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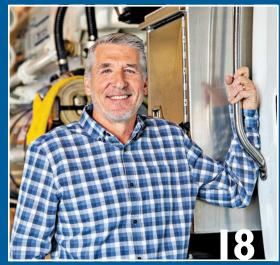


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ON THE COVER: General Manager Jerry Knight oversaw the Sandy (Utah) Suburban Improvement District's implementation of a lateral line insurance program that could serve as a model for other communities. (Photography by Kim Raff)









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Published monthly by:



1720 Maple Lake Dam Rd., PO Box 220, Three Lakes WI 54562



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EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE: Send to Editor, Municipal Sewer & Water, P.O. Box 220, Three Lakes, WI, 54562 or email editor@mswmag.com.

REPRINTS AND BACK ISSUES: Visit www.mswmag.com for options and pricing To order back issues, call Nicole Maney at 800-257-7222 (715-546-3346) or email nicole.maney@colepublishing.com. To order reprints, call Jeff Lane at 800-257-7222 (715-546-3346) or email jeff.lane@colepublishing.com.

CIRCULATION: 2019 average circulation was 37,440 copies per month (U.S. and international distribution).







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Luke Laggis

BE SMARTER THAN THE SQUIRREL

Don't get so caught up chasing a nut that you forget the big picture

One night a few weeks before Christmas, I was cleaning up my kitchen. There was a pot of water on the stove from some shrimp I'd boiled the night before so I dumped it into the sink without a second thought. Left-over shrimp water never smells great. I had hot water running to wash it all down when water started backing up in the other side of the double sink.

I turned on the garbage disposal and was hit with a smell no shrimp could produce. The sinks drained down temporarily, but I quickly learned the line was still clogged and there was water leaking into the cabinet under the sinks.

A bit irritated, I changed my clothes and went out to the garage to locate my hand auger. I found it immediately, which you'd understand is no small feat if you'd ever so much as peered through the window of my garage, and went back inside to take the P-trap apart.

The smell that first came from my sink was nothing compared to what





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came out of that pipe when I removed the trap, and neither compared to what was coming.

As I mentioned at the top, I've never cleaned a sewer line, but I'm not bad with the hand auger. From the point where I feed the cable in, the pipe travels about 16 inches before dropping down about 3 feet and then turning to run through the basement ceiling. From there — it's been quite awhile since I've had that ceiling opened up — it feels like there's an elbow about every 2 feet.

On this occasion I could only get the cable in about 12 feet. Initially I thought I was stuck at an elbow or joint, so I pulled the cable back a couple feet and tried to go forward again. That cycle repeated several times. At points it felt like the head of the cable was up against the clog but couldn't get through, and then I kept losing ground.

Finally, I pulled the cable all the way out to inspect the head and start over so I could at least figure out how far in it was. The first time I ran the cable back in, it hit the first elbow and wouldn't go any farther. At that point I knew I had to call a plumber and jerked the cable out. Incredibly, out onto the cabinet floor fell a heavy, slimy lump with what I can only describe as a cartoonlike splat.

In an instant I went from disappointment at the prospect of calling a plumber and being at least temporarily without a kitchen sink, to relief and a bit of pride in having taken care of the problem myself, to being overwhelmed by the stench.

And then ... something caught my eye. The shape. The hair. The tail. It was a flying squirrel.

As it turned out, the squirrel had found its way into the pipes through the vent stack on the roof and fought its way through quite a few feet of pipe before succumbing to the elements. Tough way to go.

Think about that: Just going about your business, climbing into a pipe without fear and then getting stuck and having no way to get out. No way for help to get to you. Stuck against the walls of a dirty pipe. Alone. Knowing you're going to die. Well, we can debate the consciousness level of a squirrel, but it most certainly knew it was in trouble.

Anyway, facing your last moments, taking your last breaths in a sewer line — can you think of a worse way to go?

You're not squirrels, I realize. But you regularly put yourself in harm's way. And you're a lot smarter than a squirrel, so there's no excuse to ever climb down a manhole or into a sewer line without all the proper safety precautions in place.

Confined-space gear, gas monitors, they can save your life. And they're completely worth the hassle. Make sure you can always turn around and get back out if something goes wrong, so you'll never have to get fished out the other end of the pipe.

Be safe, and enjoy this month's issue. ◆

Comments on this column or about any article in this publication may be directed to editor Luke Laggis, 800-257-7222; editor@mswmag.com.

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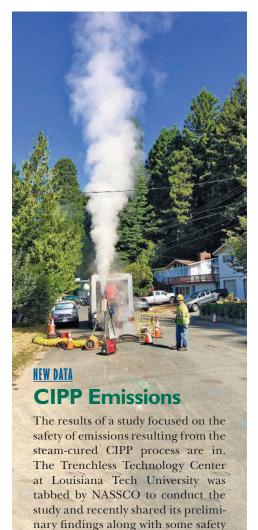
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LEAK-DETECTION CANINES Finding the **Right Dog**

Water utilities' interest in leak-detection dogs has risen since last year, when it was reported that Central Arkansas Water (CAW) in Little Rock had hired a canine to help sniff out pipe breaks. Some officials in the water sector may be curious about what it takes to find and train such a helpful asset, and trainers Tracy Owen and Carrie Kessler are more than happy to share that information. mswmag.com/featured



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OVERHEARD ONLINE

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Rapid growth and new technology fuel Tennessee utility's quest for greater efficiency



Then you think of trendsetters, you may have visions of New York, Los Angeles or Chicago.

But in the field of water management, few providers are out in front of the Consolidated Utility District of Rutherford County, Tennessee.

Based in Murfreesboro, the utility is successfully dealing with a rapid population growth through a range of water service improvements totaling more than \$38 million. According to Brett McArdle, communications officer, these improvements include advanced metering technology, upgraded GIS and mapping, leak detection, water quality control, and expansion of

the utility's water conveyance and treatment facilities.

"With our proximity to Nashville, Rutherford County is literally growing overnight," McArdle says. "We're adding 3,000 customers a year and will be at 150,000 in a few years. We're already the sixth largest water utility in the state, and we're poised to grow larger."

Ultimately, customers will benefit. The advancements are designed to produce high-quality water, keep customers informed of water use, and control costs.

Chris Jacobs (left) and lead technician Bryan Harvey of the Consolidated Utility District in Rutherford County, Tennessee, listen for a leak in a water service line. (Photography by Martin Cherry)

The utility

The Consolidated Utility District has grown substantially since its start in 1968, but its motto remains the same: "Take Care of Every Drop."

Today, the utility serves some 60,000 accounts in Rutherford County outside Murfreesboro. Drawing raw water from Percy Priest Lake on the East Fork of the Stones River, the utility treats it to drinking water standards at its K. Thomas Hutchinson Water Treatment Plant, which is being expanded from 16 to 30 mgd (see sidebar).

Treated water flows to customers through more than 1,400 miles of water mains, with 20 pumping stations serving 20 different pressure zones. The utility maintains 12 reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 22.4 mg.

New AMI system

A new metering system is one of the most significant upgrades and will enable the utility to spot leaks on a 24/7 basis and help customers save water and money.

"Right now, we use a drive-by radio read system, which communicates with one-way automated meter reading modules," says Mike Sumner, director of information technology. "We have signed a \$1.3 million contract with Itron, an energy and water resource management company, to improve our metering capabilities from

AMR to AMI." Sumner says the district

PROFILE:

Consolidated Utility District, Rutherford County, Tennessee

FOUNDED:

AREA SERVED:

Rutherford County outside the city of Murfreesboro

CUSTOMERS SERVED:

Approximately 150,000 (60,000 accounts)

INFRASTRUCTURE:
1,400 miles distribution mains;
20 pumping stations and pressure zones;
12 storage reservoirs, 22.4 million gallon capacity; K. Thomas Hutchinson Water Treatment Plant (being expanded to 30

William Dunnhill, general manager; Bryant Bradley, director of operations; Mike Sumner, information technology director; Alan Stuemke, engineering director; Chris Forte, water plant manager

ANNUAL OPERATIONS BUDGET: \$32 million

WEBSITE:

will start by converting some 13,000 meters about one-fourth of its customers — to the Itron system by March of this year, with more connections being upgraded over the next three years.

The new meters will be connected to the utility's autodialer and enable the district to notify customers immediately of leaks in their water

Eventually, Sumner says, the data will be displayed via a web-based portal system enabling customers to see their usage in real time.

"For a time, we'll be a blended system," says Bryant Bradley, director of operations. "Some of our service area is very rural, and it's not feasible to install AMI there." He estimates that ultimately 60% of the utility's district will be AMI, 40% AMR.

The utility will benefit, too. Bradley explains that many of the district's customers are rental units, which have frequent shut-offs and reconnections as tenants move out and move in.

"The new system is going to save us a lot of trucks and time going to the site," he says. "It will be a huge advantage for us."

Leak detection

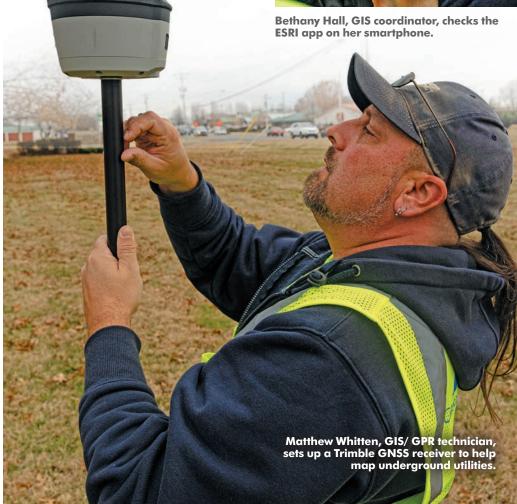
Using Sewerin detectors and correlators, the district has maintained an exemplary leak detection program for years and sends crews to other utilities in the state to teach about leak detection. It benchmarks its water loss statistics against com-

"The new system is going to save us a lot of trucks and time going to the site."

