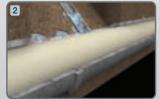


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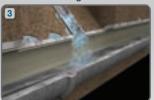
Lateral Grouting with Liner Installed



Leaking lateral



Liner installed



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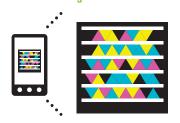


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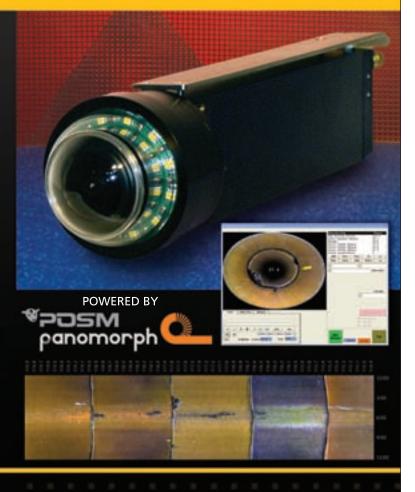
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SEALING THE DEAL

A court-ordered I&I control program in the City of Milwaukee includes a regular program on manhole inspection and repair that pays many dividends

By Erik Gunn

n 2004, multiple storms in Milwaukee caused a series of overflows that sent untreated sewage into waterways that empty into Lake Michigan. While the area sewerage district's "deep tunnel" inline storage system helped keep the number of overflows down, it was impossible to eliminate them.



A tool is used to tighten the steel bands on the chimney seal.

Inflow and infiltration of stormwater runoff into the sanitary sewer was a big contributor to the problem. In response, the 28 communities that comprise the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) are looking at ways to

For the district's biggest member, the City of Milwaukee, manholes have been a big area of focus. As part of a legal settlement reached in 2005 between the Wisconsin Department of Justice and the 28 MMSD municipalities, Milwaukee has launched a citywide program to inspect and repair its 22,824 manholes.

Inspecting about 20 percent of its inventory every year for the past five, the city has looked closely at all those manholes. This year the city will make repairs on the final 20 percent of manholes, while also beginning a new fiveyear-round of inspections.

It's a project that brings a certain satisfaction, says Timothy Thur, chief sewer design manager for the city. A solid manhole inspection and repair program "is a good cost-benefit project," he says. "It's clear up front that we can do the work — it's in the public right-of-



City crew members Wayne Zwicker (left) and Brandon Ottson prepare to install a second set of compression bands on a manhole chimney seal from Cretex Specialty Products. (Photography by Erik

way, it's relatively straightforward, and you can remove a lot of I&I by doing that. It's low-hanging fruit."

Facing the elements

Manhole rehabilitation has long been a part of the city's public works agenda, encouraged by sewerage district mandates to reduce stormwater in the sanitary sewer system. Programs have gone as far back as the 1970s and 1980s. In those years, dye and smoke testing found manhole chimney defects that required repairs.

As a snowbelt city, Milwaukee endures annual freezing and thawing, and so do its manholes. The expansion and contraction of bricks and concrete can crack the manhole chimneys and shift the positions of the iron manhole frames.

"This section of the manhole is usually constructed with brick or concrete rings that are a couple of inches thick and have mortar joints between the layers," says Kurt Sprangers, a city engineer who works on the manhole inspecPROFILE: City of Milwaukee (Wis.) Department of Public Works

POPULATION SERVED: 602,000

SERVICE AREA: 96 square miles

INFRASTRUCTURE: 2,446 miles of sewer mains (940 sanitary, 961 storm, 547 combined); 22,824 manholes

ANNUAL BUDGET: nance, capital and operating)

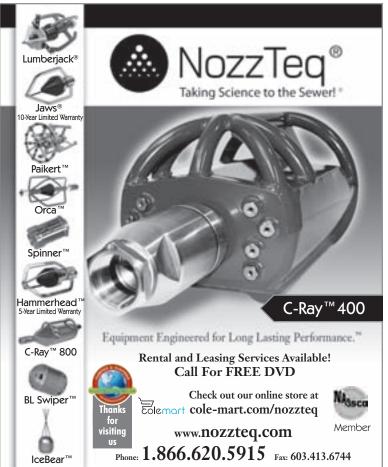
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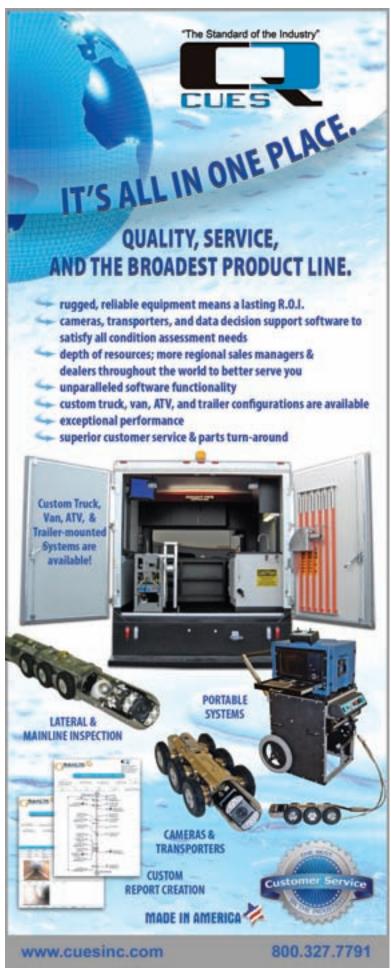
www.city.milwaukee.gov

tion and repair program. "Therefore you have several joints between the brick or rings located in the freeze/thaw zone that could potentially deteriorate and become an opportunity for clear water to enter the sanitary system."

Because of that, starting about two decades ago, the city began requiring the installation of internal chimney seals on manholes. (continued)















Kurt Sprangers

Products, based in nearby Waukesha, and NPC Inc., now Trelleborg Pipe Seals Milford, in Milford, N.H.

chimney rubble from the manhole area.

Legal resolution

The current round of inspection and repairs grew out of a court settlement with the state after the 2004 overflows. The litigation arose from alleged violations of permits issued by the state Department of Natural Resources. The 2005 settlement of that suit between the state and the 28 communities in MMSD required a manhole inspection program, followed by repairs within 18 months of the inspection.

The lawsuit and the resulting inspection program apply only to the city's separate sanitary sewer system, not to the combined sewers that serve about 36 percent of the city's wastewater collection needs, primarily in older parts of the city.

With nearly 23,000 manholes, "There was no way to do it in one year, especially from a budget standpoint," Thur says. Instead the staff divided the city into five sectors from north to south and inspected 4,000 to 5,000 manholes a year starting in 2006. The year after inspection in each sector, crews followed up with rehabilitation as needed.

Milwaukee contracts with private firms to inspect and repair manholes. For the inspection, twomember crews go out with system maps to each assigned manhole. "They take a couple of pictures of the manhole from the surface with

"It's clear up front that we can do the work — it's in the public right-of-way, it's relatively straightforward, and you can remove a lot of I&I by doing that. It's low-hanging fruit."

Timothy Thur

the lid closed, so you can see pavement cracks around it," Sprangers says. "Then they take pictures of the interior of the manhole from the surface — from street grade."

As the contractors inspect the site, they enter data into laptop computers loaded with the city's own database. "They fill out about 40 pieces of information about each manhole," Sprangers says. Questions cover everything from the condition of the manhole lid and frames to the need, if any, for substantial repairs.

"We've been installing chimney seals on any new manhole installations or when replacing existing sewers," says Thur.

The seals consist of rubber sleeves held in place by stainless steel expansion bands and cover the seam or seams between the manhole frame and the masonry rings and manhole chimney.

Installation and replacement can be completed in just a few minutes. After releasing the expansion bands on an old seal and using a tool such as a crowbar to pry off the rubber, workers then apply quick-set patching mortar if needed to smooth out the interior of the chimney where the seal will go. The new rubber seal is positioned against the manhole frame and the chimney area and then held in place with the two or more expansion bands, which can be tightened with a hydraulic or manually operated tool.

"We prefer internal seals so that they can be inspected, and removed or replaced as needed," Sprangers says. Replacing external seals requires excavation around the manhole chimney.

The city's principal chimney seal suppliers are Cretex Specialty

INSPECTION WITH A MOUSE

To help make inspections run more smoothly and consistently, the City of Milwaukee has gone digital. The city uses a database built in Microsoft Access to compile the information inspectors collect on each manhole, explains Kurt Sprangers, an engineer with the Department of Public Works who oversees the manhole inspection and repair program.

"In the last three years or so, we decided we didn't even want the paper copies of the survey from the inspection contractors," Sprangers says. "We only work with the database version. The inspectors enter it directly into a laptop, and that information gets fed back to us at the end of the contract."

Owning Access is a condition that qualifies bidders on inspection contracts. The city then provides the contractor with a blank template and database of the list of manholes and their precise locations, derived from the city's GIS.

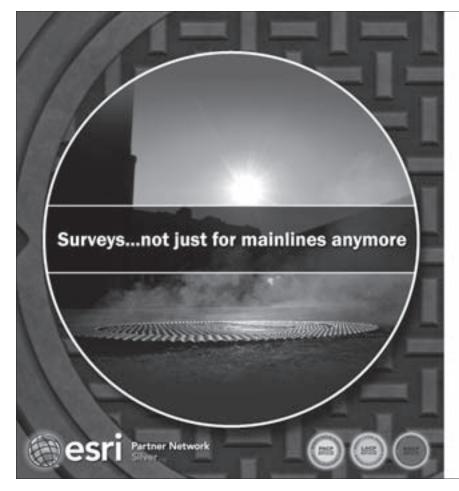
The program is designed to set up a cascading list of decisions and specifications as appropriate. For instance, an inspector who determines that a chimney needs replacing takes note of the needed materials (two feet of brickwork, say), and flags the need to remove the frame while the work proceeds and to install new chimney seals.

"It builds upon what previous work has already been determined is needed," Sprangers says. "So when we have our final quantities of materials for the manhole, it lists all the work that needs to be done for that specific manhole based on the answers."

The database makes it easy to double-check inspection accuracy. It also means faster assembly of the rehabilitation contract, says Timothy Thur, chief sewer design manager. "It automates the whole process," Thur says, "so that we can take the 4,500 manholes we inspected in a year and put together the list of work in a day or two, versus weeks at a time."

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"They inspect the condition of the existing seal, if there is one, or notify us if there is no seal," Sprangers says. Inspectors look for damaged brickwork and concrete in manhole chimneys and for other I&I indicators, such as calcium buildup or water stains.

The inspection proceeds down the barrel of the manhole to the flow line and the bench. Inspectors record measurements including the depth of the manhole and the chimney diameter.

Up to now, the city has not included pole camera or other specialty sewer camera work in its manhole inspections - only standard digital cameras. Those became the standard in the 1990s as the city made its manhole inspection process more detailed and standardized. The pictures have helped ensure accuracy in the inspection reports.

