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San Antonio's water source diversification has made it secure for future generations PAGE 12

San Antonio Water System President and CEO Robert Puente



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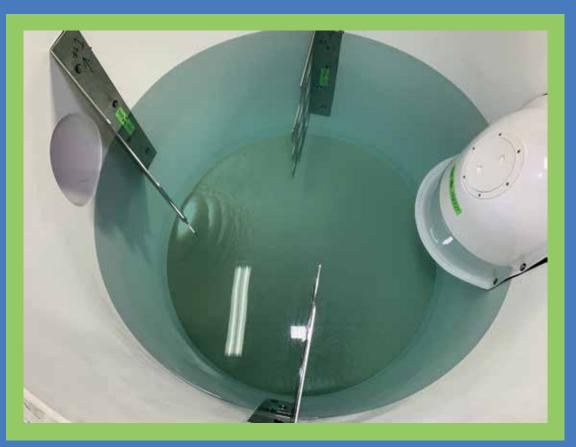


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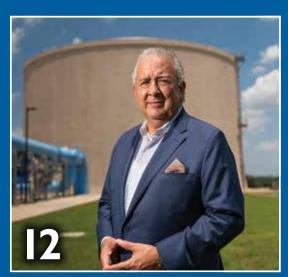


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ON THE COVER:

San Antonio Water System President and CEO Robert Puente helped guide his utility through the largest capital improvement project in San Antonio's history. The Vista Ridge project earned SAWS a Sustainable Water Utility Management Award from the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies in 2022. (Photography by Ethan E. Rocke)



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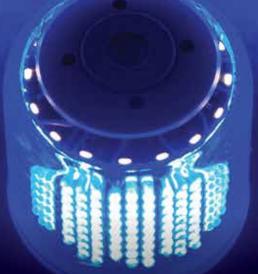
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Luke Laggis

FACING THE FUTURE

Preparation and public support are key pieces in keeping your communities safe and healthy.

Sometimes it's hard to know what to believe. The opinions of small factions of the population gain outsized publicity through social media and the media proper. Conspiracies and extreme viewpoints have become mainstream, or so it seems.

The most extreme viewpoints get the press, and as a result often have undue influence on our perspectives of what's really happening — of the real truth. Facts are blurred and people are left wondering what to believe.

Climate change is certainly a topic that has been sucked into this cycle. Regardless of the causes or what you believe them to be or not be, it's pretty difficult at this point to effectively argue that climate change isn't real. The statistics very clearly bear that out.

And if it seems like it's all a matter of greater attention and coverage given to extreme weather events, consider this: National Centers for Environmental Information statistics show that between 1980 and 2022, the U.S.



annually averaged 8.1 extreme weather events with damage exceeding \$1 billion. Over the most recent five years (2018-22) that average was 18.0 events, and through July 11 of this year we stand at 12 events. That doesn't take into account the devastating flooding happening in Vermont and other parts of the Northeast as I write this in mid-July.

"Make no mistake, the devastation and flooding we're experiencing across Vermont is historic and catastrophic," Gov. Phil Scott told reporters.

Flooding in that state was worse than what Hurricane Irene brought in 2011. Video footage of neighborhoods swallowed by floodwater was stunning. Some areas received over 8 inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Seven-day rainfall totals across much of the Northeast were estimated at 300% to 500% of normal levels. Streets looked like rivers. Thousands of homes and businesses were destroyed, and that was just in Vermont.

"My friends, this is the new normal," New York Gov. Kathy Hochul told the press on Monday, noting that people must "be prepared for the worst, because the worst continues to happen."

These sorts of events continue to happen across the country and around the world, whether it's flooding, blizzards, tornados, hurricanes, drought or wildfire. Wherever you live, you're not out of reach. And natural disasters don't care about anyone's politics.

Wherever you live, you're not out of reach. And natural disasters don't care about anyone's politics.

What's critically important is that you continue to talk about your mission, to educate people about the work you do, the necessity of securing and protecting water resources, preparing for worst-case scenarios and providing the services that keep your communities healthy and safe. Better infrastructure, better safeguards, stronger systems and carefully curated contingencies — these are the sorts of difference-makers your utilities can provide with proper public support.