Bryant Bradley

parable utilities and focuses on the overnight minimum hourly flow rates entering district metered





EXPANDING TREATMENT

Customers of the Consolidated Utility District of Rutherford County in Tennessee need more water.

To fulfill that need, the district is nearly doubling the capacity of its K. Thomas Hutchinson Water Treatment Plant, enabling the facility to produce 30 mgd of potable water.

"We've been right at capacity (16 mgd) during the summer months," says Chris Forte, water plant manager. The expanded plant won't add any new technologies but will add on to the treatment train already in place.

Forte says larger high service pumps (Peerless Pump) have already been added, a has a fourth raw water intake, drawing water from Percy Priest Lake on the East Fork of the Stones River.

The old flocculation-sedimentation basins are being rehabilitated, and two more are being added, bringing the total to six.

Twelve new WesTech Engineering filters are being added to the existing 12 dualmedia sand and anthracite final filters. The on-site bleach and chlorine dioxide generation facilities are also being expanded to provide disinfection and maintain chlorine residual.

These flows are compared with daytime flow rates and, in rural areas, calculated gallons per minute lost per mile of main to establish and adjust priorities for leak detection and pipe replacement.

With AMI, leak detection will be even faster

and more precise, Bradley says. "In years past, the technology would alert us to a leak sometime within a 30-day period. Soon, AMI will alert us within 24 hours. Then we can notify customers that day with a call and a follow-up email."

"Itron gives us lots more technology," Sumner says. "We will have the capability of acoustical leak detection with the meter readings. We'll be able to listen and record data."

Currently, the utility must pull leak data off its SCADA system and put the data into spreadsheets. "We don't do this every day," Sumner says. "It's very labor intensive. We do it every two or three weeks."

GIS and mapping

If Rutherford County residents see drones flying overhead, they may be from their water utility.

"We employ two FAA-certified drone pilots and two drones," McArdle says. "We plan to add thermal

cameras to provide even better leak detection."

He says the drones help increase the accuracy of the district's GIS maps (Esri), yielding high-value snapshots for inventory control and piping.

"We'd taken 30,000 snapshots by the end of 2019," McArdle says. "They provide good images,

ensuring accurate maps for our field employees without requiring people to climb around on structures. They're our eye in the sky."

He adds that the utility is working with a developer to build a mobile app

that will feature a personal dashboard with payment and rate information for customers. A wide area network upgrade will allow district employees to access GIS data more quickly.

Water quality and inspections

To increase water quality control, the district has installed zone jumpers and chlorinators at all pump stations. The result is a significant reduction in the amount of flushing needed to maintain quality in pressure zones, says Alan Stuemke, director of engineering. As an example, he points to March 2017, when the district flushed 1.3 million gallons. "In March 2019, we flushed 327,000 gallons."

Drone operator Pam Sykes (left) and GIS coordinator Bethany Hall set up a flight pattern to map an area in Rutherford County, Tennessee.

"We plan to add thermal

cameras to provide even

better leak detection."

Brett McArdle



"We have a lot of other water quality and inspections personnel visiting our utility to see what we're doing."

Brett McArdle

In addition, the district has embarked on a long-term effort to develop a complete district metering area program for the whole county. According to Stuemke, the utility is also deploying new software called Baseform

to integrate with the district's SCADA system, providing even more information about water loss and leaks.

Education is part of the water-quality effort, as well. The district's water-quality inspectors provide training at functions in Rutherford County, including public schools, and deliver presentations to the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts. Subject matter ranges from guidance for customer service to the science of pressure differentials and water quality.

Main rehabbing

Not all of the improvements in service at the district are so high-tech. The utility continues to upgrade and rehab its 1,400-mile-long water main system.

"We tend to use conventional trench excavation for the vast majority of our pipe replacement projects," McArdle says. "Ductile iron is our go-to material."

He says the district uses trenchless technology for road crossings or long lines where the water meter is on the opposite side of the road from the water main.

In addition to providing concrete benefits to its customers and saving time and money for the utility, the district's improvements and innovations are attracting the attention of others in the industry who stand to gain from its experience.

"We have a lot of other water quality and inspections personnel visiting our utility to see what we're doing. Plus, we're providing training to inspectors from around the state," McArdle says.

"We're very proud of that." •

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Consolidated Utility District General Manager William Dunhill, **Director of Operations Bryant Bradley and engineer Alan Stuemke** outside the district offices in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.



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A NEW WAY TO LEAD

To contend with new workplace trends, managers should rethink their traditional roles

By Ken Wysocky

isruptive technologies are buffeting many industries, creating turmoil in markets once considered immune to change. But less obviously, upheaval is also shaking up leadership paradigms.

The upshot: Managers need to sit up and take notice that major changes are looming. Those who are willing to change and adapt will thrive. And those who don't will become obsolete, says Jacob Morgan, the author of a new book, The Future Leader: 9 Skills and Mindsets to Succeed in the Next Decade.

"The demands of leadership are very different today than they were even 10 years ago," says Morgan, who also wrote a book called The Future of Work: Attract New Talent, Build Better Leaders, and Create a Competitive Organization. "And in the next 10 years, they'll change even

more, for leaders at all levels."

"The demands of leadership are very different today than they were even 10 years ago."

Jacob Morgan

Morgan, founder of the Future of Work University (www.futureof workuniversity.com), reached that conclusion while doing research for his latest book. He interviewed 140 CEOs from around the globe, as well as surveyed 14,000 employees worldwide to figure out where leadership trends are heading.

The results of Morgan's research present an unsettling scenario for managers who are resistant to

change and prefer to keep using a traditional top-down managerial style, telling people what to do and making decisions unilaterally from their corner offices.

Why? Based on his interviews with CEOs, Morgan says that artificial intelligence and other technologies will increasingly make decisions for managers. This will eliminate the need for old-school, command-and-control managers.

"Artificial intelligence will effectively eliminate bad managers from organizations," he predicts. "If AI is all about making more accurate and informed decisions, that part of managers' jobs goes away. So if that's all you've focused on as a manager, you become obsolete."

Instead of only making decisions and issuing directives, managers need to focus more on the human element. How well managers engage and empower employees is becoming the new standard by which their performance is measured, he says.

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 Luke Laggis at 800-257-7222, or email editor@mswmag.com.

"If you think you're the only one qualified to make decisions, that's a quick way to fail at anything," Morgan notes.

No more status quo

With changes occurring so rapidly in the business world, managers will also have to learn how to lead in the face of uncertainty about where things are headed. This will require embracing new ideas and processes instead of relying on things that worked in the past, Morgan says.

"Managers will need to be comfortable challenging the status quo — with experimenting and testing new things," he explains. "They may even have to test things in a couple of different directions at the same time. They'll need to think about the future in a new way."

To help with this process, managers also must put their egos aside and surround themselves with employees who are smarter and more talented. For many people, that's an uncomfortable thing to do. But in the long run, managers can ill afford to view themselves as sitting at the top of a pyramid with employees down below them; that stereotype is rapidly disappearing.

"Instead, mangers need to realize they should be at the bottom of the pyramid, pushing everyone else upward," he continues. "That helps to create the best ideas for services, products, innovations and business opportunities, as well as identifies new market threats."

Bridging the talent gap

CEOs around the world also expressed concern about the growing "talent gap," in which there aren't enough people available to fill demand for jobs. In fact, a 2018 study by organizational consulting firm Korn Ferry predicted this shortfall will hit a total of more than 85 million people worldwide by 2030. The financial impact? A whopping \$8.5 trillion in unrealized annual revenues.

Furthermore, the U.S. Census Bureau predicts that by 2035, there will be more people over age 65 than under 18 for the first time in American history. This will only exacerbate the talent gap.

The takeaway here? Managers must strongly advocate for up-skilling and up-training for existing employees in order to produce the talent they need, Morgan says.

"Managers will also need to know what kind of training is needed - have a good sense of where the world and their businesses are headed," he adds. "They no longer can assume a head-down position."

"I always tell leaders to be transparent as they possibly can."

Jacob Morgan

In addition, managers will have to focus even more on diversity and inclusion to narrow the talent gap. This includes changing the way they hire, train and retrain their employees.

New employee mentality

Future leaders also must understand that younger employees (think millennials) want more from their jobs than just being drones that perform assigned tasks. They also want purpose and meaning in their work — know that they're contributing to something greater than themselves, Morgan says.

"As leaders, managers need to help employees connect those dots between their roles and the bigger picture ... and understand what they care about and what they value," he explains. "To do this, you must be an effective storyteller.

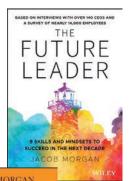
"This is very hard to do because it feels a little philosophical and touchy-feely," he adds. "It's an emotional kind of thing that some people just don't feel comfortable doing."

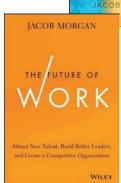
Along with expecting more meaning from work, employees also want more transparency and higher standards for corporate morality. That means managers must feel comfortable taking a stance on issues so that employees know what they believe in from a moral standpoint, Morgan says.

Old-school managers feel they need to stay neu-

tral and not get involved, but they no longer can afford to "play in the gray areas," he says. "It all goes hand in hand with transparency - being open and upfront with your team.

"I always tell leaders to be transparent as they possibly can," he contin-





ues. "Most employees have no idea what's going on in companies or why. To create trust and a feeling of psychological safety and connection, be as transparent as you can and stop hiding in your company's hierarchy and bureaucracy."

Many of the aforementioned trends already are gaining traction in the workplace. As such, it's imperative for managers who want to stay in the game to recognize these trends and reinvent themselves accordingly. Those who don't will get practice updating their resumes. +



INSURING A BRIGHT FUTURE



"It's changed people's lives, people on fixed incomes who have been dealing with failing pipes for years."

Jerry Knight

n the eastern edge of Salt Lake Valley, the Sandy (Utah) Suburban Improvement District sits among similar sewer entities at the base of the Wasatch Mountains. It's a mature district and percolates along day by day without dramatic changes in the offing.