Three out of four

In the past three years, roughly three of every four manholes inspected have required at least some repairs. "A lot of times it's very minor - just replacing a manhole cover with a cover that has a solid lid — no venting holes of any kind," Sprangers says. Solid covers, instead of those with vents

More troubling, though, was the number of manholes for which the tops had become misaligned with the rest of the barrel by as much as six inches to a foot, often from repaying mishaps. Inspections found as many as 100 to 150 such cases per year.

"A lot of manholes did require digging up and fixing that top foot of chimney and frame," Thur says. "That surprised me. The whole frame shifts over so it creates gaps where water can get in." The shifts also make it more difficult for workers to enter manholes. Frost heave, meanwhile, creates mostly vertical dislocation.

Making it better

As work has progressed, technology has changed. For instance, chimney seals were once just 6 to 8 inches deep and had to be stacked one atop another to stop leaks that went deeper down the manhole barrel. Today, seals are available in a wide range of sizes, to as deep as 24 inches if needed.

The city has also changed how it writes its repair contracts. "We learned early on that we had to limit how many manholes could be worked on at any one given time," says Thur.

The city also sets strict time limits for completion. "We had

"They take a couple of pictures of the manhole from the surface with the lid closed, so you can see pavement cracks around it. Then they take pictures of the interior of the manhole from the surface — from street grade."

Kurt Sprangers

for sewer gas, have become the city's standard.

"In our system there's enough movement of the water, there's enough pitch in the sewers, that we don't see a buildup of sewer gases," Sprangers says. Besides solid covers, the MMSD requires the city to put rubber gaskets under each manhole lid.

Some repairs demand a lot more than a new lid — perhaps new chimney seals or even partial or complete rebuilding of the chimney. Thur says the most reassuring finding from the inspection program has been how few manholes had to be completely replaced. "Every year we might have done 10 to 15 replacements for the whole manhole," he says.

neighborhoods where they had 100 manholes open and streets cut up around the manholes," says Thur. "They were sitting for too long a time, and residents were getting very frustrated."

Now, contractors are required to do the jobs in smaller batches, perhaps 20 at a time, and to complete them faster. The city also has tightened specifications for how much pavement contractors should remove around a manhole. "We sit down with the city construction inspectors annually and discuss what's working and not working on our contracts," says Thur. "Then we try to modify it to make the work go smoothly, have less impact on the residents, and make it easier for the work to get done in



An example of deterioration in a manhole needing rehabilitation.

ate the program and tweak it as necessary based on consultations with inspection and rehabilitation contractors, and on feedback from the city's own inspectors. "Each year it's gotten to be an easier project, because of that continuing evaluation and improvement," Thur says.

Thur's office, the environmental engineering section, also stays in regular touch with the transportation group in charge of street repairs to coordinate manhole and other sewer repairs with street work as much as possible.

A job worth doing

The inspection program started out at an annual cost of nearly \$200,000, but that has dropped to about \$125,000 a year. For repair contracts, the city has budgeted \$2.5 million a year for each of the past four years. Thur thinks that figure will drop when the city returns to re-inspect areas already inspected and repaired previously.

The biggest challenge is probably the sheer size of the program. That translates to a huge volume of data for each manhole. "Trying to keep track of all that gets a little challenging," Thur says. But the project has its rewards.

"You'd come across sites where you could see a sanitary manhole in a depression with a hole in the lid or something like that," says Sprangers. "That was a situation where you knew water was getting in, and now you're out there actively resolving that issue. It was something that was visibly fixable."

While Milwaukee's manhole inspection program was imposed by the court, Thur is "absolutely" glad to have undertaken it. While he can't yet point to hard numbers to quantify the benefits, he knows they exist. "The city has experienced a number of large storms the last few years," he says. "We're seeing an awful lot of homes that get backwater as a result of it.

"When it's happening to a homeowner two or three years in a row, it's very frustrating, for them and for us. This is something that we can do. It's not going to solve all the problems, but it certainly eliminates some sources of the problem."

Manhole inspection and repair also has benefits beyond I&I reduction. "It helps the street itself," Thur says. "It helps prevent potential liabilities, such as when a cover sinks in, cars drive over it, and the city gets claims for car damage. It just made good sense to do it." ♦

MORE INFO:

Cretex Specialty Products 800/345-3764 www.cretexseals.com (See ad page 18)

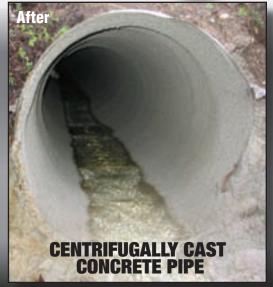
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The UV light train cures a segment of 12-inch liner. (Photos courtesy of Dexal Construction)

LET THERE **BE LIGHT**

A UV-cured liner enables a California contractor to rehabilitate a critical trunk sewer with minimal bypassing and no disruptive excavating

By Scottie Dayton

"In places, the material accounted for one-quarter of the pipe's diameter, and it had the consistency of asphalt. It was extremely cantankerous and didn't want to come out."

Pasqual Hernandez

orkers cleaning the Palmetto Avenue trunk line in Pacifica, Calif., began bringing back large pieces of the asbestos concrete pipe with their Warthog spinner nozzle (StoneAge Tools).

They immediately shut down the operation and called for the inspection crew. A SuperVision 140 system from Envirosight revealed that hydrogen sulfide gas had corroded 0.75 to 1 inch of the 1.5-inchthick crown. Furthermore, cleaning the pipe was causing the layers to delaminate.

Brian Martinez, manager of the Pacifica Sanitary Sewer Collection System Division, and Maria Aguilar, P.E., associate engineer, researched solutions. Martinez had read European studies on fiberglass-reinforced UV-cured liners. Looking for U.S. manufacturers, he found LightStream LP in San Diego and a list of certified installers.

"With more than half the crown of the sewer missing, we needed a liner with structural strength," says Martinez. "ASTM D790 tests showed that the Stream-LinerUV had a flexural modulus of more than 1.8 million psi and a flexural strength of more than 60,000 psi. Furthermore, the UVcure process significantly reduces

bypass time, which lessens the chance of SSOs."

Another major factor was the Calera Creek Water Recycling Plant, which uses autothermal aerobic digesters. Martinez was concerned that contaminants from styrene-based polyester resins would kill the extremely sensitive nitrifying organisms.

Lining 8,996 feet of the 9,100foot sewer was one of the city's largest infrastructure upgrades since the early 1980s. Despite unexpected obstacles, working at night and on steep hills, and never having installed UV-cured liners before, Dexal Construction Inc. in

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PRODUCT:

StreamLinerUV-cured fiberglass reinforced lining system

APPLICATION:

Rehabilitation of buried pipelines

BENEFITS:

Enables large and lasting repairs without excavation

City of Pacifica, Calif.

MANUFACTURER:

LightStream, LP 619/671-0445 www.lightstreamliner.com Santa Rosa, Calif., completed the work safely and successfully.

Big and mean

The trunk line moves much of the city's waste. Its failure would cause major property and environmental damage. The sewer begins as 2,400 feet of 12-inch pipe with multiple 6-inch mains. As it runs downhill to a pump station, it increases to 1,650 feet of 15-inch pipe. The last transition is 5,050 feet of 18-inch pipe. The pipes change diameters at manholes.



The 13-foot-long light train includes eight UV lights. Joe Kauwe from the North Marin Water District in Novato, Calif., watches the liner installation.

The project began with the 18-inch segment along Palmetto Avenue. The sewer's height made it necessary to work at night. "We didn't start traffic control until 7 p.m.," says Pasqual (Paz) Hernandez, general manager for Dexal Construction. "We began bypassing sewage between 8 and 9 p.m., and had to finish before 8 a.m. when heavy flows resumed."

Once crews bypassed a segment, city workers cleaned it using a Vac-Con combination sewer cleaner (3,000 psi/55 gpm), fitted with a C-Ray bottom-cleaner nozzle (NozzTeq) with downward-facing jets to avoid delaminating more pipe. Upstream of most 90-degree turns, they encountered 3-inchthick deposits of impacted sediment extending one or two feet.

"In places, the material accounted for one-quarter of the pipe's diameter, and it had the consistency of asphalt," says Hernandez. "It was extremely cantankerous and didn't want to come out."

City crews used a chain flail nozzle (ENZ USA) to fracture the sediment, then flushed out the pieces with the C-Ray nozzle. Some deposits took all night to remove, extending the project from the expected one-month duration to one-and-a-half months.

Before installing a liner, the inspection team guaranteed that the pipe was spotless with no protruding taps that would interfere with the pull. The longest run was 641 feet of 18-inch liner.



Rory Simon, a LightStream consultant, tightens the straps that hold the folded-back liner nose together.

Down the hole

Although Hernandez and his crew were experienced with cured-in-place pipe felt liners, this was their first job after certifying as StreamLinerUV installers. Consequently, LightStream sent consultants Rory Simon and Ron Evergreen to oversee the project.

The wetted-out liners, weighing 9 to 12 pounds per foot, arrived from the San Diego factory wrapped in UV-protective yellow foil and folded in crates. The 18-inch liners were 6-mm thick, and the 12- and 15-inch liners were 5-mm thick. The shrinkage factor was zero to 0.2 percent.

To install the liners, two workers laid a roller assembly over a manhole, set up two tables behind it, and used a forklift to position a crate behind the second table. A drum in back of that table held 200-mm white sliding foil, which protected the liner and facilitated its passage as it was dragged along the pipe.

The sliding foil went under the liner as it was delivered onto the table, where the crew folded it in half so the width fit over the roller and went down the manhole. They then folded the nose back over a nylon choker with a cable attachment and secured the nose with two nylon straps. Hernandez used a 505 Condux winch rated at 5.5 tons to pull the liners from downstream to upstream manholes. Installation moved slowly, an average of 10 feet per minute, to protect the liner.

Air and light

When the liner reached the other manhole, the crew freed it, but left enough material to slip over round cylindrical cans called gate valves, one in each end of the liner. They were duct-taped, then winched down with a ratchet strap for an airtight seal.

"I inflated the liner to 8 psi from the command station in the liner truck parked at the downstream manhole," says Hernandez. "The crew then removed the upstream can to insert the 13-footlong Light Train and reattached the can. Then I pressurized the liner again."

As the men pulled a rope attached to the light source, a camera on each end of it enabled Hernandez to inspect the liner for imperfections and fit. "If something were wrong, I could collapse the liner and fix the problem," he says. The cameras found no imperfections.

Communicating by two-way radio, Hernandez told workers when to stop pulling as the light source reached the end of the liner. After setting certain fields in the operating program, he ignited the eight UV lights and the computer controlled the speed of the cable reel, which pulled the lights upstream as they cured the resin.