That last part is the key, obviously — getting the public to understand the reality of these environmental factors and the necessity of supporting the work you do. It's as big a task as any other major project you take on, but it could be the most important thing you do.

Your efforts are certainly appreciated by the staff of this magazine and all its readers.

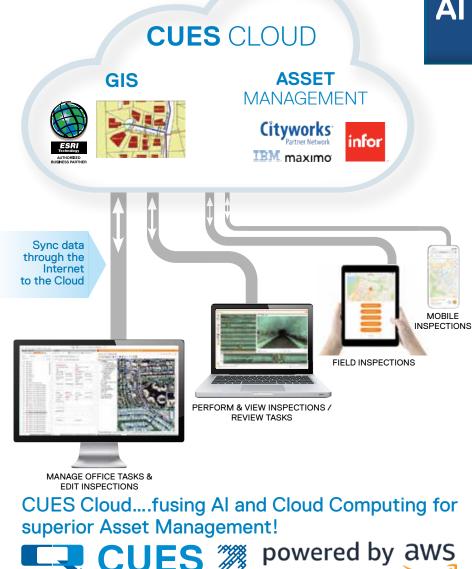
Here's hoping you're ready for the next storm. Enjoy this month's issue. ✦

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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Building a Sustainable Future

Municipal Sewer & Water profiled the Cleveland Water Alliance earlier this year, commending its Volunteer Science Network, which comprises hundreds of eco-minded volunteers who serve 16 watermonitoring programs. Now, an update reveals CWA received a \$4 million investment from the State of Ohio to continue its efforts. **mswmag.com/featured** Water utilities are at the forefront of many critical issues, like dealing with the impacts of climate change, increasing regulations and aging infrastructure — all while maintaining our critical mission of sustaining the vibrant

communities we serve.

OVERHEARD ONLINE

— Water Research Foundation Honors Outstanding Water Leaders mswmag.com/featured



PRAS SETTLEMENTS Considerations for Utilities

Two landmark settlement proposals have been announced over PFAS, in which two of the chemical companies that manufactured them have agreed to make payments to public water systems. Ken Sansone of SL Environmental Law Group offers some considerations for utilities regarding PFAS class-action settlements. **mswmag.com/featured**



WATER CONSERVATION Utility Engages Youths

An annual art calendar contest in Florida's Polk County is getting students and teachers to think about water and its importance in their lives. The contest was started in 2003 by Jacqueline Hollister, environmental specialist for the utility, who recognized a need for water conservation education in the Polk County schools. **mswmag.com/featured**



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SOLVING SUPPLY ISSUES

San Antonio's water source diversification has made it secure for future generations

By Ken Wysocky

\$930 million, 142-mile-long pipeline has further diversified San Antonio's water portfolio and has decreased the fast-growing city's reliance on its major water source — the Edwards aquifer — by nearly 20% during the last two years.

The Vista Ridge pipeline draws 50,000 acre feet of water annually — or 16.2 billion gallons — via 18 wells drilled into the Carrizo and Simsboro aquifers, about 90 miles east of Austin in Burleson County.

Thanks to that supplemental supply, the amount of water drawn from the Edwards aquifer in 2022 (nearly 147,000 acre feet) dropped to 53% of the city's total water needs, down from 66% in 2019, the year before the Vista Ridge project went online, says Robert Puente, president and chief executive officer of the city-owned San Antonio Water System.

"The Vista Ridge project was not only the biggest capital-improvement project in our utility's history, but in the history of San Antonio too," notes Puente. "In fact, it's the largest water project in the United States at a total cost of \$2.9 billion — all of it from private-sector investment."

The pipeline project, combined with a robust water-conservation out-

only the biggest capital-improvement project in our utility's history, but in the history of San Antonio, too."

Robert Puente

"The Vista Ridge project was not

reach program and other water-portfolio diversification efforts, earned SAWS a Sustainable Water Utility Management Award from the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies in 2022.

Over the last two decades, the 31-year-old utility has built a desalination plant, developed an aquifer storage-and-recovery system and created a water-recycling system, all aimed at easing dependence on the Edwards aquifer — and minimizing the potentially adverse impacts of climate change on local water supplies.

The efforts have paid off. In 1995, the Edwards aquifer supplied 100% of the city's water. Today, SAWS manages 15 water-supply projects that draw from nine different sources.