The absence of drama is deceiving, however, because the district's transformation has already occurred. It happened six years ago when Sandy Suburban's elected board instituted a universal insurance program for residential lateral pipelines.

Lateral insurance may not seem transformational. After all, sewer lines, suburbia and insurance are all pretty mundane subjects. Nevertheless, something truly significant happened in Sandy in 2014.

That was when, after years of research, an elected sewer board implemented a plan insuring residents against the threat of house-to-street sewer pipe failure. What's more, the board set the cost of the insurance for each resident at \$5 a month, a pittance compared to an emergency repair's price tag. Furthermore, the board declined to raise rates to pay for it.

Jerry Knight, general manager of the district, oversaw implementation of the new district policy and staunchly advocates for it today. Yet Knight was skeptical in the beginning. Renee Christensen, board member, recalls that when the idea of lateral insurance first came up, Knight's response was, "People just have to pay their own bills. That's all there is to it."

Status quo

Sandy Suburban Improvement District is a collections system only, piping 3.5 mgd of sewage to the South Valley Water Reclamation Facility that also serves four other systems. The facility's 20 mgd of treated water is discharged into the Jordan River, which flows northward until it empties into the Great Salt Lake.

Compared to some older parts of the U.S., the community has relatively young sewer infrastructure comprised of mostly well-maintained clay and concrete pipe. Situated on the western



Corey Hudson, a linesman at Sandy Suburban Improvement District, checks over a Vactor combo truck before heading out to clean sewer lines.

slope of the Wasatch Mountains, the district moves its wastewater entirely by gravity. Furthermore, the system is 98% built out, so capacity issues are not anticipated in the foreseeable future.

All of this translates into district employees principally maintaining the status quo: keeping the wastewater moving, inspecting pipes for developing obstructions or infiltration, and responding to emergency situations. The district doesn't even own excavation equipment because there is so little demand for it. When digging — or, for that matter, pipe relining or bursting — is required, the work is bid out.

Sandy Suburban's fleet of equipment reflects this narrow concentration of tasks. Two Vactor 2100 hydro combo units — 2012 and 2007 models — are the heavyweights Knight calls out for big cleaning jobs. A 2004 Vactor jetter unit on a Sterling chassis complements the bigger rigs. A brand-new RapidView IBAK North America camera system mounted in a Ford E-450 van — and a 5-year-old virtually identical unit — provide eyes in the pipe for maintenance technicians.

"We are set up pretty nice," Knight says.

Full coverage

Sandy, a community of less than 100,000 people, is part of a Salt Lake City metro area population of more than a million. Its city government is developing a futuristic plan that effectively partitions the city into urban villages, so there is some inkling of civic willingness to try new things.

Perhaps that explains how the Sandy Suburban Improvement District caught the lateral insurance bug. The three-person elected board was exposed to the idea in 2010 after Mark Hurst joined the board. Hurst had served once before and told his new colleagues that the district had a problem that needed addressing: Too many lateral pipes were failing and individual property owners couldn't afford the cost of rehabbing them.

"We had citizens coming to ask us to pay sewer repair bills," Christensen says. "We couldn't justify doing it. We were not in the lateral business. We couldn't afford to set the precedent of paying for collapsed pipe. That would have been a serious precedent."

Knight readily agreed with that assessment. Undaunted, the board and general manager began to kick around ideas.

One obvious response was for property owners themselves to buy insurance riders covering the pipes, but that was a "too little too late" proposition for some and a relatively expensive option for all. Nearby Salt Lake City offered its residents this form of lateral insurance as an option, but Knight didn't believe an optional program was a long-term solution for his smaller district.

"The only people who were going to opt in would be the people who knew they had a problem. An insurance program could only work if no one could opt out." That is, without everyone contributing to the pool, the numbers wouldn't work.

As he researched the matter, Knight sought out Rick Lindsey, president of a local agency for Prime Insurance Co. Based

PROFILE: Sandy (Utah) Suburban Improvement District

WASTEWATER VOLUME: 3.5 mgd

SEWER COLLECTION INFRASTRUCTURE:

165 miles of sewer main, 3,200 manholes

SEWER COLLECTION CUSTOMERS: 10.000 residences

SEWER EMPLOYEES: 13 including office staff

WEBSITE: www.sandysid.com

BOARD MEMBER AND ACTIVIST

Serving on a sewer improvement board isn't glamorous, yet the work is vitally important to the environmental integrity of communities. Thank goodness for public-spirited citizens who step up.

Renee Christensen is one such person. She is starting her fourth four-year elected term on the governing body of Sandy (Utah) Suburban Improvement District. Early in her tenure, the district conceived and implemented its lateral insurance program, the purpose of which is to reduce the leakage of sewage from lateral pipelines into surrounding soil and water tables.

Though the program has proven itself over five years, it has not caught on with other districts in the Salt Lake Valley or elsewhere in the country. Christensen earnestly advocates for it, but so far with little success.

"Managers love the concept," she says of responses to her lobbying efforts. "They see the benefits. However, political powers in a community look at constraints in their budget and dismiss the idea as an uphill climb they are not fit for. They fear the voice of the people will rise in outcries of 'You want more money from me?' This is a reality in the thought process of elected officials. The lateral program has yet to breach it."

She believes education can resolve the impasse. To that end, she regularly addresses local civic and sewer district officials. Several presentations to officials on the south end of the valley are scheduled for 2020. Jerry Knight, general manager, is advocating similarly but farther afield, across the region and country.

"The lateral insurance program is a proactive way of solving the problem," Knight says. "Government is, by nature, used to being reactionary. Being proactive is a huge step for it. Most officials are just not even willing to try."



"We want a full repair when it's needed. We don't want a point repair done for, say, \$2,500 if a \$4,500 relining is needed."

Jerry Knight

in Chicago, Prime specializes in custom insurance products such as aircraft, taxicab and inflatables insurance. The conversations between Lindsey and Knight ultimately bore fruit. Nearly four years after the board began its internal discussion, the district finally implemented a plan in 2014.

The custom Prime insurance product for municipalities and special districts is called SWIP, which stands for Sewer and Water Insurance Plans. Each plan is strictly tailored to a sewer or water system. Such customization is key, Knight says. "I can't stress enough how important it is that we were able to customize the program based on our specific needs and fee."

After all the numbers were crunched, Sandy Suburban's insurance plan offered each residential customer lateral insurance for \$5 a month or \$60 a year, a charge eventually incorporated into the district's bimonthly bill. The monthly fee is fixed and separate from periodic rate increases, the last of which occurred 10 years ago.

"I probably could raise the lateral insurance fee and I wouldn't get a lot of complaints because so many people have benefited from the program. It's changed people's lives, people on fixed incomes who have been dealing with failing pipes for years," Knight says.

Holistic approach

After five years, the program data shows how it's working. There have been 762 lateral pipe failure claims, each of which was investigated by a district employee before being forwarded to SWIP. Each failed or blocked line was inspected, cleaned out or repaired as necessary by a contractor, followed by a post-inspection and claim

settlement. Of the 762 claims, 477 resulted in rehab work rather than Band-Aid clean-outs or patches. That's by design.

"We want a full repair when it's needed. We don't want a point repair done for, say, \$2,500 if a \$4,500 relining is needed," Knight says. "And while the contractor is there, we also want a cleanout put in if there isn't one." The holistic approach drove the cost of the average repair job to about \$5,000. Translated, that means customers who individually paid \$300 in premiums over five years would have had their pipes rehabbed at a cost 15 times more than that.

To protect itself against a calamitous series of failed pipe episodes, the district has a stop-loss stipulation, which limits its financial liability to \$15,000 per incident. To protect its reserve, it also limits total district payout over a 12-month period. The limits are not hard and fast, however. On a couple of occasions, rather than defer a project until a new calendar year, the board has approved a repair even though the stop-loss figure for the year was slightly exceeded.

This same flexibility was evident more recently after a resident errantly hired a private contractor to fix a lateral rather than work through SWIP. He ended up with an \$18,000 bill. At the time of this report, the board was leaning toward reimbursing the resident to the extent its insurance plan would have covered it. After all, the district also benefited by having one more lateral upgraded.

This is the dynamic that keeps the program sustainable: As aging laterals are relined or otherwise updated, the need for the insurance declines across the system and financial pressure on the district lessens. Barring a catastrophic event — like, say, an earthquake — a future board might even reduce the \$5-per-home fee as demand for lateral repairs fades.

"My board really pushed for a long-term insurance program, for a complete solution that provided complete repairs. A lot of work went into planning this so it would be sustainable," says Knight, who himself has been a sustainable influence. He began working for the district 34

"We all are on the same page. That's key."

Jerry Knight

years ago as the "low man on the totem pole" before becoming general manager in 2007.

The improvement program works in part because the district, insurance company and repair contractors all work together. That teamwork lets them "triage," as Knight puts it. They set priorities as claims come in and flex as necessary when the money at the end of the year is running out. "We all are on the same page. That's key."

Several contractors are called on regularly to perform the lateral work. Matrixx Excavation, a MaxLiner cured-in-place contractor in Sandy, and a local Roto-Rooter plumbing firm most frequently work the lateral jobs. SWIP requires competitive contracting and, according to Knight, has been pleased with the work of its contractors.

Win-win situation

Sandy Suburban was Prime's first SWIP client and, to date, is its only one. This is interesting because the program has proven fiscally sound and wholly beneficial to both district and residents. It comes close to being a true win-win situation. Yet not even the special districts that surround Sandy Suburban Improvement District are emulating it.

"They are where I was," Knight says of the reluctance of officials in other districts to offer the program. "You know, they'll say, 'It's not our problem. We don't want to go into the laterals business." That Sandy Suburban has proven both of those assertions wrong doesn't seem to matter.

Knight was on the program last January at the Fort Worth, Texas, Underground Construction Technology conference. He reported on Sandy Suburban's response to the problem of aging laterals and recalls it was a packed house. "They had to shut down the meeting finally so the next speaker could come on. Then we had a panel discussion and all the questions were directed to me."