Gravity rules

A hillside easement with 20 percent slope at the uppermost segment was the most challenging of the 12-inch installations. "We saved that run for last to give us time to plan the secondary bypass requirements," says Hernandez. "The topmost and middle manholes each had two 6-inch mains, and two laterals tied in along the easement. The setup required seven pumps." To avoid adding more pumps, Hernandez used a single 250-foot-long liner and pulled it through the middle manhole.

His crew worked nonstop to complete the setup and bypass and position the liner. The most crucial aspect was winching it into the downstream manhole, then holding the liner against the pull of gravity. "If we hadn't set chocks in the manhole, the liner would have been skating down the pipe," says Hernandez. It took 24 hours to complete the job, including reinstatements.

Final inspections of the pipe showed that the liner had formed a slick, smooth surface. The trunk line was rehabilitated with no sewer overflows or safety incidents. •

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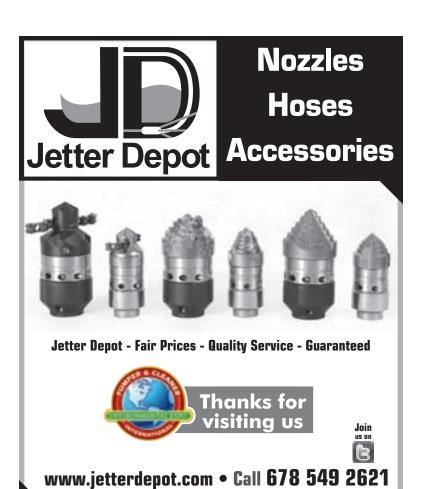
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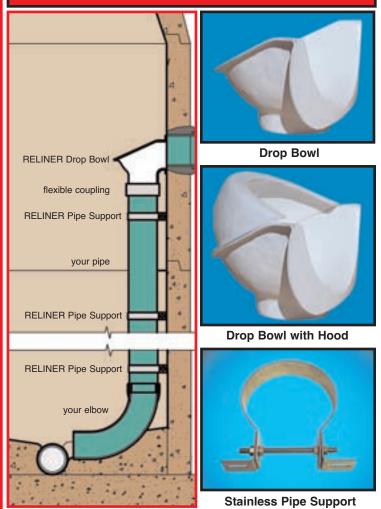
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2011 EXPO

THE LATEST ON DISPLAY

Last Pumper & Cleaner Expo in Louisville features a wide range of new products for municipal and utility applications

By Ted J. Rulseh

he 31st Annual Pumper & Cleaner Environmental Expo International closed a four-year run in Louis-ville with 3,644 companies, cities and utilities represented and 8,286 total attendees. The Expo moves to Indianapolis for 2012, running Feb. 27 to March 1 at the Indiana Convention Center.

The 2011 Expo offered a full slate of educational seminars spread over three days and included 477 exhibits of new and familiar products and technologies. Here is a sampling of the new offerings on display for municipal and utility professionals in charge of cleaning and maintaining underground infrastructure:



Versatile vacuum truck

The **Baron** industrial vacuum truck from **Keith Huber** combines the safety and deep vacuum power of a liquid ring pump with high airflow and quiet operation. It fills a need for highway transportation of larger payloads.

The truck offers high power with innovative vacuum and filtration technology in an operator-friendly package that is conservatively priced. The liquid ring pump makes it safe to use in pumping hydrocarbons. The unit's light weight allows for larger payloads. A standard remote control allows operation away from the control cabinet. 228/832-0992; www.keithhuber.com.



Wireless base station

The K2 Summit wireless base station portable video inspection from CUES includes a compact, lightweight, weatherproof enclosure that mounts in an ATV, pickup truck, trailer or van. Wireless control enables operation of the system from any angle at a distance up to 100 feet. A partition separates the video cable reel with tractor and camera storage from the power control unit, monitor, and computer-based data acquisition system. The system operates all CUES wheeled and tracked transporters to accommodate inspection of pipes from 6 to 200 inches. All controllers, the TV monitor, and power control are rack-mounted to maximize ergonomic operation and are protected by a sealed, lockable hatch. 800/327-7791; www.cuesinc.com.



Three-stage fan system

The **AllJetVac** combination sewer cleaner from **Vacall** uses a three-stage fan system for high vacuum performance and reliability at reduced cost. The vacuum and jetting system lets users cost-effectively open clogged sewer lines and remove debris.

The AllSmartFlow CAN bus control system lets operators make precise adjustments in boom movement. Units are available with 6- to 12-cubic-yard debris tanks and 1,000- to 1,500-gallon water tanks. The 8-foot 6-inch extending boom has 320-degree rotation. Blower and water pump choices include an 85 gpm/2,000 psi water pump with 30-minute run-dry guarantee. 330/339-2211; www.vacall industries.com.



Lateral launch system

The LISY 3.0 lateral launcher from RapidView IBAK North America includes an articulating launcher mounted on a crawler with multiple wheelsets and high-strength folding waterproof connector. The lateral camera includes pan-and-tilt capability and an L-stick that allows steering around fittings. Cable protection helps avoid cable damage and repair. Auxiliary lighting with super-bright LEDs is available for lines up to 24 inches. The system is expandable for 6- to 48-inch mainlines. 800/ 656-4225; www.rapidview.com.



Enhanced vacuum truck

The Guzzler NX vacuum truck from Guzzler Mfg. has been redesigned to enhance productivity and achieve a more attractive price. The cyclone and baghouses are configured together to maximize efficiency and reduce overall weight. An increased filter area and offline cleaning extend bag life while forcing carryover back to the debris tank. Seventytwo 70-inch bags provide a low 4:1 air-to-cloth ratio, keeping the system clean and filtered for reliable performance and high productivity.

The truck carries a Robuschi blower delivering 5,435 cfm with vacuum capability to 28 inches Hg. The blower, combined with simple air routing, makes more air available at the hose inlet and so moves more material. The large blower lets users load more material at a lower engine rpm, conserving fuel and reducing noise. The truck has a Tested Operating Sound Level of 88.9 dB per SAE [1372 test. 815/672-3171; www.guzzler.com.



Pavement cutter

The PRO-CUTTER Model 1060 from Cretex Specialty Products reduces the labor required to remove a manhole frame from asphalt or concrete pavement. It quickly cuts a 60-inch round hole using carbine or diamond bits. The system mounts to a heavy-duty skidsteer or track loader. Electric-over-hydraulic controls operated by joystick-mounted pushbuttons simplify operation. The device also has an adjustable automatic feed rate and internal guards for safe operation. 800/345-3764; www. cretexseals.com.



Hydrostatic drive

The PFT-PCH/3000 transmission from OMSI Transmissions is designed for trucks from 26 to 42 tons and offers torque-mechanical drive of 30,000 Nm, torque-hydrostatic drive of 9,200 Nm, and power-pump output of 380 kW. The transmission has multiple outputs available, including a creep drive for high-rail vehicle applications.

The reduction box has a mounting flange for a hydraulic motor that connects to a pump operated by the diesel engine or from the transmission, permitting the conversion, in a working load at low speed, of the vehicle's traction from mechanical to hydrostatic. A wide range of ratios up to 14.6 allows very low speed and the opportunity to use a small-displacement hydro motor or electric motor, keeping a high-output torque during hydrostatic drive. 330/405-7530; www.omsitransmissions.com.



Manhole repair trailer

The Sewer Manhole Masters trailer from Standard Cement is designed for onthe-spot repairs of manholes, lift stations and stormwater pipes and can be used for pipeline abandonment, cement mortar placement, and cement slurry fill. Equipment comes mounted on a 20-foot, 12,000-pound GVW trailer with 7,000-pound axle capacity. Equipment includes an S5G cement pump with 18 hp Honda engine and 11 cfm air compressor and BG Stone mixer with 5.5-cubic-foot capacity. 888/278-1337; www.standardcement.com.



Turbo chain cutter

The \$400 turbo chain cutter from **USB-Sewer Equipment Corp.** includes userfriendly attachments including a chain retainer, barrel cutter and mineral deposit cutters to remove roots, protruding laterals and hard deposits from sewers. A continuously adjustable guide skid accommodates pipes from 8 to 15 inches, and up to 24 inches with an additional expansion kit.

High-performance turbine technology and sealed bearings deliver extremely high torque and rotation speed. The mostly stainless steel tool is lightweight and low maintenance, requiring no lubrication. Operators can handle the tool easily and can quickly change attachments in the field. The cutter can be used with recycled water. 770/984-8880; www.usbsec.com.



Water-recycling cleaner

The CAP-RECY sewer cleaner from Cappellotto recycles jetting water as it cleans the pipe. The system reduces refills for clean water, limiting cleaning downtime.

The truck can work without shutting off secondary lines and can operate with high water volume in sewers. Multistep filtration removes impurities from recycled water and safeguards the high-pressure water pump. www.cappellotto.com.



Lateral junction seal

The Cosmic TOP-HAT system securely seals the junction between sewer laterals and mainlines. The system includes repair robots, applicators, and a seamless insert laminate, allowing pipes to be rehabilitated from the inside in a few simple steps. The glass fiber laminate liner cures in seven minutes using UV light. 424/288-9053; www.cosmic.at.



Pump package

Duplex grinder pump packages from Liberty Pumps are available in sizes to fit applications from residential to small municipal. The factory-assembled systems are controlled by the IP-Series intelligent panel with floatless technology. The D3648-Series (shown) includes a 36- by 48-inch (depth) fiberglass basin with two 2 hp grinder pumps. 800/543-2550; www.libertypumps.com.



Sewer pipe plugs

High Performance municipal pipe plugs from Sava are designed for use where higher backpressures are present or whenever a robust, heavy-duty plug is desirable. The plugs can be used with protective sleeves to achieve the thickest available rubber for difficult situations. A variety of sizes and flow-through designs are available. 386/760-0706; www.savatech.com.



Wheeled lateral camera

The wheeled Lateral Evaluation Television System (LETS) from Aries Industries enables mainline and lateral inspections in challenging conditions. It combines robust pulling capability with fast and efficient camera launching. A 4- or 6-wheel steerable drive design helps negotiate debris in 8-inch and larger pipes. Various wheel styles and sizes are available to suit pipe conditions. Two high-resolution cameras provide video detail on mainlines and laterals. The lateral camera is easily retrieved with an automatic rewind reel. 800/ 234-7205; www.ariesindustries.com.



Green jetting truck

An **800-HPR** truck jet with the Eco Jet System, built by Sewer Equipment Co. of America for the City of Fort Wayne, Ind., has a hybriddrive chassis from International designed to conserve fuel both in road travel and on job sites.

Regenerative braking charges a battery system that provides power assist to the engine during travel and also enables the crew to shut off the engine during job setup, using battery power when laying out traffic control, deploying the hose reel, extending the hose, affixing nozzles, and jetting at up to 30 gpm. 847/729-3316; www.sewerequipment.com.