For further perspective, consider that in 2022, SAWS delivered 277,122 acre feet of potable water to customers. Of that, the Edwards aquifer contributed about 53%, Vista Ridge generated roughly 15%, other aquifers produced more than 9% and the utility's H2Oaks Aquifer Storage-and-Recovery facility produced 4.5%. The remainder was supplied by desalination of brackish aquifer water and other minor surface water sources, according to SAWS statistics.

"Water essentially isn't an issue here anymore," Puente says.

Spurred by endangered species

San Antonio was prompted to diversify its water sources after the Sierra Club filed a lawsuit in 1991, alleging that over-pumping in the Edwards aquifer was reducing the flow of two area springs, which subsequently threatened eight endangered species, including two kinds of salamanders, a crus-

PROFILE: San Antonio Water System, San Antonio, Texas

SERVICE AREA: Greater San Antonio metro area

POPULATION SERVED: More than 2 million people

CUSTOMER BASE: More than 511,300 water and 457,600 wastewater

WATER DISTRIBUTION: 277,122 acre feet in 2022

INFRASTRUCTURE:

7,650 miles of water mains, 5,894 miles of sanitary sewers, three wastewater-treatment plants, two water treatment plants, desalination plant, water-recycling system, aquifer storage-and-recovery system

MAJOR WATER SOURCES:

Edwards, Carrizo and Simsboro aquifers

EMPLOYEES: About 1,700

WEBSITE: www.saws.org "Water essentially isn't an issue here anymore." Robert Puente

> San Antonio Water System President and CEO Robert R. Puente at the SAWS Aqua Vista Plant in North San Antonio. PHOTOGRAPHY BY ETHAN E. ROCKE



Nolan Paige and Krystal Accuosti are operators at San Antonio Water System's Aqua Vista Plant in North San Antonio, which conditions water brought in from the new 142-mile-long pipeline.

tacean and two kinds of fish.

In 1993, a federal judge agreed. That eventually led to the state legislature imposing restrictions on how much water the city could pump from the aquifer: 234,000 acre feet per year.

"The main risk of doing nothing to make our water supply sustainable was losing major industries," Puente says, noting that two large companies threatened to move unless the city found a sufficient and stable source of water.

Years in the making, the Vista Ridge project was funded and built by a consortium of private companies that negotiated leases for water rights with more than 3,400 landowners in Burleson County.

"In Texas, if you own land, you also own the water under it," Puente explains. "It's called the rule of capture."

The Carrizo and Simsboro aquifers are a good water source because their immense size renders them drought-resistant.

"We basically told water marketers out there to figure out how to deliver 50,000 acre feet of water a year to our doorstep and we'll pay for it," he explains. The total cost for SAWS: about \$100 million a year, which comes to around \$3 billion over 30 years.

Low-risk contract

The cost of the water — \$1,606 per acre-foot — doesn't increase during the life of the contract. And after that, another 30-year water contract with the landowners kicks in, but this time at a lower price, Puente says.

Furthermore, after the initial 30-year contract expires, SAWS assumes ownership of the Vista Ridge infrastructure, with the loan note presumably paid off by the consortium at that point. While it's fairly common for ownership of assets in public-private projects to revert back to a utility after a specified time period, the Vista Ridge agreement is unusual because the consortium — not SAWS — assumed the financial risks associated with building the pipeline as well as other potential liabilities.

For instance, if a groundwater district (an agency composed of appointed or elected officials that regulate local water supplies) reduces or eliminates water production, SAWS isn't contractually obligated to pay for water it no longer receives. So the consortium takes a financial hit, not SAWS.

"What is unprecedented in this agreement is the extraordinary risk shifted away from a public entity onto the private consortium," Puente says. "Our only risk is that regardless of whether we have a wet year or not, we have to pay for 50,000 acre feet of water every year."

The main components of the Vista Ridge project are the pipeline and wells, three pumping stations and improvements to Agua Vista Station, the terminus of the pipeline, which features two 10-million-gallon-capacity water tanks.

One tank is owned by the developers and is used for storage while the second tank is used for the city's water distribution. A treatment plant between the two tanks ensures that water from the Carrizo and Simsboro aquifers matches water from the Edmunds aquifer so customers don't notice any difference.