Enthusiasm for the idea remains high. Knight periodically answers calls and emails about the program from elsewhere in the country. Yet to his knowledge no other district or municipality has followed Sandy Suburban's lead and created its own program. Not yet, anyway. +

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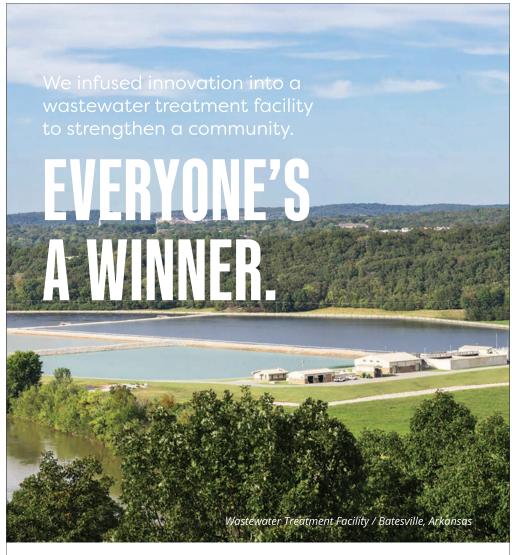
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NASSCO works across the industry to ensure CIPP safety

workers and residents in the communities we serve.

Then published reports questioned the safety of chemical emissions

of styrene-based resin used in cured-in-place pipe, NASSCO sprang

into action to do its part to learn more and ensure the protection of

By Sheila Joy

thorough research.

the Trenchless Technology Center at Louisiana Tech University, in partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers, to carry out the scope of work defined by CUIRE. The primary project objectives were to (1) measure and quantify worker/ public exposure and (2) evaluate potential health risks to workers and the

NASSCO (National

Association of Sewer Service Companies) is

located at 2470 Longstone Lane, Suite M, Marriottsville, MD 21104; 410-442-7473; www.nassco.org

Sheila Joy is executive director of NASSCO. She can be reached

at director@nassco.org.

The first step was to form a CIPP safety work group under NASSCO's Pipe Rehabilitation Committee. The work group brought together NASSCO members and other industry organizations including the American Composites Manufacturers Association, North American Society for Trenchless Technology, NSF International, The Water Research Foundation and Water Research Centre. The intention was to better understand potential health risks via

The work group, bringing together the expertise of the world's most respected organizations in this field, prepared requests for proposals for a two-phase study:

Phase One: Awarded to the University of Texas at Arlington Center for Underground Infrastructure Research and Education and the Institute for Underground Infrastructure in Germany, the four-month study focused on the review of published literature pertaining to chemical emissions of styrene-based resin used in CIPP. The resulting report found that existing studies do not adequately capture worker exposures or levels in the surrounding areas to which workers or citizens may be exposed. The CUIRE team also developed a robust scope of work for capturing and analyzing CIPP emissions data.

Phase Two: The second RFP received many responses and was awarded to

public due to CIPP emissions.

TTC's field study included six different test sites in Shreveport, Louisiana; Aurora, Colorado; and St. Louis. Tests were conducted in a variety of weather and geographic conditions on a variety of pipe lengths and diameters ranging from 6 to 36 inches. Evaluation of potential health risks to workers and the surrounding community for this study were based on published regulatory guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. A webinar conducted by TTC with initial findings and recommendations can be found at www.nassco.org/news. The full reports from CUIRE and TTC are also available at www.nassco.org.

Safety is paramount to NASSCO, and we know the findings of these studies are just the beginning. Therefore, the industry is coming together to collaborate once again via NASSCO's CIPP safety work group to identify areas for additional research, update safety guidelines and — above all — keep workers and our communities safe.

For more information or to become part of this important work group, please email NASSCO's executive director at director@nassco.org. ◆

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TACKLING ODOR AND FOG

New mixing aerator system solves problematic lift station's constant issues

By Suzan Chin-Taylor

BETTER MOUSETRAPS

PRODUCT:

TITUS Twister Mixing Aerator

MANUFACTURER:

Titus Industrial Group 541-389-1975 www.titusig.com

APPLICATION:

Regenerative blowers, enhanced with ozone generation

BENEFITS:

Odor was gone, FOG was reduced 95%, ragged up pumps eliminated

USER:

Yuba City, California

Tuba City, California, like most cities across the nation, has experienced growth. Parts of its sanitary collections system are now being asked to perform at top capacity and handle more than their fair share of conveyance on a daily basis.

In one such structure, this was creating the ongoing challenge of fighting odor issues without a long-term resolution and with a never-ending maintenance expense. Accepting an offer of a pilot test unit for a new technology designed for wastewater treatment plants is showing itself to be the answer Yuba City has been waiting to incorporate for decades.

Long history

Serving a population of approximately 72,000 with a system comprised of 200 miles of sewer main, 2,400 manholes and 17 operational lift stations, Yuba City's small and efficient collections team has a full plate of work. Tim Bybee, wastewater collection supervisor, and Diana Langley, Public Works director, wanted to see one task eliminated: the weekly cleaning and constant maintenance of Lift Station No. 2.

Built in the early 1950s, the lift station was originally designed to act as the city's wastewater treatment plant. Then in 1979 when the city's new treatment plant came online, the structure was converted into a lift station. In 1992 it was upgraded with three 30 hp submersible pumps, each capable of pumping 800 gpm. Despite the upgrade, the system is pushed to the limit, responsible for moving an average of 2-3 mgd.

Odor issues became prevalent in the lift station over time, so in 1991 a charcoal filtration unit (Purafil - a Filtration Group Co.) was installed. The charcoal system worked for a while, but as the city grew and more flow came through, the unit was not able to keep up with demand and odor became a routine issue.

The right answer

The maintenance team began a preventive maintenance program of replacing the charcoal in the unit annually, but this became challenging as the material was difficult to procure and became increasingly more expensive. Chemical odor control methods were then considered, but these also were costly and carried safety liability for storage and handling.

"Director Langley challenged us to search out a long-term solution and consider other technology," Bybee says. "She opened my eyes and view of our current system — that a solution you start with may simply become obsolete for your situation. It doesn't mean that it isn't a good solution; it just isn't the right answer to meet the current needs."

While they hunted for new options to combat the odor, crews were dispatched to clean the lift station with a jet/vac truck on a weekly basis.

The crews extracted on average 1,000 gallons of FOG per week. They also adjusted pump controls, lowering the pump on offset points to reduce detention time. This resulted in minimal odor improvement and created the potential of ragging up the pumps. In the long run, adjusting the pump controls as a solution was not successful and was abandoned. Even with this valiant effort, and an annual cost of nearly \$70,000, the odor persisted.

Pilot test

Bybee had been in conversation with Lewis Titus of Titus Industrial Group about various wastewater technologies they offer when the subject of odor control systems came up. Upon hearing about Yuba City's issue, Titus was confident he had a solution with their TITUS Twister Mixing Aerator.

"I was skeptical," Bybee says. "I deal with a lot of different vendors, and sometimes it feels like it's just another sales pitch. But Lewis was adamant that we had to try it and so confident it would work that he offered to bring



us a pilot unit to try at no cost. My director felt we had nothing to lose so we agreed."

Titus delivered a trailer-mounted TITUS Twister and set it up next to the lift station. The patented system consists of a Twister head, regenerative blower and enclosure. The Twister heads are comprised of stainless steel manifolds, stainless steel ballast plates, PVC barrels, HDPE shear blades, HDPE horizontal flow deflector plates and stainless steel coupling connections. The head is connected to the blower by either

EPDM hose or stainless steel hard piping. For the Yuba City application, two Twister heads were installed into the wet well, driven by two 3 hp regenerative blowers, and enhanced with ozone generation.

Air is generated by the regenerative blower inside the trailer enclosure. The air is then delivered to the aeration units and through the manifold in the lift station through two EPDM hoses. In the Yuba City unit, a 40-gram-per-hour corona discharge ozone generator was used to produce ozone from the ambient air. This was incorporated to enhance the unit's odor control properties. Openings in the manifold create air bubbles that transfer oxygen and ozone into the effluent.

Within the unit's barrel, an air lift column is created. That forces liquid and solid materials up into the static shear blades and flow deflector plate. Solids are broken up and directed back into the cycle. Liquid and solid materials are continuously drawn in through ports located at the bottom of the barrel, creating a constant suspension of materials within the lift station.

"Within the first hour, even running at half capacity, everyone who was present concluded that this was the technology we needed: The odor was gone. Pumpouts for the FOG matter have been reduced 95%, and ragged up pumps have been eliminated," Bybee says.

Permanent solution

Bybee presented the results to Langley, and they were taken to city council and approved for purchase. The city is now installing a TITUS Twister Mixing Aerator into a permanent structure adjacent to the lift station.

The Twister's aboveground components will be housed where the original odor control system was, alongside other control equipment for the lift station. The building is being rehabilitated for this purpose, and instead of the EPDM hoses used during the demonstration and trial, (in conjunction with the trailermounted version) stainless steel piping will be run underground into the side of the lift station and onto the heads directly in front of the aeration pumps.

Once the building renovation is complete and the permanent equipment is installed, the city investment will be approximately \$85,000.

"We actually predicted that between the maintenance equipment operation costs, the charcoal unit upkeep and labor we were putting in, this new unit will almost pay for itself in one year," Bybee says. "I wish we had tried it sooner, and we're glad that Titus had so much confidence in their system and gave us the opportunity to take it for the test drive."

"Within the first hour, even running at half capacity, everyone who was present concluded that this was the technology we needed: The odor was gone."