Carbide cutter

Carbide-tipped root cutters from Cloverleaf Tool Co. have carbide teeth and carbide grit for cutting PVC taps or roots from sewer lines. 941/739-0707; www.cloverleaftool.com. ◆

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- 10. David Letterman is from Indianapolis, so Top Ten lists are everywhere.
- 9. If they can handle 80,000 Super Bowl fans, 15,000 Pumper & Cleaners should be doable.
- 8. 4,700 hotel rooms connected to the convention center that's nearly 2,000 more than Opryland.
- 7. Over 200 restaurants, bars, and entertainment options all within walking distance close walking distance.
- Climate controlled skywalks mean never having to wear a coat - or scarf, or mittens, or stocking cap.
- 5. Send your significant other shopping the Convention Center is attached to a mall!
- 4. No matter what state you are from, there's only one way to pronounce "Indianapolis".
- 3. The last major crime spree in the city was by Indianapolis native John Dillinger in 1931.
- 2. 35 cities fly non-stop to Indy's brand-new airport opened in November 2008.
- 1. Horses don't race there, cars do!





HOW BIG IS THAT OVERFLOW?

By Ted J. Rulseh

hen you see a manhole gushing, how do you estimate the size of the overflow? The Southern Section Collection Systems Committee, a part of the California Water Environment Federation, is offering collection system operators in that state a simple visual tool for estimating (see photos).

These handy rulers picture manhole overflows gauged at various flow rates in gallons per minute (gpm). The intent is to help collection personnel accurately determine the severity of overflows they encounter in the field.

For years, says SSCSC representative Jim Aanderud, collection

personnel have been using pictures from overflow simulations taken 12 to 15 years ago. "For various reasons, those pictures were not great," he says. "SSCSC decided to re-shoot these pictures at a local water district.

"The pictures start at 5 gpm and go up to 400 gpm. What's different about them is that we include not only a close-up of the water spilling out of the manhole,

but also a picture showing the surrounding wet area.

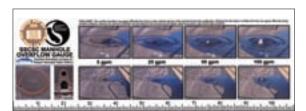
"Our intent is for every collection person in California to have one of these rulers so they can better gauge the quantity of water coming out of a manhole during a sewer overflow. The estimating of quantity is very important, because that is what is reported to the EPA, and fines are levied according to the number of gallons released."

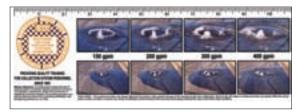
Share Your Brainstorms

Have you found a way to make your work life easier or more efficient? *Municipal Sewer & Water* would like to share your ideas through this occasional column. E-mail your Brainstorms ideas to editor@mswmag.com.

The SSCSC is printing 8,000 to 10,000 rulers to be handed out to collection system personnel. ◆

This Manhole Overflow Gauge helps collection system personnel estimate the size of sanitary sewer overflows in gallons per minute.

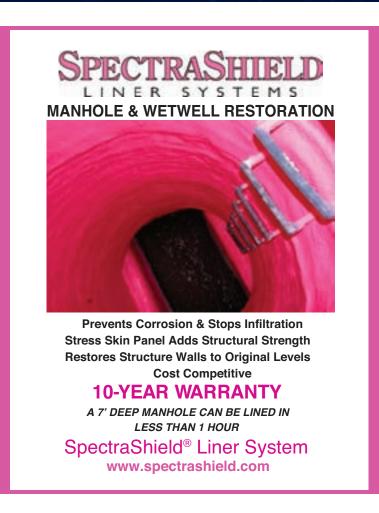








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WHEN THE TIME **IS RIGHT**

Pipe Renewal Planner software from Bentley Systems helps water system managers develop sound, data-based plans for resolving water distribution reliability issues

By Ted J. Rulseh

key to maintaining water distribution assets is knowing when to replace or rehabilitate aging pipes or address system reliability issues in other ways. Historically, such

decisions have been based on rules of thumb, intuition and experience.

Now, a software tool from Bentley Systems gives managers a way to make decisions using data and quantifiable, reproducible best

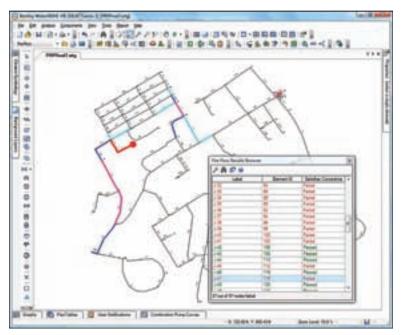


FIGURE 2. Fire Flow Analysis. The red dot indicates a hydrant location. Red lines indicate problem pipes. The chart shows pipe segments that passed and failed.

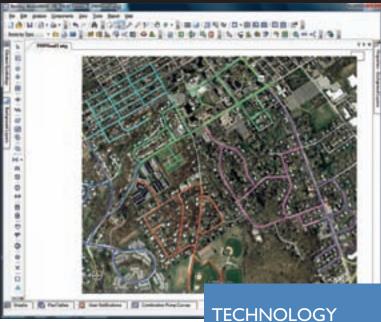


FIGURE I. Distribution System Map. Water pipes are overlaid on an aerial photo. Pipe colors indicate sections of the distribution system built at different times and from different materials. (Screen captures courtesy of Bentley Systems)

practices. The software tool produces rankings that help managers identify the pipes most likely to have an impact on system reliability and set priorities for repairs, system modifications or upgrades.

The software module can rank pipes based on criteria such as their year of installation, materials of construction, break history, hydraulic performance, fire flow capacity and criticality.

The information helps managers improve asset planning, increase distribution capacity, and maximize return on capital, while helping to decrease pipe breaks, leakage, lost revenues and outages.

The Pipe Renewal Planner module is included with the latest release of Bentley's WaterGEMS distribution modeling tool and is an add-on for the latest version of the company's WaterCAD distribution modeling and management application. Tom Walski, senior product manager with Bentley, demonstrated the application in an Internet meeting.

Walk-around

Pipe Renewal Planner is a Micro-

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Pipe Renewal Planner software

MANUFACTURER:

Bentley Systems Inc., Watertown, Conn. 800/727-6555 www.bentley.com

Via Internet

Tom Walski, senior product manager, Bentley Systems

WaterGEMS (which includes the Pipe Renewal Planner module) starts at \$4,995 for a perpetual license; actual price depends on the size of the model

soft Windows-based module that assigns scores and rankings to individual pipes within a water distribution system. It analyzes data already entered into WaterGEMS.

Based on the user's instructions, Pipe Renewal Planner automatically generates flexible, sortable tabular presentations showing pipe rankings based on specific conditions or combinations of criteria. It also creates color-coded distribution system maps that highlight pipe segments of potential concern.

Bentley recommends using the Pipe Renewal Planner module to integrate pipe scoring and ranking as part of the overall asset management process. Users can load the module with their preferred condition-related attributes and assign weights to each. The reports are generated mainly by using simple drop-down menus to select the pipe criteria against which to run the models and to choose the formats of the tabular and map displays.

The software module can rank pipes based on criteria such as their year of installation, materials of construction, break history, hydraulic performance, fire flow capacity and criticality.

Operation

Walski opened WaterGEMS and the Pipe Renewal Planner module and displayed an aerial photograph of a small city with the water distribution system represented by colored "pipes" overlaid on the streets (Figure 1). The layout was of an actual city (not identified), but the water distribution system was fictitious and was designed for software demonstrations.

To make it easier to visualize the water system, Walski turned off the aerial photo layer so that the pipe network appeared in colors on a white background. He pointed out the locations of the water treatment plant, water tank and pump stations. Under his scenario, those facilities were built in the 1920s and 1930s. A green network of piping consisted of cast-iron pipes built in the same period.

Other sections of the system included an addition built hastily with asbestos cement pipe during World War II, a new water tank on a hill added in the late 1940s, another section built in the 1950s with ductile iron pipe, and the most recent addition built in the 1990s using PVC pipe. This scenario encompasses varied types of pipe at different ages and covers a range of reliability issues.

Walski then demonstrated the use of the software to display scores and rankings of pipe segments based on three separate reliability criteria — fire flow analysis, criticality and pipe break history.

He began by using the menus to generate a view of fire flow analysis. The software automatically pulled data from WaterGEMS to generate a table listing pipes that did and did not meet the community's fire flow criteria. He then created a corresponding map on which a red dot represented a fire hydrant location and red lines indicated pipes with limited fire flow (Figure 2).

The chart listed pipes as "passed" and "failed" according to the fire flow criteria; the pipe colors represented the flow velocity and indicated the locations of bottlenecks. The most problematic pipes appeared as red. (Walski noted that users can customize the color-coding to suit their preferences.)

Walski then used the menus to rank pipes according to criticality - in essence how many homes would be without water or experience low pressure if a given pipe were to break or be taken out of service.

He first used the software to identify areas of the system capable of being isolated by valving and then ran the criticality analysis. The resulting table listed the

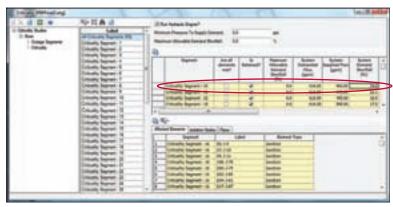


FIGURE 3. Pipe Segment Criticality Analysis. Pipes are ranked according to the shortfall in flow if a given segment were to fail. Note that if criticality Segment 16 were to fail, more than 20 percent of residents would have no water or would see reduced pressure.

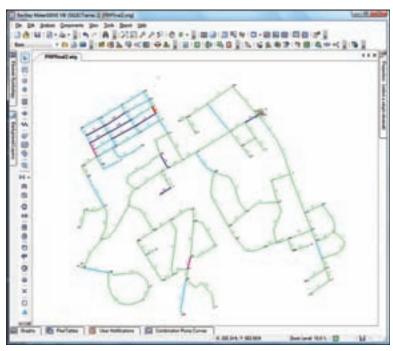


FIGURE 4. Pipes With High Break Rates. Red and magenta lines indicate pipes in the water system most prone to breaking.

"The software tells you which pipes have the highest score, and then it's up to utility management to decide what to do about it. The software doesn't take the engineers' judgment out of the picture."

Tom Walski

most critical pipe segments ranked by the water shortfall that would result from their loss (Figure 3).

Next Walski performed a pipe break analysis, which depends on loading the WaterGEMS software with a pipe break history database. "Communities usually have pipe maintenance logs or software from which they can import that data," Walski said. Break projections are based on each specific pipe's history and on the histories of all pipes with similar characteristics.

He generated a table ranking

pipes in descending order, starting with those having the highest rate of breaks per year per mile. A color-coded map showed the most break-prone pipe segments in red and magenta (Figure 4).