Recycled water provides a boost

To further reduce dependence on the Edwards aquifer, SAWS established a water-recycling system that went online in 1996. Today, more



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OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOCUS ON CONSERVATION

Many factors have helped wean the city of San Antonio off complete reliance on water from the Edwards aquifer during the past two decades, including the 2-year-old, 142-mile-long Vista Ridge pipeline that supplies the city with roughly 16 billion gallons of water (50,000 acre feet) a year pumped from another aquifer.

But before San Antonio Water System began investing hundreds of millions of dollars to diversify the city's water portfolio, it relied on a massive and comprehensive water-conservation outreach program. The educational efforts have been so successful that the concept of water conservation is thoroughly ingrained in residents' minds, says Gavino Ramos, the utility's senior vice president of communication, external affairs and conservation.

"Since 1982, water use per capita has been reduced by more than half, from about 225 gallons per day per person down to about 100 gallons per day," he says.

Furthermore, conservation education efforts have been so effective that the utility — which also operates the city's 5,894 miles of sanitary sewer lines — was able to close one of its wastewater treatment plants in 2006.

"That saved around \$4 million in annual operating costs," says Robert Puente, president and chief executive officer of the city-owned San Antonio Water System.

The program started with the basics, such as informing people about the need for water-conserving shower heads and toilets, for example, and giving away low-flow toilets. Over the years, the city has distributed an estimated 325,000 toilets to residents, Ramos says.

"We didn't make it complicated by giving them a coupon to go buy a toilet, then get a rebate in the mail," he explains. "All people had to do was prove they were a customer and we'd give them a toilet.

"And if residents couldn't afford a plumber to replace a toilet, we'd hire one for them," Ramos continues. "It still was cost effective because the water savings more than paid for the cost."

The backbone of the outreach programs is an educational department with staff that gives water conservation presentations and provides lesson plans for teachers in grade school and high school. The department also develops ongoing advertising and communications plans to keep educating customers about the value of water conservation.

"It's to the point that water conservation is thoroughly ingrained in our way of life in San Antonio," Ramos says.

The next big educational push will center on reducing outdoor irrigation.

"Lawns don't need as much water as people generally think they do," he notes. "We pay people to remove their irrigation systems and encourage them to hand-water their lawns instead.

"We also have coupon and rebate programs to encourage customers to remove grass and install low-water-use garden beds and previous patios," he continues. "We will continue to identify creative programs that will catch the eyes of our customers and encourage them to decrease outdoor watering."



Krystal Accuosti checks equipment readings at the Aqua Vista Plant.



Nolan Paige collects a water sample at the Agua Vista Plant.

than 130 miles of pipelines deliver highly treated effluent to more than 80 customers, including industrial and commercial businesses, golf courses, municipal parks, military and healthcare facilities and other entities.

"It's the largest direct recycled-water system in the nation," Puente says. "All the water that goes down drains — from sinks, commodes, showers and so forth — makes its way to one of our three sewage treatment plants."

The system can recycle up to 125,000 acre feet of water a year, which conserves a large amount of potable water. In 2022, the program generated about 56,200 acre feet of recycled water; about 42,400 acre feet was used by a local electric utility to help generate power and another 7,600 acre feet was distributed to around 80 business customers.

The remaining 6,200 acre feet was discharged into the San Antonio River to maintain sufficient water flow. This is particularly important for the city's River Walk, an extremely popular tourist attraction that features numerous shops, restaurants, museums, artisan markets and more, all located along 3.5 miles of walkways that line both sides of the river.

More portfolio diversification

SAWS also minimizes aquifer dependence with a \$213 million desalination plant that went online in 2017 and the aforementioned ASR system that began operating in 2004. Both systems are controlled by operators in the H2Oaks Center in far southern Bexar County.

At the center, 11 wells pump around 12,000 acre feet of salty, brackish water a year from the Wilcox aquifer, which then is treated via reverse-osmosis membranes and distributed to customers.



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Krystal Accuosti tests a water sample to make sure it's compatible with the five other water supplies that will potentially mix with Vista Ridge water in the SAWS water distribution system.



Paige and Accuosti work in the lab at the Aqua Vista Plant.

"We run a top-notch utility with one of the lowest water rates in Texas."