Tim Bybee



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Pipeline Renewal TECHNOLOGIES See Ad Page 17	Pipeline Renewal Technologies III Canfield Ave., Ste. B3, Randolph, NJ 07869 866-936-8476/973-252-6700 www.pipelinert.com mail@pipelinert.com		Yes							Yes		
Rapic View See Ad Page 3	RapidView IBAK North America 1828 W Olson Rd., Rochester, IN 46975 800-656-4225 www.rapidview.com sales@rapidview.com		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Ratech Electronics, Ltd. 260 Spinnaker Way, Ste. 7, Vaughan, ON L4K 4P9 CANADA 800-461-9200/905-660-7072 Fax: 905-660-1519 www.ratech-electronics.com sales@ratech-electronics.com		Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
See Ad Page 29	Sewer Equipment Co. of America by Sewer Equipment 1590 Dutch Rd., Dixon, IL 61021 888-477-7611 www.sewerequipment.com sales@sewerequipment.com		Yes	Yes			Yes					
SPARTAN	Spartan Tool, LLC 1506 W Division St., Mendota, IL 61342 800-435-3866 www.spartantool.com sales@spartantool.com		Yes				Yes			Yes	Yes	
	Subsite Electronics 1950 W Fir St., Perry, OK 73077 800-767-1974 www.subsite.com info@subsite.com		Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
See Ad Page 49	The Safety Company LLC, dba Mtech Company 7401 First Place, Oakwood Village, OH 44146 800-362-0240/440-646-0996 Fax: 440-646-9953 www.mtechcompany.com sales@mtechcompany.com		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
See Ad Page 45	Vivax-MetroTech Corp. 3251 Olcott St., Santa Clara, CA 95054 800-446-3392/408-734-1400 www.vivax-metrotech.com salesUSA@vxmt.com						Yes			Yes	Yes	
WinCan See Ad Page 7	WinCan 300 Cedar Ridge Dr., Ste. 308, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 877-626-8386 www.wincan.com/en mail@wincan.com										Yes	

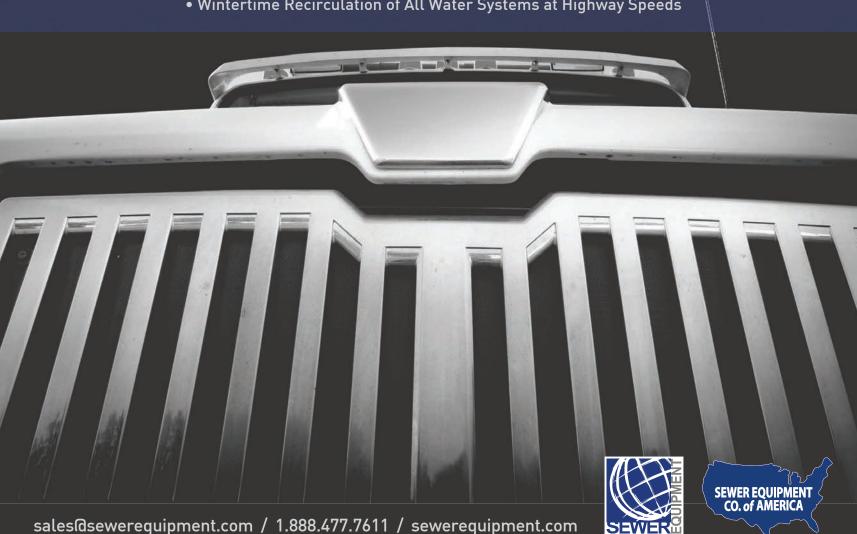




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SOFTWARE SAVES GRAND RAPIDS \$1 BILLION

Data from flowmeters helped city officials verify a hunch that sewer issues weren't as bad as models indicated

By Ken Wysocky

y using sensors to collect real-time data about the performance of sanitary sewers and a specialized software program to analyze the intel, the city of Grand Rapids, Michigan, avoided an estimated \$1 billion worth of system upgrades that reports indicated would be needed to ensure compliance with state mandates.

The data was collected by a network of 90 flowmeters and 10 rain gauges deployed around the city in 2013 and analyzed by a BLU-X Intelligent Urban Watershed platform from Xylem Digital Solutions. The upshot? The infiltration and inflow problems could instead be solved for between \$30 million to \$50 million, says Nicole Pasch, the acting assistant environmental services manager for the city's Environmental Services Department.

The city's journey to using the sensors and the analytical software actually started back in 1991. That's when Grand Rapids embarked on a 27-year-long, roughly \$400 million endeavor to convert its 100-year-old combined sewers into separate stormwater and sanitary sewers. Overall, the city installed about 119 miles of new storm and sanitary sewer lines in a 4.7-square-mile area and separated 99.5% of the old combined sewer network.

Sewer overflows during heavy rains had plagued the city for decades. During 1969, for instance, 12.6 billion gallons of untreated sewage flowed into the Grand River, which empties into Lake Michigan some 40 miles downstream. And in 2013, record flooding sent 435 million gallons of untreated sewage into the river, according to news reports.





Nicole Pasch

In fact, the situation was bad enough that in 1988, state authorities imposed a ban on real estate development until the sewer problems were fixed. The state also ordered the city to fix the sewer overflow problem by 2019.

Surprising news

After the sewer-separation project concluded, the city was required to prove it could comply with a mandate from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to eliminate overflows in the new sanitary sewers. The only exception to the mandate was a rainstorm that would exceed a



Nicole Pasch is the acting assistant environmental services manager for Grand Rapids' Environmental Service Department. 24-hour, 25-year storm, about the equivalent of almost 4 inches of rain in an hour, Pasch says.

"Even though we already spent \$400 million to separate the sewers and no longer have any sewage overflow, we still have to go through the regulatory requirement to show we won't have any sanitary system overflows," Pasch explains.

When the hydraulic modeling test was completed, the results took officials by surprise. The data indicated that the city still needed to remove 175 million



TECH TALK



gallons of I&I from the system annually. At a cost of \$5 to \$7 per gallon for such projects, the total estimated price tag came out to around \$1 billion, Pasch says.

"After reviewing the results, it was surprising that the hydraulic model indicated there were more areas that still needed work, including some areas we had already addressed," she says. "The model predicted much bigger issues with certification than we ever thought possible."

Following a hunch

At that point, officials faced a choice: Accept the results of the hydraulic model or follow a gut hunch that the modeling was somehow flawed. They elected to go with the latter, and to verify their hunch, the city hired EmNet (now owned by Xylem) to deploy the flow sensors in 2013.

"The more we worked with EmNet, the more we realized that they're

"Grand Rapids is one of the most advanced cities in the country. They're way ahead of the game in terms of making necessary investments in sewers."

Tim Braun

very experienced in modeling and collecting system intelligence," Pasch says. "So we hired them to develop a more realistic model."

The centerpiece of EmNet's efforts was the BLU-X platform, which collects, organizes, analyzes and displays the data via dashboards. That provides municipal officials with visual cues to understand and regulate the operation of their sewer systems. Once a baseline model was established, this "smart" system continually compares

it against ongoing sensor data, which continuously fine-tunes the model with each rainfall.

"The model is built on a software platform that is basically a series of mathematical relationships that represent the entire sewer system," says Tim Braun, vice president and enterprise architect at Xylem Digital Solutions. "It models how all the pipes intersect, their slopes and diameters — really anything that impacts how water flows through the system.

"BLU-X helps you understand the physical locations of the problem and characterizes the behavior of a sewer system," he adds. "This helps you understand the location of the biggest pain points, and knowing that helps you make far more strategic decisions."

Not as bad as expected

The flowmeter data analytics provided by the BLU-X platform narrowed the problem areas suggested by the hydraulic study to only six sites. And even those six sites struck city officials as odd because during the major flooding that afflicted much of the Midwest in 2016, none occurred in the areas that the data predicted would suffer most, Pasch says.

"We took all that data from the flowmeter network and used it to show where they were getting the most inflow from direct connections, as well as groundwater infiltration," Braun says. "That body of data and analytics was very different from what the hydraulic model said should've been happening."

After moving flowmeters to new locations and analyzing more data, the city narrowed down the problem sites to just three. "That's where the real story is," Pasch explains. "It's all about trusting your experience and your gut about the aberrations.

"A basic hydraulic model is very conservative, so we took the next step of putting meters out there and getting real data," she continues. "Then the modeling advanced to a neural network and from there to a genetic algorithm model.

"Using those kinds of advanced mathematical computations allows the system to calibrate more and more to what it actually sees, rather than relying on theoretical computations."

Verify with data

So what's the takeaway here for other municipal officials? "As an operator, you know your system, so sometimes you have to follow your gut instincts and verify them with data," Pasch notes.

The data collected and the ensuing analytics allowed the city to make an intelligent and articulate case to the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy to avoid spending \$1 billion in sanitary sewer improvements, Braun says, while still meeting its sewer performance requirements and environmental objectives.

Looking ahead, the city has installed 70 more sensors, this time primarily in storm sewers. The data collected by the sensors will help Grand Rapids officials understand the city's overall impact on the Grand River and identify what projects will yield the highest return on investment as they pertain to water quality in the river and its tributaries.

"Grand Rapids is one of the most advanced cities in the country. They're way ahead of the game in terms of making necessary investments in sewers," Braun notes.

In the meanwhile, the city has completed the project-performance certification process to demonstrate that all the separated sewers meet state mandated requirements. The storm sewers are certified, but the sanitary sewers certification is pending.

"The city submitted a project-performance certification work plan (for the sanitary sewers) at the end of 2019, and we expect it will be accepted," Pasch says. "That will save the city hundreds of millions of dollars by using the updated model and real-time data.

"We could've spent \$1 billion," she concludes. "But instead, we found a better and more cost-efficient way." ◆



MAINLINE TV INSPECTION AND LOCATION

By Craig Mandli

CRAWLER CAMERAS

Aries Industries Mobile Pathfinder System



The Mobile Pathfinder System from Aries Industries is a lightweight, portable system for accurately inspecting mainlines 6 inches or larger. It includes a powerful transporter, camera and lightweight reel; these components are operated by an all-inone remote control. The trans-

porter comes in a variety of wheel sizes and is equipped with a rear-viewing camera and an adjustable electric lift to keep the camera centered in a range of pipe sizes. It features a WiperCam pan-and-tilt camera with an inthe-pipe cleaning system and field-replaceable wipers. The camera has a 300-degree viewing angle and LED lighting system to capture pipe details and ensure accurate assessments. The lightweight reel has 1,000 feet of low-friction, multiconductor cable, making the system fully portable. 800-234-7205; www.ariesindustries.com.