To create an overall assessment of pipe reliability, Walski then ran a ranking/scoring operation that combined fire flow, criticality, and break analysis, giving equal weight to each of those three variables. A tabular report listed pipes in descending order from those with the highest (poor-

TECHNOLOGY TEST DRIVE

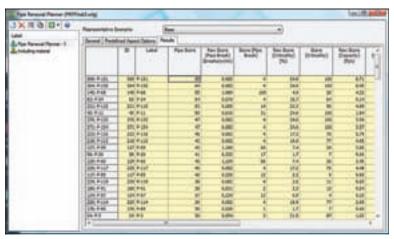


FIGURE 5. Pipe Scores Based on Three Variables. Table shows relative pipe scores based on a combination of fire flow, criticality and break analysis.

est) scores (Figure 5).

Finally, Walski demonstrated how similar pipe scores, tables and color-coded system maps could be generated by adding more criteria, such as material, water-quality complaints (older cast-iron pipes may experience red water or other quality issues), and soil types (expansive clay soils or fault lines can contribute to pipe breakage).

Observer comments

Pipe Renewal Planner appeared easy to use in generating useful pipe scoring reports for assessing water system reliability, so long as the community has accurate data in its underlying software. Charts and color-coded maps enable users to see reliability issues at a glance that otherwise would be difficult to extract and analyze.

The pipe scores alone would not constitute a basis for making decisions on pipe repair or replacement or other system improvements but would provide objective data to use with experience and engineering judgment in planning a system maintenance and rehabilitation strategy.

Manufacturer comments

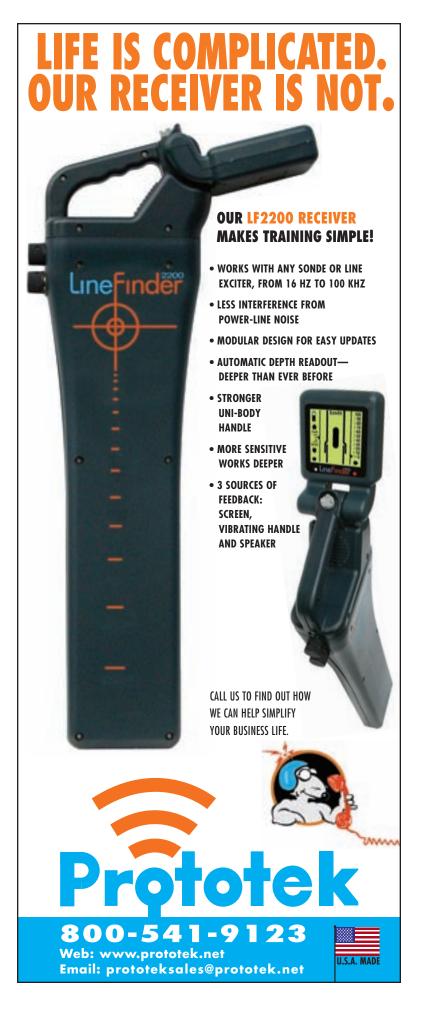
A high pipe score does not necessarily indicate a pipe that must be replaced, Walski observed. For example, a relatively new pipe, in good condition, might have a high score largely because it is

highly critical. In that event, a utility might reconfigure the system to provide multiple feeds to the affected neighborhood and so make the pipe less critical.

"That's the kind of judgment you have to bring to these analyses," Walski said. "The software tells you which pipes have the highest scores, and then it's up to utility management to decide what to do about it. The software doesn't take the engineers' judgment out of the picture.

"It's a good management tool. Rather than just saying, 'I think we ought to do this or that,' you've got a quantitative way of looking at your system. Communities that make decisions strictly by pipe age, for example, get tricked sometimes. They may dig up an old pipe and find that it's in excellent shape, and the next block over there's a 10-year-old pipe that's popping out of the ground."

Walski noted that the Water-GEMS software, and by extension the Pipe Renewal Planner module, scales well to cities of all sizes. "It takes longer to build the distribution model for a mega-city, but these days much of the model building is done automatically from GIS files," he said. "There isn't much manual entry of data anymore. If you have a good-quality GIS, most of the data you need to build a model is in the GIS." ♦



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Chicago-Area Biosolids, Land Application, Dredging and Industrial Services Business. Established in 1985, owner is retiring. Reputable business includes real estate servicing the entire Chicagoland area with sludge and biosolids disposal and treatment services. Real estate and shop included with sale valued at \$750,000, business grosses in excess of \$3 million annually, \$6.3 million in equipment and assets including several TerraGators, Vac Trailers, dump trailers, loaders and much more. \$4,900,000. Huge potential, good profit and priced right. Non-disclosure Agreement required, all P&L statements, list of assets, and financials available to qualified buyers.



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MAKING IT PERSONAL

Building relationships with team members is the key to keeping morale high and sustaining productivity

By Ken Wysocky

ith many municipal departments facing budget cuts and layoffs, low morale and reduced productivity might be serious issues. So what's a manager or supervisor to do?

Management consultant Drew Stevens says there's a simple solution, and it won't cost a dime: Put on some comfortable shoes, take a stroll around your office and field work sites and start to get personal. Get out of your comfort zone and out from behind your desk and meet your team members. Get to know them and what makes them tick.

"The key thing is getting to know staff — being visible," says Stevens, who has provided management and employee development advice for more than 20 years. "We call it management by walking around.

Productivity studies back Stevens up. In particular, he cites a Gallup survey showing that poor supervisor/employee relationships led to higher levels of insubordination, tardiness and absenteeism.

Overcoming suspicion

Stevens concedes that supervisors who have been office hermits for a long time may at first find employees resistant to their sudden change in approach. To get over that hump, he suggests being honest and telling them you're trying to right a wrong.

"Being candid is not a bad thing," Stevens says. "But walk before you run. Do something simple, like have coffee with folks. Or go out and buy them breakfast. People may be a little suspicious, but it's okay to let them know you realize morale is down and you want to put your best foot forward to help

"Go out on their routes or inspections. Get to know what's going on in their lives. Get to understand what motivates them and what their strengths and weaknesses are."

Drew Stevens

"With all the craziness in today's crazy world, managers and supervisors are so busy that they're often not visible. But you're with people for 8 or 10 hours a day, so get off your carcass and start walking around.

"Go out on their routes or inspections. Get to know what's going on in their lives. Get to understand what motivates them and what their strengths and weaknesses are. In the long run, this also will help you determine if they're promotable and in line to help you and the organization in years to come."

make things better."

Overworked managers may feel they just don't have time to make the effort and may fear taking up employees' time and causing them more stress. To avoid those issues, Stevens suggests having quick conversations at the start of a day, or at the end of a shift, when encounters won't be seen as interruptions. "Even a simple, 'How you doing?' is better than nothing at all," he says.

Rewarding and recognizing employees can also get results. No matter how long people have been with an employer, everyone wants to be recognized. "Research supports that when people feel they're part of a collaborative team, they will perform better and work better as a team," he says.

"Sometimes it's as simple as telling them they did a good job. Or giving them something small but personal, like a birthday card. If their hobby is gardening, give them a gift certificate to a garden center, or give movie tickets to a cinema buff. The more personal the reward, the better. Then they know it's coming from the heart."

Benefits abound

Getting to know employees better offers long-term benefits. It often makes it easier for supervisors and employees to have what Stevens calls "crucial conversations" about work issues. When good relationships are in place, it's easier to soothe anxious employees who just lost long-time colleagues to budget cuts.

"In the wake of layoffs, communication is where the rubber meets the road," Stevens says. "You have to tell people that it's unfortunate what happened, but this is what we need to do to function and move forward. That's a much more difficult conversation if you have no relationship with your employees. You must take ownership of the situation - let them know what's happening and why and move forward from there."

The same holds true for confronting people about performance issues. For example, a supervisor who has good relationships with direct reports will have an easier time dealing with situations such as an employee who's chronically

We invite readers to offer ideas for this regular column, designed to help municipal and utility managers deal with day-today people issues like motivation, team building, recognition and interpersonal relationships. Feel free to share your secrets for building and maintaining a cohesive, productive team. Or ask a question about a specific issue on which you would like advice. Call editor Ted Rulseh at 800/257-7222, or e-mail editor@mswmag.com.

tardy. Managers with poor staff relationships may shy away from dealing with the situation, which then spirals downward as staff resentment builds.

Snowball effect

"Employees start to complain that the supervisor or manager doesn't do anything about it, so everyone starts coming in late," Stevens says. "They now have a morale problem that has created a domino effect of productivity issues."

In addition, managers who know their staffs well can better handle employees who bring personal problems to work. In those situations, having that crucial conversation is a must. Sometimes it is easier to have the conversation away from the office, as that shows a personal interest in what's going on.

"Take the employee out for lunch and have the conversation there," Stevens suggests. "Let them know you have concerns about some things you've observed. Maybe they're coming in late or lashing out at fellow employees, and you need to understand what's going on and why.

"It all goes back to building good relationships with employees. If there's no relationship built, things can spiral out of control."

The bottom line: Good relationships can help weather a lot of storms, and that helps minimize turnover. When the chips are down, employees who feel connected and valued are more likely to stick around. As Stevens notes, employees don't leave organizations, they leave bad managers. •

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QUALITY THROUGH CERTIFICATION

NASSCO introduces recertification programs for PACP trainers to help ensure continuous excellence in pipeline assessment

By Ted DeBoda, P.E.

ASSCO has a mantra when it comes to the Pipeline Assessment Certification Program: PACP is only as good as the data. In keeping with our goal to ensure that PACP is consistent and reliable, we are putting a number of new measures in place.

NASSCO has always required certification of PACP trainers. In the past, we offered automatic recertification to trainers based on the number of classes taught, but this did not adequately measure knowledge and experience with PACP or training ability.

New to the process this year is a comprehensive application process and a more structured syllabus that leads the trainers through the program. The testing includes a written knowledge-based exam and an in-class evaluation by a NASSCO-certified master trainer who evaluates the trainer's ability to lead, educate, encourage and instill high-level knowledge among

a class of 10 participants.

All trainers must now become recertified, testing their knowledge and training skills every 18 months. Recertification costs \$250. Good PACP data starts with good training, so maintaining excellent trainers is a high priority.

Another strategy to increase PACP quality is the new user recertification program. Training modules are being developed, and we anticipate an introduction date of June 2011.

cates, it doesn't mean we've retained all the knowledge.

PACP is no different. It is critical that we at NASSCO take responsibility to ensure that professionals assessing pipeline conditions have the most current, up-to-date knowledge and information to maintain the highest levels of quality.

It is also important that cities and organizations budget for user recertification, which will be re-

quired every three years. For a It is critical that we at NASSCO take responsibility to ensure that professionals assessing pipeline conditions

Previously, users who completed the PACP training were not required to test their knowledge. But let's face it - do you remember everything you learned in college or high school? Even though we have the diplomas or certifi-

total cost of \$175 for NASSCO members and \$225 for nonmembers, PACP user recertification training will be offered online and through approved trainers.