Robert Puente

"The desalination plant is designed to accommodate three phases," Puente says. "The second phase, which would add another 12,000 acre feet of capacity, is built except for some wells that need to be drilled, so we can accommodate future growth relatively quickly."

The center also controls the ASR system, which Puente says is the largest system of its kind in the United States. Water pumped from the Edwards aquifer is carried by a 20-mile-long pipeline to 29 injection wells, where it's deposited into the Carrizo aquifer, which lies in between the Edwards aquifer and the Wilcox aquifer.

"We pay for the 234,000 acre feet of Edmunds aquifer water we're allotted each year, whether we pump it out or not," he explains. "So we pump as much as we can and whatever we don't sell to customers, we store in this underground reservoir in the Carrizo aquifer.

"It's hard to say how much we store on an annual basis because it all depends on whether it's a drought year or a wet year," Puente adds. "In rainy years, we take out as much as we can."

At the end of 2022, the ASR reservoir held an estimated 189,000 acre feet of water, enough to supply about nine to 10 months of drinking water for San Antonio. In 2022, it distributed 14,900 acre feet of water while taking in 11,600 acre feet, according to SAWS data.

Furthermore, the ASR system worked exactly as designed during the area's record-breaking drought from 2011 through 2014, enabling SAWS officials to maintain the city's water supply without imposing severe water-use restrictions. In all, 50,000 acre feet of ARS water was distributed during the drought, utility statistics show.

Mission accomplished

A former member of the Texas House of Representatives and a pioneer in establishing best practices for water supply management statewide, Puente was appointed to his current position in 2008. As such, he's seen firsthand many of the changes to San Antonio's water portfolio and views the utility's accomplishments with great pride — especially since they were achieved during a time of rapid population growth in San Antonio.

"We run a top-notch utility with one of the lowest water rates in Texas," he says. "I can very confidently tell our community that we now are water secure for future generations to come." \blacklozenge



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PREPARING FOR PFAS REGULATIONS

Water system operators should be planning for the EPA's proposed maximum contaminant levels

By Greg Senecal

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of chemical compounds that have been manufactured and used around the world since the 1940s. The most common chemicals used in the PFAS group — perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) — are known as "forever chemicals" because they are very persistent in the environment.

PFAS have been widely used in nonstick cookware, cleaning products, firefighting foams, and the textile and packaging industries. Due to their widespread use and persistence in the environment, most Americans have detectable levels of PFAS in their blood. Scientific and medical studies demonstrate that long-term exposure to high levels of certain classes of PFAS can cause significant human health effects, including alteration of immunological responses, liver damage, and decreased birth weight, and may cause kidney and testicular cancer.

The EPA's roadmap

Over the past decade, some state governments have established maximum contaminant levels and corrective actions for potable water sources impacted by PFAS; however, a federal regulatory framework has not existed. In 2021, the United States Environmental Protection Agency developed and published a nationwide approach to research, regulate and remediate PFAS.

The EPA's document, "PFAS Strategic Roadmap: EPA's Commitments to Action 2021-2024," contains a comprehensive, multiyear program with three key stages:

• Research: Develop a research program to better understand the human health effects of certain groups of PFAS and how these chemicals move through and persist in the environment.

• Regulate: Develop a comprehensive approach to proactively prevent PFAS from entering water, land and air at levels that cause human health and ecological damage. Develop nationwide monitoring and regulatory programs for drinking water and effluent limits for industry, publicly owned pretreatment works and landfills.

• Remediate: Develop and measure the effectiveness of PFAS mitigation technologies and develop new methods, standards, and programs to treat PFAS in water, soil and air.

Proposed MCLs

On March 14, 2023, the EPA took a major step toward regulating and



remediating PFAS by issuing proposed nationwide maximum contaminant levels for PFOA and PFOS at 4 parts per trillion. The EPA also proposed using an established hazardous index calculation as the MCL for any mixture containing one or more of the following chemicals: hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (GenX Chemicals), perfluorobutane sulfonic acid and its potas-

sium salt, perfluorononanoic acid, and perfluorohexane sulfonic acid. Treatment of drinking water would be required after the testing of water systems reveals one or more MCL exceedances.