Envirosight ROVVER X



The **ROVVER X** inspection crawler from **Envirosight** lets an operator control inspections, view and record digital video, log observa-

tions, generate reports and link directly to asset management software. All these capabilities are packed into a simple, three-piece layout, with no CCU or other components to clutter the workspace. Twelve-wheel options

— plus camera lift, carriage and illumination accessories — mean it transforms in seconds to inspect any size line. The crawler is six-wheel drive with proportional steering to navigate past obstacles and has overlapping wheels to climb offsets. Powerful motors and a geared six-wheel drivetrain maximize travel range. It is built on an expandable digital backbone, with the ability to add side scanning and laser profiling, view data from onboard sensors, automate tasks with macros and measure defects on screen. Its firmware updates automatically to the latest features. **866-936-8476**; www.envirosight.com.

Insight Vision Cameras IRIS



The Insight Vision Cameras IRIS crawler system is compact and portable, and it comes complete with a motorized crawler and a motorized power-rewind/feed-assist cable drum. The reel has 600 feet of Kevlar coax cable. The corrosion-resistant brass-body crawler will stand up to harsh conditions. The camera has a 180-degree pan and 360-degrees of tilt, allowing the user to inspect pipes from 6 to 12 inches, and up to 18 inches with an optional pneumatic wheel set. The module has USB, HDMI and SD external ports. The reel has a 10-inch, daylight-

readable touch screen. Its easy-to-use software runs on Windows 10. **800-488-8177**; www.insightvisioncameras.com.

RapidView IBAK North America PANORAMO



The PANORAMO method from RapidView IBAK North America changes current processes into data collection in the field and data analysis back in the office. At the core of the system are the wide-angle (185-degree) twin digital cameras, found on both the front and the rear of the system. As it moves through the pipeline, the two cameras simultaneously capture still images in 4K resolution. To achieve such high

resolution and allow it to be displayed and stored, a Gigabit Ethernet standard is being used for the transmission of images and other data. This allows a data transmission rate of up to a gigabit per second. **800-656-4225**; www.rapidview.com.

Ratech Electronics Mini Crawler PNT



The Ratech Electronics Mini Crawler PNT is a self-propelled four-wheel-drive multiconductor camera transporter. The 12 super-bright LEDs with variable intensity light the way through

5- to 30-inch-diameter pipes. Using the full 360-degree-rotation pan-and-tilt camera, users will be able to see defects and obstructions more

closely and in more detail. This same camera head is interchangeable with

the head on the company's push camera system. The power and controls to operate the crawler are in a handy remote control device. It comes with a manual lift and built-in 512 Hz sonde for locating purposes. 800-461-9200; www.ratech-electronics.com.

INSPECTION VEHICLE



Subsite Electronics inspection vehicles

CCTV pipeline inspection systems from Subsite Electronics include ergonomic layouts and hand-crafted cabinetry that actually fits the equipment. Choose a turnkey, ready-to-survey system or specify your own productivity machine. Various layout plans are available for high cubes, sprinter

vans, cargo vans, step vans, transit vans, trailers and all-terrain vehicles. 800-767-1974; www.subsite.com.

LASER PROFILING EQUIPMENT

RauschUSA KSI35 Scan



The KS135 Scan from RauschUSA has two laser diodes integrated into a mainline TV camera head that projects lasers onto the pipe wall. It is designed to perform three tasks in one complete system: CCTV inspection, crack measurement and laser profiling. It is a full camera connected to the L135 steerable tractor. No lengthy, manual field calibration is necessary - simply place the profiler in the pipe and begin instantly. As it travels

through the pipeline, it performs conventional CCTV inspection while taking accurate joint and crack measurements using the integrated laser diodes. On the return trip to the manhole, the rotating camera head analyzes the pipe profile via spinning laser technology. All data is instantly and accurately generated on site using the POSM software. There is no third-party analysis involved, thus providing immediate and reliable evaluation of the pipe right on site. It can be used in 6- to 48-inch pipes. 717-709-1005; www.rauschusa.com.

Locators

General Pipe Cleaners Gen-Eye Hot Spot

The Gen-Eye Hot Spot pipe locator and transmitter from General Pipe Cleaners/General Wire Spring includes a total field antenna and on-screen icons to help lead users to their targets without a long learning



curve. It can be used to quickly and accurately locate inspection cameras, sondes, active power lines and utility lines. Rated at IP65, it is water resistant and dustand dirt-proof. The 5-watt transmitter, in tandem with the locator, makes finding buried utilities quick and easy. More power means more signal to locate.

Choose one of four frequencies to best suit the application. 800-245-6200; www.drainbrain.com.

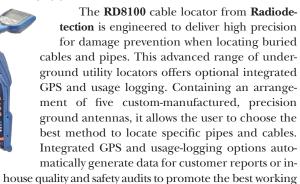
MyTana Locate and Leak Detection Package

MyTana's Locate and Leak Detection Package helps save time finding leaks in utility lines. The LD40 leak detector works like a stethoscope to

detect hissing, trickle or seeping sounds while filtering out background noises. It can detect through any surface and has an easyto-understand, real-time visual response meter, enabling operators to listen and watch for

leaks. Five frequency bands help users home in on hard-to-find leaks, so the LD40 is suitable for use on vertical line leaks, slab leaks and irrigation leaks. The package includes the RL8873 locator and RT8872 transmitter, which can locate most buried utility lines. 800-328-8170; www.mytana.com.

Radiodetection RD8100



conditions. 877-247-3797; www.radiodetection.com.

RIDGID SeekTech SR-24 line locator

The RIDGID SeekTech SR-24 line locator paired with the RIDGIDtrax app simplifies locating jobs and streamlines the creation of accurate maps of underground util-

ities to protect critical assets. It is a locating receiver that uses integrated Bluetooth communications to transmit data and GPS coordinates to a mobile device. Its omnidirectional antennas capture the complete signal field, making it easy to locate a line and follow its path. Pairing it with the RIDGIDtrax app for iOS or Android allows for creation of visual maps of underground utilities using a phone or tablet. Multiple lines can be traced, color-coded and named on an overhead satellite image of a job site. It weighs 3.5 pounds, has

a battery life of eight hours, wireless range of 200 yards and can be programmed to detect any active frequency from 10 Hz to 35 kHz. 800-474-3443; www.ridgid.com.

Superior Signal Smoke Fluid Systems

Smoke Fluid Systems from Superior Signal are used to find faults and

sources of surface water inflow in collections systems. Smoke fluid is both high-quality and economically priced.

> Blowers are engineered for smoke testing, using a doubleinsulated heating chamber with stainless steel injector to maxi-(continued)



mize dry smoke output and produce quality, liquid-based smoke. Blowers can be configured to work with Superior Smoke Candles. 800-945-8378; www.superiorsignal.com.

MAINLINE TV CAMERA SYSTEMS

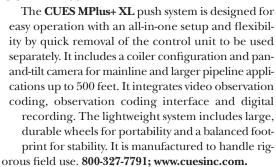
Aquam Pipe Diagnostics Investigator



Investigator from Aquam Pipe Diagnostics is a pressurized pipe inspection and leak detection system designed for 3-inch and larger pipework. It has a tri-sen-

sor head incorporating HD CCTV, a hydrophone for leak detection and a high-powered sonde for mapping and leak verification. Access is gained through 2-inch access points such as hot taps and air release valves. Fire hydrants can also be used as an entry point with a dry barrel fire hydrant adapter. The system is mounted onto pipework through a selection of fittings with operational pressures up to 150 psi. This process makes access into the pipework simple and costeffective. Monitoring the real-time data captured by the camera and hydrophone sensor head allows the operator to understand internal pipe conditions, document asset inventory and condition, and accurately detect and verify leaks with no disruption to the water distribution system, allowing the pipeline to stay in service. 904-456-7926 www.aquampd.com.

CUES MPlus+ XL



Electric Eel Ecam Pro 2

The Ecam Pro 2 mainline pipeline inspection camera system from Electric Eel has a stainless steel-housed, 1.68-inch, self-leveling color camera with sapphire lens; 20-LED light ring with an impact-resistant polycarbonate light ring cover; and high-resolution CCD element. The auto-iris adjusts light automatically. A flexible camera spring navigates 3-inch P-traps. The unit comes standard with 200 feet of braided fiberglass premium 1/2-inch-diameter pushrod (with a capacity of 400 feet available on the reel), industry-standard 512 Hz sonde, 10.4-inch daylight-readable monitor with click-touch controls, and one-touch recording directly to a USB flash drive. It has an on-screen footage counter, a two-hour battery with built-in charger, adjustable light

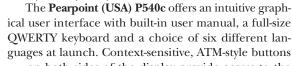
controls, 16 pages of text writing with memory saves, voiceover recording, an 8x zoom function, audio/video out jacks, 8-inch wheels for easy maneuverability, a secure-locking reel brake, and rugged powder-coated steel tube and bar construction. 800-833-1212; www.electriceel.com.

Forbest Products FB-PIC3188XX/4188XX



The FB-PIC3188XX/4188XX portable layflat camera system from Forbest Products comes with a 1-inch waterproof color camera head or 1-inch self-leveling color camera head with a built-in 512 Hz sonde transmitter, stainless steel spring kit and bright LED lights. It comes with 130 feet of 5.3 mm or 200 feet of 6 mm fiberglass cable, with a high-resolution 7- or 10-inch color control station with USB and SD recording. Typing and editing is optional for the 10-inch multifunction control station. The lay-flat design is convenient for one user to operate the camera independently. 877-369-1199; www.forbestusa.net.