Upon completion of the online version, users have to pass a final



exam, proctored at approved local facilities throughout the U.S. and Canada. The online portion will allow users to be refreshed without attending a PACP class or participating at one of our trade show events. It allows users to be tested without incurring long-distance travel or other out-of-office expenses.

Our focus on quality through certification supports successful rehabilitation and repairs and works to further NASSCO's mission to set industry standards for the assessment and rehabilitation of underground pipelines, and to assure the continued acceptance of trenchless technologies. +

Ted DeBoda is executive director of NASSCO. He can be reached at director@nassco.org. NASSCO is located at 11521 Cronridge Drive, Suite J, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

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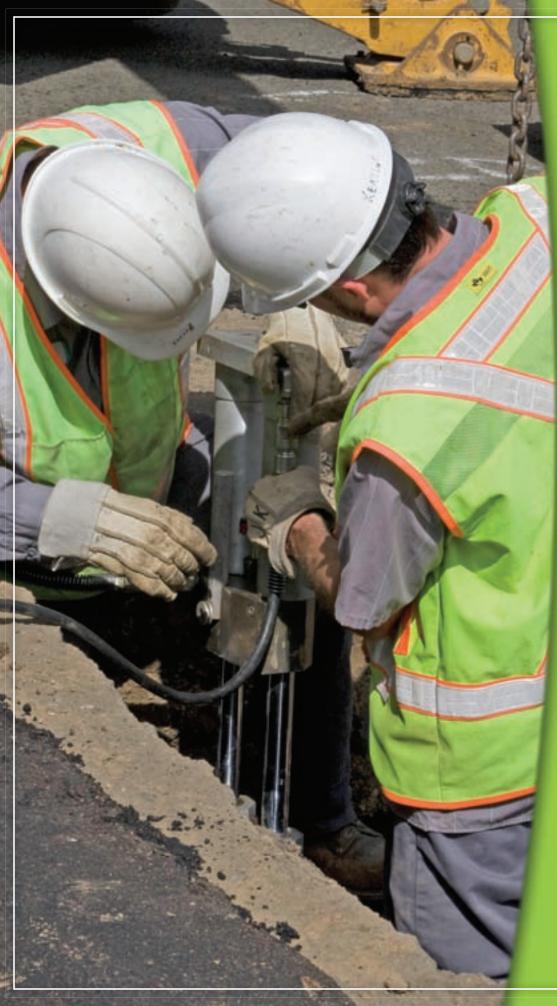
have the most current, up-to-date knowledge and

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MANHOLES AND CATCH BASINS

By Benjamin Wideman



External seal

The Infi-Shield external seal from Sealing Systems prevents erosion and infiltration in manholes or catch basins. The onepiece molded seal is made from EPDM rubber and has a reinforced, preformed L-shaped corner. The product is bonded with non-hardening butyl mastic and it will pass a vacuum test. It installs in minutes without special tools. 800/478-2054; www.ssisealing systems.com.



High-speed nozzle

The **Model SPN** nozzle from RFI Construction Products is a high-speed spinning nozzle for applying wet shotcrete mortars, grouts and epoxies to circular surfaces such as manholes. It can line 4- to 120-inch diameters. Linings can range from 1/8 to 4 inches thick, and output depends on size of pump and nozzle. The spraying head is powered by its own air motor, which is controlled by the operator. Various capacity nozzles from 1/2 to 2 inches in diameter handle fibers and aggregate up to 3/8-inch diameter. **631/752-8899**; www.rficonstructionproducts.com.



Fast-reacting grout

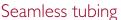
Parson Seal-Tite from Parson Environmental Products is a moisture-insensitive, two-component, fast-reacting hydrophobic polyurethane grout designed to stop high-volume active leaks up to 50 gpm in manholes, pump stations and other structures. The chemical-resistant formula cures to a dense, rigid mass in about 30 seconds. The product is packaged in a dual cartridge with a static mixer and is injected at or near the source of the leak, using a manual dual-component caulk gun. The material contains no solvents, CFCs or HFCs. 800/356-9023; www. parsonenvironmental.com.

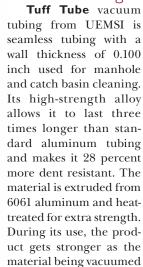


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Green Monster Liner from GML Coatings is a flexible coating that protects concrete, steel and fiberglass structures. The process uses sandblasting and waterblasting to remove corrosion in existing structures. The structures are then built back to their original thickness with 100 percent fused calcium aluminate mortar.

After the surface has been brought to a smoothed brushed finish, a primer is applied followed by the final protective barrier of Green Monster. The product is highly resistant to hydrogen sulfide gas and other chemicals. It is spray-applied from the ring of the manhole down to the coating of the bench. Its flexibility prevents cracking of the topcoat and hydrogen sulfide gases from attacking the substrate. 941/ 755-2176; www.gmlcoatings.com.



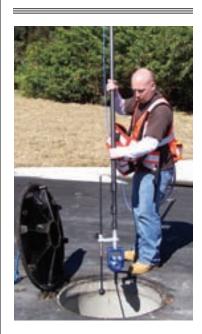


comes in contact with the tube walls. 800/666-0766; www.uemsi. com.



Zoom camera

With Haloptic technology, the new QuickView pole camera from Envirosight doubles the range of zoom inspection while targeting illumination with improved precision. It is suited for rapid, complete assessments of pipeline infrastructure. The design also includes an auxiliary wide-angle camera with diffuse illumination, allowing inspection of manholes and vessels with the flip of a switch. 866/936-8476; www.envirosight. com.



Pole-mounted inspection system

The **QZ2** from CUES is a lightweight, portable, pole-mounted video inspection system that can be operated by one person. It is mounted on a lightweight carbon fiber adjustable telescopic pole that can extend up to 24 feet (34foot pole is available).

It has a 420:1 zoom with builtin image stabilization, automatic focus and self-contained waterproof lighting for enhanced detailed viewing of cracks, breaks, pipe separations, scale and various defect. It can be used to identify a blockage at a manhole, access

port, or other entry point without entry. The device includes two high-intensity discharge lights. 800/327-7791; www.cuesinc.com.



Chemically activated gel

AV-100 from Avanti is an ultralow viscosity chemically activated gel available as a powder or liquid. Having the same viscosity as water, it quickly permeates the substrate and cures to form a matrix with soil and porous rock, creating an effective, long-lasting water barrier and soil stabilizer. 800/877-2570; www.avantigrout.com.



Thermosetting epoxy

The Manhole Rehab System from Infrastructure Repair Systems is a two-component, 100 percent solids thermosetting epoxy that comes in two trowel-on applications to seal and stop leaks by creating a new lining within the manhole. Chim Coat, for chimney rehab of the manhole, expands and contracts with changing temperatures nearest to the surface. Infragard Topcoat can be applied as a patch or to the rest of the manhole as needed. The system can be used as a coating or sealant for catch basins. The corrosionresistant product bonds to wet or dry surfaces and conforms to any shape. 877/327-4216; www.irsi.net.



One size fits all

The CIPMH manhole system from LMK Technologies is a universal, stretchable, one-size-fits-all system that produces a structural cured-in-place seal to resist freezethaw conditions. The stretchable liner allows site preparation and installation to occur the same day, eliminating lead time for ordering. The product can be installed as a structural chimney seal or full-depth CIPP manhole lining. Once the liner has been vacuum impregnated and manually inverted into the manhole, it cures ambiently under pressure for one to two hours, depending on depth. 815/433-1275; www.performance liner.com.



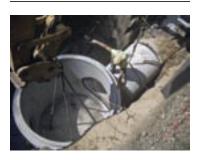
Grade adjustment

The **Pro-Ring** manhole grade adjustment system from Cretex Specialty Products replaces heavy concrete rings and brick in construction of manhole chimneys. It is HS-25 load rated and can seal the chimney section from water inflow and infiltration. The rings, with one-tenth the weight of concrete, come in one-quarter-inch height increments and eliminate shims and mortar. Manufactured from expanded polypropylene (EPP), the rings outlast concrete and protect the cone and barrel section from impact loads of traffic. 800/345-3764; www.cretexseals.com.



Polymer manhole cover

The **FiberShield** manhole cover from McGard reduces the risk of injury when pulling manhole covers. The polymer cover weighs 80 percent less than cast iron. The integrated locking system (necessary because of its light weight) prevents removal and requires a registered key to operate. 716/662-8980; www.mcgard.com.



Pipe-to-manhole connector

The **A-LOK Premium** from A-LOK Products is a pipe-to-manhole connector for stormwater containment systems. It can change shape with the outside diameter of the pipe as the liquid-filled core material inside the device redistributes itself to maintain seal pressure. This flexibility allows easier pipe installation and accepts a wide range of pipe diameters. **215/547-3366**; www.a-lok.com.

Odor filter insert

Simple Solutions offers a green odor-control solution in the **Wolverine** manhole odor filter insert. The device is custom made to fit exact dimensions, ensuring quality installation. Each unit is manufactured from a durable high-density polyethylene copolymer that meets ASTM D-1248 Class A, Category 5, Type III. The carbon canister is made of PVC and corrosion-resistant components. **866/667-8465**; www.industrialodorcontrol.com.



Thermal smoke generator

The TURBO-FOG MH75 thermal smoke generator from Kingscote Chemicals operates in manhole openings from 19 to 30 inches. Designed to be totally self-contained, it uses the company's leakproof liquid smoke cartridges to generate dense and uninterrupted white smoke. The unit generates more than 7,500 cfm of airflow and is constructed from 11 gauge steel, laser-cut and powder-coated for precision and durability. A foam cell bottom gasket is applied to create a leak-free seal around the manhole and reduce vibration and noise. 800/394-0678; www. turbo-fog.com. ♦



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US Jetting Launches Online Store

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Vacuum Truck Rentals Names Gaff VP of Sales and Marketing

Vacuum Truck Rentals and Vacuum Truck Sales and Service named Bill Gaff vice president of sales and marketing. Gaff brings 30 years experience in the industrial and municipal markets to his position. He also serves as chairman of the board for WJTA/

Nu Flow Receives Patent, European, PMG Approvals

The U.S. Patent Office has granted Nu Flow a patent for its curedin-place pipe liner, capable of lining around multiple 90-degree bends. The patent covers the company's pull-in-place method of installing the liner as well as a liner assembly for installing liner at a junction between a main and lateral pipe. Nu Flow also received CE approval for its potable pipe lining equipment in Europe, BelgAqua acceptance for its potable epoxy in Belgium and PMG listing from ICC Evaluation Service LLC.