Pearpoint (USA) P540c



on both sides of the display provide access to the easy-to-use menus while an additional seven buttons offer direct control of the most-used functions. It has the capability to use the newly designed command

module with any reel system. This will provide customers the flexibility of having multiple rods for different uses while only needing one command module. 800-688-8094; www.pearpoint.com.



The Explorer modular camera system from Spartan Tool has a control box that is compatible with five different pushrods up to 400 feet in length, letting the user quickly adapt to any environment. Included Win-Can software allows the user to

map full plumbing systems for future reference, and files can be saved to a WinCan account, the cloud, external USB drives and the system's internal storage. The stainless steel camera head provides a crisp, color picture to the super-bright, sunlight-readable LCD. Change out reels to create a system that provides the ability to tackle any size job. 800-435-3866; www.spartantool.com.

Vivax-Metrotech vCam-6

The vCam-6 HD inspection system from Vivax-Metrotech includes features such as text writer, voice-over, locatable sonde and traceable pushrod as standard equipment. The standard reel is available with 200, 300 or 400 feet of pushrod and choices of 1.3- or 1.8-inch self-leveling HD camera. The system includes a daylight-viewable con-

trol module with a 9.7-inch HD LCD monitor, distance counter and internal rechargeable batteries with five-plus hours

of battery life. Video recording and JPG-format

pictures can be saved to the internal 1 TB hard drive. The control module has built-in Wi-Fi to stream live video and snapshots to smartphone apps

PRODUCT FOCUS

or directly to a computer for recording to the hard drive. 800-446-3392; www.vivax-metrotech.com.

RECORDING/ARCHIVING/DATA DEVICES

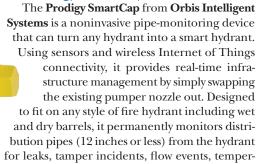
Hermann Sewerin GmbH SePem 155



SePem 155 data loggers from Hermann Sewerin GmbH can help reliably identify existing leaks and catch new ones early on. In relation to the size of a measuring area, the volume of water initially escaping from a new leak is usually so low that it cannot be clearly distinguished from minimum nighttime consumption when

measuring the flow. However, the data logger is designed to report the leak after just one night. It is ideal for mobile use and can also be used for the stationary monitoring of water supply networks. Its simple and intuitive menu navigation provides fast and reliable results and can also be reliably operated by less-experienced users. The measuring times and periods of radio activity are freely programmable. 888-592-9916; www.sewerin.com.

Orbis Intelligent Systems Prodigy SmartCap



ature and pipe condition (average pipe wall thickness and more). Installation can be completed within minutes without disruption or system shutdown. It monitors, processes and records multiple channels of data from a variety of sensors and uploads it to the cloud via Cat M1 cellular connectivity. Reports and data files are transmitted daily unless events occur, in which case it will transmit real-time data to ensure alerts and notifications are received as they occur. 858-242-1603; www.orbis-sys.com.

SOFTWARE

POSM Software



POSM Software can present data collected from a CCTV inspection in a way that helps everyone, from the sewer manager to the third-party engineer who needs detailed plans for inspection. Engineers can color-code GIS maps for inspection, sending those orders to the inspection truck either through the asset management tool of their choice or using GIS mapping. It was designed from the perspective of the inspector in the truck

while still addressing engineering and management needs. 720-636-0532; www.posmsoftware.com.





MAINLINE TV INSPECTION AND LOCATION By Craig Mandli

Rapid acoustic inspection leads to focused cleaning efforts



Problem:

With a time-based maintenance program, Little Rock Water Reclamation Authority in Arkansas annually serviced 40% of its small-diameter collections system using high-cost resources such as CCTV or cleaning. Some of these serviced segments had plenty of flow capacity, while blockages in other parts of the system were being missed and causing overflows. Despite having a highly sophisticated cleaning program, Little Rock looked to enhance its program and reduce sanitary sewer overflows by implementing new technologies.

Solution:

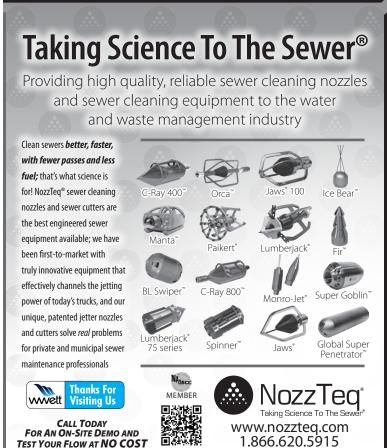
In January 2017, Little Rock started utilizing the Sewer Line Rapid **Assessment Tool,** or SL-RAT, from **InfoSense** to rapidly screen 100% of its small-diameter pipes for blockages on an annual basis at very low cost. The authority focused high-cost resources such as cleaning and CCTV on 20% of the system that was determined to have blockages through acoustic screening.

RESULT:

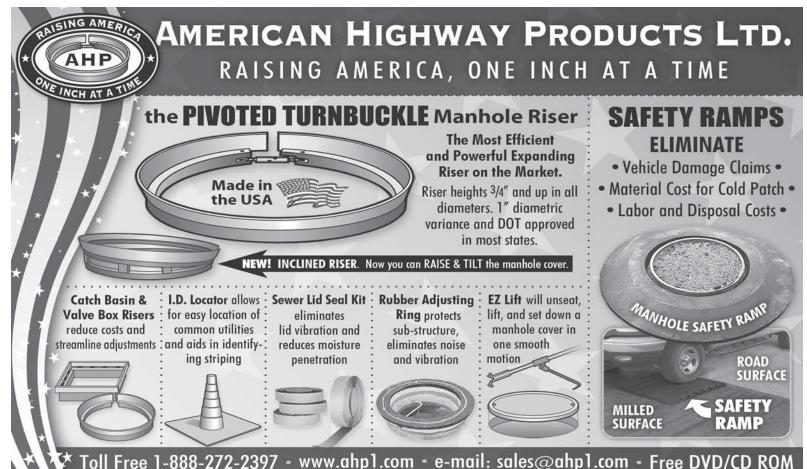
By deploying resources based on condition, rather than time, Little Rock reduced time spent cleaning clean pipes. By utilizing acoustic technology to screen before cleaning, Little Rock cleaned 32% fewer linear feet but increased cubic debris removed by 116% in 2017. By 2018, they reduced SSOs by approximately two-thirds without hiring any additional personnel. 877-747-3245; www.infosense.com. ♦



Email: sales@mightyprobe.com Fax: 800.521.3260







Product Spotlight

Manhole chimney seal guards against inflow and infiltration

By Craig Mandli

here's a simple reason to take steps to prevent inflow and infiltration into sewers: It's an expensive problem that has affordable solutions. Manholes are often the most common source of infiltration, as when the grade adjustment (chimney) area begins to deteriorate, they can virtually serve as a sieve, allowing inflow to flow freely into sewer systems during wet-weather events. It simply doesn't have to be that way, though.

The Infi-Shield Uni-band from Sealing Systems is an inexpensive and permanent method of externally sealing the grade-adjustment ring area of a manhole. The one-piece molded seal has a reinforced, preformed L-shaped corner. Accommodating ground movement, the Uniband's high-quality rubber and nonhardening butyl mastic provide a flexible, watertight seal around the structure. The method saves taxpayers money by not having to treat the extra clearwater and by avoiding expensive repair and maintenance costs.

"It is made of EPDM rubber and is fully assembled so there are no modifications needed in the field and no special tools needed," says Pam Sawatzke, sales/marketing director for Sealing Systems. "The preformed L-shape at the top of the seal assists in the ease of installation and provides a watertight seal onto the casting frame."



The Uni-band seals the casting frame to the cone section of a manhole/catch basin so no infiltration can get in between the adjustment rings. Multiple sizes are available to fit most cone sections and manhole castings, and they can be used on regular manhole cones or top slab installations.

"There were years of research and development that went into designing the improved angled seal," Sawatzke says. "With all variations of manhole designs throughout the world, there was a need for extensive research on different size casting frames, adjustment ring sizes and cone section styles. After testing was complete, the final sizes were put into production to accommodate almost any structure out there."

The Uni-band has an inspection tab attached at the top of the seal, and an aerosol primer is also included. A clean surface is necessary, but no special tools are required for installation. The Uni-band can be immediately backfilled, saving work crews valuable time on the job.

"Customers like it because of the price and ease of installation," Sawatzke says. "When we ask the right questions, we can get them the perfect watertight seal for the chimney sections." 800-478-2054; www.ssisealingsystems.com.



Patterson Mfg. davit cranes

New davit cranes are available from corrosive environment and safety expert, Patterson Mfg. Give your operations a lift with models in 1/2- and 1-ton capacities. The cranes exhibit the company's hallmark safety, simplicity and durability, with key features such as a reliable brake with long life and readily available parts, a hot-dipped galvanized finish, and no plastic sheaves or pulleys. They put safety and simplicity within your reach with a low-maintenance, easy-to-assemble design that is made in the U.S. For over 160 years, Patterson has been a trusted supplier of winches, rigging, fittings and custom products for lifting applications in the marine, construction and mining markets. These davit cranes continue to deliver the company's promise of helping businesses run safer, easier and faster. Find out how our team and products can improve employee safety and positively impact your bottom line.

800-322-2018; www.pattersonmfg.com/davit-cranes

I. General Pipe Cleaners M-1000 Mini-Jet

General Pipe Cleaners/General Wire Spring's portable JM-1000 Mini-Jet has a new, high-performance stainless steel braid jet hose that offers drain cleaning power and performance in a small package. The JM-1000 Mini-Jet is available with stainless steel braid/Teflon core hoses in a variety of lengths. It has 1,500 psi of cleaning power in a compact package, yet weighs only 23 pounds. The stainless steel braid hose design slides the jet nozzle down 1.5- to 3-inch drainlines and more easily navigates tight bends. The 3/16-inch Teflon core also reduces flow resistance, further improving small-line cleaning power. The standard package has a four-piece nozzle set, water supply hose, shut-off valve and universal faucet adapter. Safety features include a three-wire GFCI. 800-245-6200; www.drainbrain.com.

2. Avanti International hydrophobic grouts

Avanti International's hydrophobic grouts are available in new, easy-to-use dual cartridges: AV-248-LV Flexseal LV with AV-249-LV Flexseal Cat LV, AV-275 Soilgrout with AV-276 Soilcat and AV-290 Fast-Set. These products are used to permanently stop leaks, stabilize soils and control groundwater. The catalyzed AV-248-LV and the AV-275 Soilgrout are a moisture-activated, MDI-based polyurethane resins. The AV-248-LV resin is designed to seal active and potential water leaks in various cracks and annular spaces where flexibility is needed but is susceptible to wet/dry cycles. The AV-275 is designed to bind together and waterproof loose granular soils. And the AV-290 is a midrange viscosity, dual-component, hydrophobic MDI-based polyurethane resin designed to fill large voids on the exterior of below-grade structures where high water flow is present. 800-877-2570; www.avantigrout.com.

3. KH Industries HazRay hazardous location lighting

KH Industries' LED HazRay hazardous location lights are available in single hand-held, stringer and multihead light versions. Designed with versatility and safety in mind, they are Class I, Div. 1 and 2 lights that hold CSA certification for U.S. and Canada. The NEMA 4X rating allows for integration in a wide range of outdoor and harsh-condition work site applications. Already being utilized in aerospace maintenance, repair and overhaul; shipbuilding; and utility markets, these lights will also perform in agricultural environments, for paint booths, at oil and gas refineries, and many other industries. The bright lights provide users with a durable, lightweight body, staving off fatigue in employees at the job site. 716-312-0088; www.khindustries.com.

4. Bonomi North America S250 series stainless steel in-line check valves

Bonomi North America's S250 series stainless steel in-line check valves are NSF 61/372 certified for potable water and lead-free applications. All six sizes of the NPT threaded S250 series, from 1/2- to 2-inch, have been certified lead-free by the methods prescribed in NSF/ANSI 372. The metal-forming process for the valves allows an improved flow profile inside the valve body to minimize headloss. It also eliminates machining for reduced manufacturing cost. The S250 series is electron-beam welded at the end cap-to-body connection, creating a unibody for leak-free service. The valves are rated to 250 WOG (water, oil, gas) with an operating temperature range of 4 degrees below zero to 302 degrees F. 704-412-9031; www.bonominorthamerica.com. ◆





Applied Felts acquires FerraTex Services

Applied Felts entered into binding agreements to acquire the business and assets of New Jersey-based FerraTex Services. The acquisition includes the complete transfer of all property, equipment, intellectual property and expertise.

According to a release from Applied Felts, Alex Johnson, president, says, "FerraTex Services has built a very successful preimpregnated CIPP liner business by leveraging its extensive experience in CIPP logistics and installation. Our close collaboration since 2016 has enabled us to witness firsthand FerraTex's expertise and commitment to operational excellence. While 'business as usual' will be our operational guiding principle for FerraTex going forward, we are excited about what the future holds for this partnership, particularly our ability to enhance the offering to customers through the group's manufacturing, R&D and global experience as the CIPP industry continues to expand."

HOBAS Pipe USA participates in the Demand Response program

In addition to the certifications in accordance with ISO 9001 and 14001, HOBAS Pipe USA worked with its local energy company to participate in its Demand Response program. Demand Response is a solution that enhances energy reliability and helps electrical customers reduce their electricity usage during times of peak usage or community emergency, reducing

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electricity demand. HOBAS' manufacturing plant is able to transition from grid power to generator when it is notified by the grid operator or utility company that the grid is stressed and approaching a high level, weather events signal potential power outages, or an emergency or catastrophic event requires curtailment.

Signature Equipment joins Vac-Con distributor network

Vac-Con announced that Signature Equipment in Salt Lake City has joined its distribution network. Signature Equipment has been in operation since 1994 when founder Reed Prows opened its doors to serve the Utah market. In 2017, the company relocated to a larger facility to accommodate the growing demand on its workforce. The Vac-Con product line will be the first vacuum truck portfolio that Signature Equipment has carried. Its other product offerings include refuse collectors, utility bodies, snowplows, salt spreaders and more.

Wilo USA acquires pump manufacturer American-Marsh Pumps

Wilo USA, through its newly established subsidiary, American-Marsh Pumps, acquired the assets of U.S. manufacturer J-Line Pump Co., doing business as American-Marsh Pumps. Headquartered in Collierville, Tennessee, American-Marsh Pumps currently employs 55 people.

Brandstetter joins Grundfos Pumps as new chief technology officer

Markus Brandstetter joined Grundfos Pumps as its new chief technology officer. An experienced technology leader and champion of digitalization, he brings significant experience from senior roles in large industrial companies. He will lead operational strategy development with a special focus on Internet of Things and service-oriented business strategy. In addition to serving as the CEO at Bosch Industrial Boilers, he has held various other leadership positions within international groups like Siemens, Alcatel and Bosch.

Municipal sewer grout school dates announced

In conjunction with CUES, Avanti and Logiball the municipal grout school will be held March 25 and 26 in Orlando, Florida. The level 200 program will provide hands-on demonstrations for leak sealing and present technical information on several topics including lateral and mainline test-and-seal packer operation and performance, mixing and optimizing AV-100 acrylamide grout performance, review and demonstration of new NASSCO/ICGC grout specifications, live infiltration and grout-sealing demos, and new grout testing and monitoring information and methods. Attendees will receive credit for 10 professional development hours certified by the Center for Innovative Grouting Materials and Technology. To register, contact Jessica Williams at Avanti, 281-956-3111 or email jessica.williams@avantigrout.com. ♦



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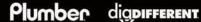












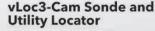


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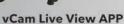
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PEOPLE/AWARDS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency presented the Indianapolis Airport Authority with a PISCES award to honor its stormwater and de-icing capacity project, which improves stormwater infrastructure and enhances water quality at the airport. PISCES stands for Performance and Innovation in the State Revolving Fund Creating Environmental Success.

The Gallery Garden on Main Street in Marshalltown (Iowa) received a Best Development Award by the 1000 Friends of Iowa organization. The downtown attraction serves as a model for stormwater management, as well as a location for local artwork.

The Western Piedmont Council of Governments (North Carolina) received an Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations. The Western Piedmont Council of Governments created a regional code compliance program to serve its 24 local municipalities. The program incorporates municipal code enforcement, Americans with Disabilities Act compliance for local governments under Title II, and a Stormwater and Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination process under the EPA and North Carolina Department of **Environment Quality.**

The city of Malibu (California) received a Beacon Spotlight Gold Level Award: Sustainability Best Practices from the Institute for Local Government for outstanding achievements to address climate change, promote energy innovation and create more sustainable communities. Among its achievements, the city implemented stormwater capture systems throughout the city.

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Texas awarded civil engineering firm Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam a gold medal for its work on the first phase of the Clear Lake flood control project in Harris County. The project, named Exploration Green, is transforming a former golf course into five massive detention ponds that can each hold 100 million gallons of stormwater. Exploration Green also will serve as a nature park.

The Army Corps of Engineers awarded the city of Huntington (West Virginia) with the Most Improved Levee System award for the Guyandotte portion of its floodwall and levee system.



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CALENDAR

March 23-26

American Water Resources Association Geospatial Water Technology Conference, DoubleTree by Hilton, Austin, Texas. Visit www.awra.org.

March 29-April I

American Water Works Association Sustainable Water Management Conference, Hyatt Regency, Minneapolis. Visit www.awwa.org.

April 14-17

Center for Watershed Protection National Watershed and Stormwater Conference, Renaissance Austin Hotel, Austin, Texas. Visit www.cwp.org.

April 19-22

American Public Works Association North American Snow Conference, Cleveland. Visit www.apwa.net.

May 17-21

World Environmental & Water Resources Congress, presented by the Environmental & Water Resources Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Green Valley Ranch Resort, Spa and Casino hotel, Henderson, Nevada. Visit www.ewricongress.org.

May 20-21

American Society of Civil Engineers Watershed Management Conference, Green Valley Ranch Resort, Spa and Casino Hotel, Henderson, Nevada. Visit www.asce.org.

June 14-17

American Water Works Association Annual Conference & Exposition (ACE), Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. Visit www.awwa.org.

American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers Annual International Meeting, CHI Health Center, Omaha, Nebraska. Visit www.asabe.org.

American Society of Civil Engineers Pipelines Conference, San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio. Visit www.asce.org.

Aug. 10-13

National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies Annual Meeting, Stein Eriksen Lodge Deer Valley, Park City, Utah. Visit www.nafsma.org.

StormCon, Washington State Convention Center, Seattle. Visit www.stormcon.com.

Aug. 30-Sept. 2

American Public Works Association Public Works Expo (PWX 2020), Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans. Visit www.apwa.net.

Sept. 14-16

National Rural Water Association WaterPro Conference, Phoenix (site TBA). Visit www.nrwa.org.

Oct. 28-31

American Society of Civil Engineers Annual Convention, Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, California. Visit www.asce.org.

Nov. 9-12

American Water Resources Association Annual Conference, Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee, Florida. Visit www.awra.org.

Municipal Sewer & Water invites your national, state or local association to post notices and news items in this column. Send contributions to editor@mswmag.com.

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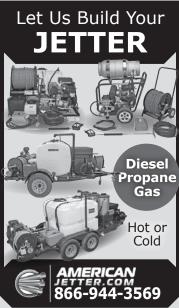
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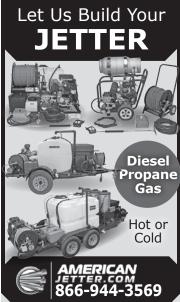
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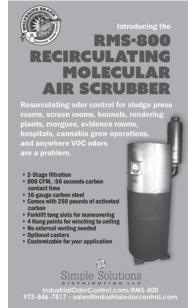


















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