Synagro Acquires HyPex Centrifuge Repair Service

Synagro Technologies Inc. acquired HyPex Inc's Centrifuge Repair Service, Lansdale, Pa. The acquisition enables Synagro to add maintenance, process optimization and emergency repair to its dewatering services.

Big's Easy Lift Launches Online Store

Big's Easy Lift's online store, www.cole-mart.com/bigseasylift, features products, equipment and 24-hour shopping, as well as the ability to research and compare products.



Karl Schlifke

Jamko Names Schlifke Business Development Manager

Jamko Technical Solutions Inc. named Karl Schlifke business development director. He has 20 years of operations, engineering, product and sales management experience. Schlifke earned a bachelor's degree in manufacturing engineering technology from Texas A&M University.

Gamajet Names Wolff VP of Distributor Relations

Tadd Wolf has been promoted from sanitary division manager to vice president of distributor relations for Gamajet Cleaning Systems. He will be responsible for growing distribution within the United States and internationally. He brings 15 years of experience to his position and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in interpersonal communications from West Virginia University.

Vac-Con Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Vac-Con, manufacturer of combination sewer cleaning vacuum trucks, celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2011. Beginning with five employees in 1986, the Green Cove Springs, Fla., company today employs hundreds of workers and has a worldwide network of dealers.

Posey Hydro Changes Name to Sattler Pump Solutions

Sattler Companies Inc. has changed the name of Posey Hydro Solutions to Sattler Pump Solutions. Sattler acquired Posey Hydro four years ago and has continued providing after market pump parts to the fluid transfer and hydroblasting industries. Sattler Pump Solutions also named David E. Chandler director to manage business growth strategies. He brings 43 years experience to the high-pressure pump industry, serving the municipal and oil-gas markets.

Wachs Water Services Names Executives

Wachs Water Services named Cliff Jones vice president, business development; Matt Wassam Western Region business development manager; and Mike Stadnyckj director of strategic marketing. Jones has 30 years of experience in operations and sales, including nine years in the pipeline condition assessment industry. ◆

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Big Blue Bio-Block, 30-lb	MS-49831	399.95	359.96
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Expandable rings raise manholes to grade

Problem

The City of Winston-Salem, N.C., annually raises about 100 manholes to grade. "The



risers were somewhat difficult to install because they had setscrews, didn't seat well, and the lids sometimes rattled and popped out," says streets supervisor Larry Cauthen. "We needed a product that would reduce our materials, time and labor."

Solution

The city purchased **turnbuckle manhole rings from American High-way Products.** The installer sets the galvanized steel ring into the manhole rim, then uses a screwdriver to turn the pivoted turnbuckle plus or minus 0.5 inches. A 60-pound force exerts a 5,600-pound tangential force, locking the ring against the opening and preventing rattles. The one-piece assembly takes five minutes to install and provides a flat surface for seating manhole covers. The rings will not break from uneven seats or installation forces.

RESULT

"The rings are lighter and easier to handle than the old risers," says Cauthen. "We also save about \$30 in materials per manhole, and our installation costs are less because they go in so fast." The city has yet to have a ring fail. 888/272-2397; www.ahpl.com.

Lining system adds new life

Problem

A 54-inch ductile iron main in Monroe, La., carries 70 percent of the city's wastewater to the treatment plant. While the pipe was in good condition, the 30 concrete manholes and five junction boxes were badly deteriorated from hydrogen sulfide. In some places, the concrete was completely missing. After rehabilitating the structures, the city searched for a way to protect the new concrete from the corrosive environment.



Solution

Officials invited Gulf Coast Underground in Fort Myers, Fla., to demonstrate the **SpectraShield multi-component stress skin panel liner system from CCI Spectrum Inc.**

After workers cleaned and abraded the manhole walls, they bored into them and injected fast-acting SpectraGrout to stop severe leaks. They plugged minor ones with quick-setting hydraulic cement.

The first layer of the SpectraShield system is a primer designed for saturated concrete. The thin film provides adhesion to the substrate. After

the primer dried for the required four hours, the crew sprayed on a layer of silicone-modified polyurea, followed by a layer of tight closed-cell polyurethane foam to fill voids and restore placement.

The foam dried tack-free in 8 to 12 seconds. The crew then applied a second thin film of silicone-modified polyurea as the final corrosion barrier. It dried just as quickly.

RESULT

"The only way to know what will work in a corrosive area like this one is to see a product in action," says head project manager Arthur Holland. "The quick installation and cure time were real selling points." The city lined all its repaired manholes and junction boxes with the SpectraShield system. 904/704-9786; www.spectrashield.com.

Grout stabilizes box culverts

Problem

Water had established flow paths under a reinforced concrete box culvert in Panama City Beach, Fla., causing the structure to settle and damage the roadway above. City crews filled the voids with concrete, but the heavy repairs quickly sank into the loose soils, causing the culvert to settle further.



Solution

Stormwater director William Scruggs called Ed Paradis, southeast regional manager for **De Neef Construction**

Chemicals Inc. He inspected the culvert, then recommended injecting **Hydro Active Cut polyurethane grout** into the voids. After training by Paradis, city crews drove two rows of probes on 3-foot centers 6 feet deep on the upstream side of the road. "We didn't have to halt traffic or set up bypass pumping," says Scruggs. The lightweight, waterproof grout filled the voids and flow paths under the culvert and stabilized the surrounding soils. The men completed the work in two days.

RESULT

A follow-up inspection by the city two years later showed no signs of the previous problems. **800/732-0166**; www.deneef.com.

Manhole inspection system meets assessment goals

Problem

The City of Tacoma (Wash.) Public Works Environmental Services wanted crews to inspect 100 manholes per week to meet assessment goals and collect data to make effective rehabilitation decisions. The city has more than 12,000 manholes.



Solution

In January 2010, Atlas Inspection Technologies of Seattle demonstrated the Panoramo SI 360-degree manhole inspection system from RapidView IBAK North America. In seconds, two high-resolution digital cameras with specially designed distortion-free wide-angle lenses scanned the interior of a manhole in one vertical run. The system allowed operators to stop the scan in any position, do a 360-degree pan-zoom, take snapshots, and generate an unfolded view of the structure. The 3D point cloud feature let them measure nearly any feature, then export the data to a CAD program.

RESULT

The demonstration team inspected 41 manholes in 4 hours and 22 minutes, averaging 9.46 manholes per hour and proving to the city that its goal was attainable. 800/656-4225; www.rapidview.com.

Manhole replacement without excavation

Problem

The manholes near City Hall in Hampton, Va., were severely deteriorated from high levels of hydrogen sulfide gas. The city tested ConMIC-Shield liquid concrete preservative from AP/M Permaform in a comparison of two manholes.



City crews assembled lightweight steel panels inside the manholes, then poured vibrating high-strength AP/M Permaform concrete into the 3-inch space between the form and wall. They added the U.S. EPA regis-



tered antibacterial agent to the mix for the first manhole. The liquid kills sulfuric acid-producing bacteria on contact, and its molecules bond to the cement particles so it cannot wash off, chip off, peel off, delaminate, or pinhole.

RESULT

After five years, the corrosion-protected manhole showed no sign of deterioration, but the unprotected one had severe structural damage. 877/543-2094; www.conshield.com.

Concrete rehabilitated with epoxy lining

Problem

Jacksonville (Fla.) Naval Air Station, along the St. Johns River, has a high water table. Water coursing into corroded box culverts,



catch basin vaults, and storm drains eroded the surrounding soil, causing roads to sink and creating potholes. Infiltration of sand and mud restricted flows, creating backups that flooded parking lots and sometimes buildings. Unwilling to close the heavily traveled roads, the Navy filled and paved over the sinkholes to keep traffic moving.

Solution

Officials began an extensive program that included rehabilitating the structures with Epoxytec CPP (concrete polymer paste) from Epoxytec International Inc. The coating has no volatile organic compounds that could contaminate the river. It also has high moisture tolerance, adheres to wet concrete, and cures submerged in water.

A two-man crew from Engineered Lining Systems Inc. (ELS) in Jacksonville removed compromised liners, then prepared the underlying concrete to specifications. As part of the resurfacing process, some areas were rubbed down with Hydrxx-3 quick-curing hydraulic paste for filling large voids. Once the mortar dried, the men troweled on a 1/8-inch-thick layer of CPP. The two-part epoxy liner dried in 30 minutes.

RESULT

Rehabilitating the structures has reduced I&I, erosion and sinkholes on the base. "The walls of the structure do not have to be dry before applying Epoxytec CPP," says ELS vice president Gary Pender. "Having moisture-tolerant products is very important in Florida's damp environment." 877/463-7699; www.epoxytec.com.

Structural lining stops surcharges and infiltration

Problem

Infiltration and a new service tying into a sewer in Palm Beach, Fla., caused a deteriorated brick manhole to surcharge. Workers found that hydrogen sulfide gas had eroded the bench and inverts. The city wanted the manhole rehabilitated quickly.

Solution

SAK Construction of Palmetto, Fla., turned to SprayWall, a 100 percent volatile organic compounds-free



self-priming polyurethane coating from Sprayrog Inc. After pressure washing the manhole at 3,000 psi, a certified company technician applied a hydraulic cementitious mortar, providing a smooth substrate for the lining. He also created a new bench and trough for a smooth transitional

To stop inflow and infiltration, the technician drilled a 1-inch hole at the intrusion points, then pumped in acrylamide grout with a topcoat of Octoplug mortar from IPA Systems. After mixing the A and B components, the technician sprayed the coating on the manhole walls. The coating gelled in about 8 seconds and was tack-free after one minute. The initial cure occurred in 30 minutes, when the manhole was returned to service. The curing process continued for 4 to 6 hours.

(continued)

RESULT

The manhole has a monolithic, corrosion- and abrasion-resistant surface. The walls are rigid enough to withstand vacuum truck tubes and workers dropping sharp tools against them. 800/634-0504; www.sprayroq.net.

Liner system stops severe infiltration

Problem

Infiltration was pouring in around the riser joints and bench area of a precast manhole in a subdivision of Wilsonville, Ore. The city hired several contractors to repair the structure with chemical grout, but the fix proved only temporary.

Solution

The city contacted sewer rehabilitation specialist Jim Atchison of SunCoast Environmental Northwest in Vancouver, Wash. He pro-





posed lining the manhole with Poly-Triplex three-ply fiberglass-reinforced liner from Poly-Triplex Technologies. Workers stopped the infiltration with chemical grout and hydraulic cement, then cleaned and prepared the manhole walls. The custom-made PTLS-6800 liner has an internal nonporous PVC membrane layer, which the crew impregnated with a two-part epoxy resin that cures even in wet conditions.

Once the liner was in position, they applied air pressure sufficient to offset hydrostatic head pressure and injected steam at 300 degrees F to speed curing. The procedure expanded a removable inflation bladder that forced the liner into gaps and bonded it to the walls and benches. The liner cured in less than two hours, and the bladder was removed.

RESULT

Stopping the infiltration saved the city thousands of dollars in treatment costs. The problem has not recurred. 850/547-9999; www.poly-triplex.com.

Tightening pump station run times

Problem

One-third of the 400 or more pump stations in the City of Virginia Beach, Va., combined wastewater/stormwater conveyance system had excessive run times from inflow and infiltration. After smoke testing, dye testing and flooding, camera inspection, and hydraulic analysis, the city estimated that 85 percent of the stormwater inflow came from faulty laterals.

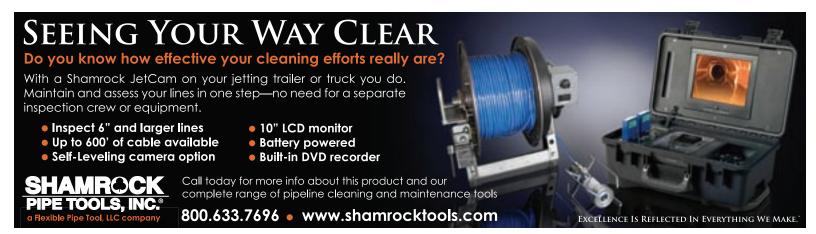
Solution

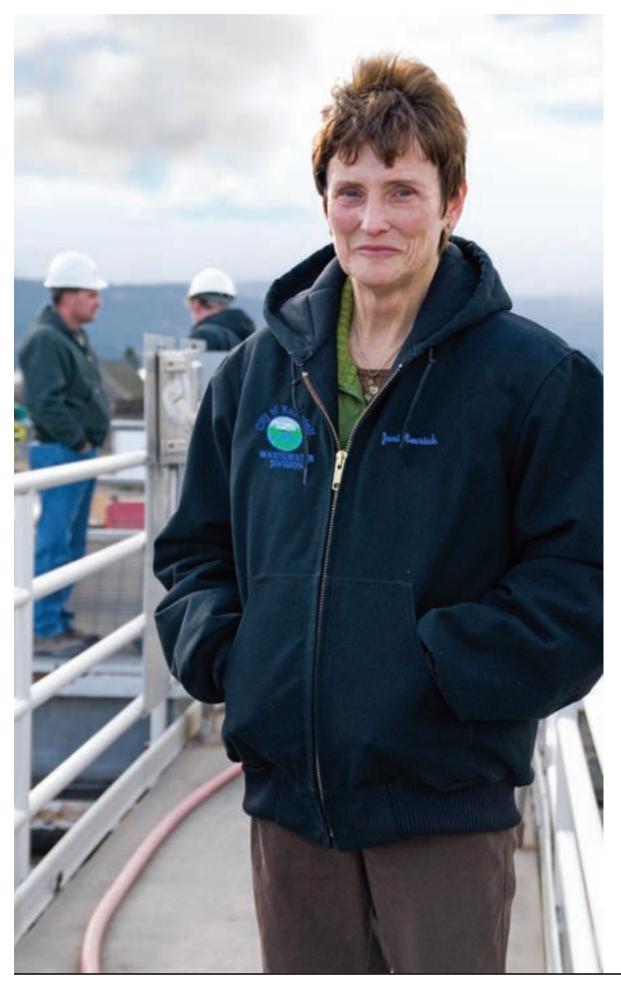
Using pump station SCADA information, the city ranked them according to run times and number of service calls. Remediation included installing mainline and lateral cleanouts and **Rainstopper manhole inserts from WBE Dorcas Inc.** to reduce stormwater inflow through manhole covers.

Available in HDPE plastic or stainless steel, the pan-like devices fit on the lip of the manhole to catch runoff, while sewer gas vents through a nonmechanical device. The units are easy to install and have no moving parts.

RESULT

Rainstorms on June 17 and July 5, 2008, were similar to the 1.56-inch rainfall on April 22, 2008. The reduction in flow at two stations was 442,500 gallons. **719/686-5988; www.wbedorcas.com.** ◆





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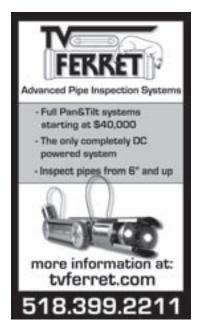


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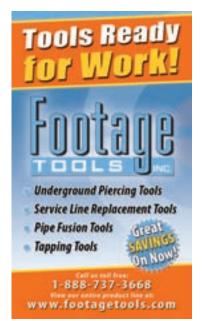
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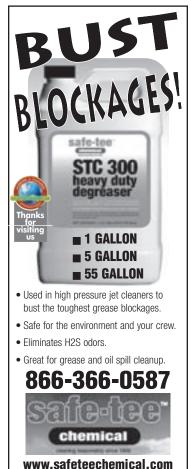














WORTH NOTING

PEOPLE

The National Utility Contractors Association announced new officers for 2011: Ryan Schmitt of Florida, board chairman; Jim Barron of Maryland, chairman-elect; Florentino Gregorio of Washington, D.C., vice chairman; Ronald Nunes of Rhode Island, treasurer; Bruce Wendorf of Florida, secretary; and board members Kari Biernacki of New Mexico, Mike Donatelli of Rhode Island, Glenn Ely of Pennsylvania, Mark Fuglevand of Washington, Kara Habrock of Nebraska, Bill Martinak of Oregon, Lewis Long of North Carolina, and Thomas O'Rourke of Nevada.

MSW welcomes your contribution to this listing. Please send notices of new hires, promotions, service milestones, certifications or achievements to editor@mswmag.com.



CALENDAR

April 10-12

Water Environment Federation, Disinfection 2011, Hyatt Regency Cincinnati, Ohio. Call 703/684-2441 or visit www.wef.org

April 10-13

American Public Works Association, North American Snow Conference, Spokane (Wash.) Convention Center. Call 816/595-5240 or visit www.apwa.net.

American Water Resources Association Spring Specialty Conference, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore, Md. Visit www.awra.org.

May 22-26

World Environmental & Water Resources Congress, Palm Springs, Calif. Visit www. asce.org.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

APWA

The American Public Works Association is offering these seminars:

- April 7 Solar Strategies for Public Works, audio/Web broadcast
- April 28 Out of the Box Funding Options for Public Fleets, audio/Web broadcast
- May 3-4 Stormwater Management Workshop, San Diego
- May 12 Sustainable Utility Construction: Methods and
- May 17-18 Public Fleet Management Workshop, Lexington, Ky. Visit www.apwa.net.

AWWA

The American Water Works Association is offering a Financial Management: Cost of Service Rate-Making Seminar April 13-15 in Philadelphia. Visit www.awwa.org.

Wisconsin

The University of Wisconsin Department of Engineering-Professional Development is offering these courses:

- April 12-13 Storm Sewer System Design, Madison
- April 14-15 Designing Stormwater Detention Basin Facilities,
- April 26-27 Using WinSLAMM to Meet TMDL, LID and MS4 Stormwater Requirements, Madison
- May 9-11 Mastering the Fundamentals of HEC-RAS L685, Madison

Visit www.epdweb.engr.wisc.edu.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is offering these

- April 12-13 Iron and Zeolite, Green Bay
- April 27 Confined Space Entry Hands-On Training, Plover
- May 2-3 Iron and Zeolite, Fond du Lac
- May 5 Working in the Streets "Traffic Control and Clothing,"
- May 10-11 Utility Management 2, Madison Visit www.dnr.state.wi.us. ◆

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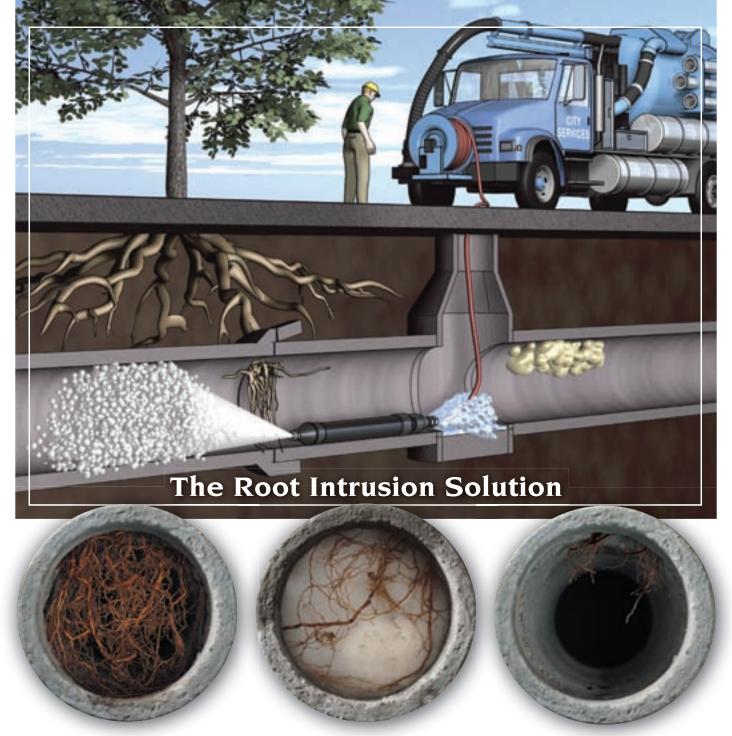
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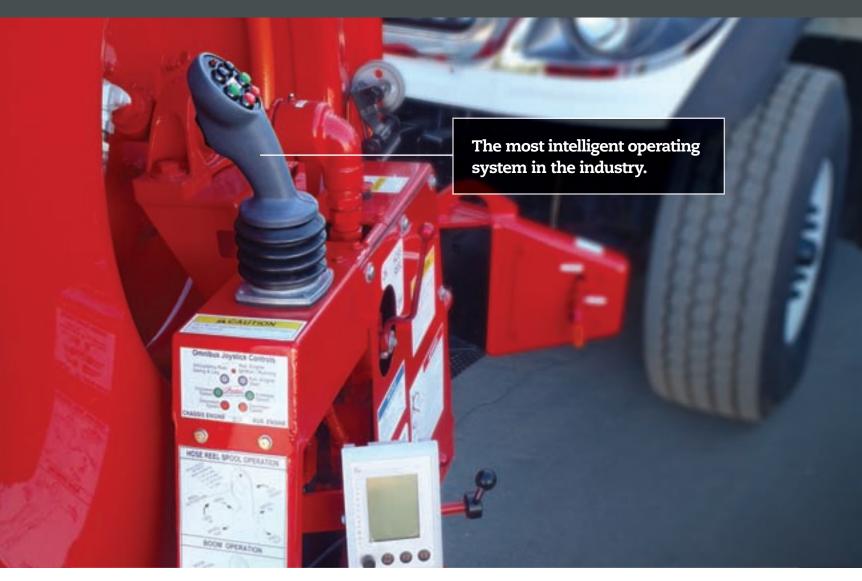
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