The EPA has stated that public comments will be considered in the promulgation of the final MCLs, with the final rule being issued by the end of 2023. With the proposed federal framework for PFAS in place, it is anticipated that when the nationwide MCLs are issued as final, states that have previously established their own MCLs will likely adopt the EPA's federal MCLs to retain primacy of their respective state drinking water programs.

When to Start Testing

The decision of when to start sampling and analyzing a public water system for PFAS has always been a tough call for municipal managers. Now that the EPA has issued proposed nationwide MCLs for PFAS that are projected to be finalized by the end of 2023, the decision of when to assess your water system and source has become clear — the time has arrived. Consultants, engineers and treatment plant operators generally agree that it is more advantageous to test for PFAS and design/build treatment systems before the flood of nationwide regulation-enforced supply chain issues drive costs up.

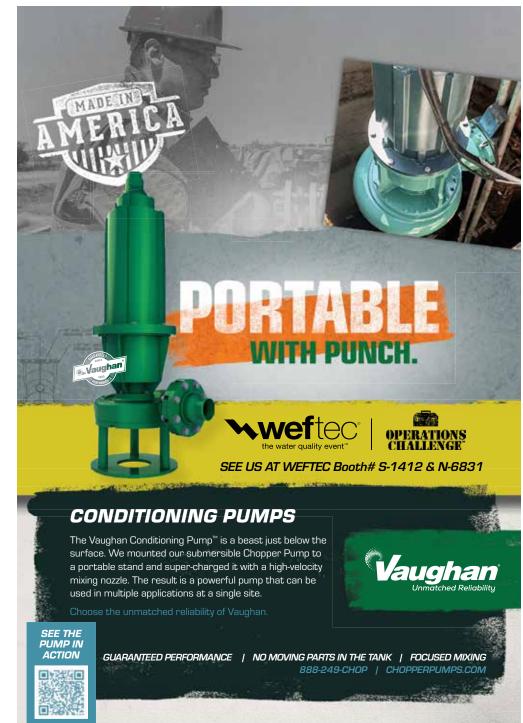
There is funding available now to pay for infrastructure upgrades that address PFAS.

Funding Assistance

There is funding available now to pay for infrastructure upgrades that address PFAS and communities that apply for funding first will have a much better chance of receiving financial assistance. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provided the EPA with more than \$50 billion to distribute to states, tribes and territories — primarily via the State Revolving Fund program — for water and sewer infrastructure improvements. The EPA implements the SRF program through state agencies that provide funding to municipalities through grant and loan programs. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding may also be provided to states for distribution outside of the SRF program.

A significant share of the \$50 billion has been set aside to address emerging contaminants, including PFAS.

• \$5 billion is available for drinking water upgrades, which may include addressing emerging contaminants such as PFAS, in small or disadvantaged





Now that the EPA has issued proposed nationwide MCLs for PFAS that are projected to be finalized by the end of 2023, the decision of when to assess your water system and source has become clear — it's now.



communities. States can apply for this funding to provide grants to disadvantaged communities of less than 10,000 in population that are underserved (i.e., have no drinking water or have a water system that violates federal drinking water requirements).

• Another \$4 billion is available for drinking water improvements through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. All funding will be provided as grants or principal forgiveness loans.

• States and communities can also leverage an additional nearly \$12 billion in revolving funds dedicated to making drinking water safer.

To avail your community of these funding sources, need and readiness to conduct the improvement must be proven with an approvable preliminary engineering evaluation.

Community leaders need to take action and prepare for the likely outcome of MCL exceedance.

Preparing your community

The reality is that many community water supplies will exceed these new federal MCLs for PFAS contamination. Community leaders need to take action and prepare for the likely outcome of MCL exceedance.

• Prepare for Community Reaction: Any announcement about the safety of public water will understandably garner intense media attention and community concern. It is critical that the announcement be accompanied by a plan of action for minimizing exposure and treating the contamination. For this reason, it is imperative to engage a professional to assist with developing a communications plan prior to testing, as testing results are often subject to disclosure pursuant to applicable state and federal freedom of information laws.

• Solicit State and Federal Funding: The federal government and state agencies are putting funding sources in place to help communities pay for PFAS testing and treatment. These funding streams are limited, so smart communities will take advantage of these programs and apply as early as possible.

• Engineering Evaluation and Treatment Options: Partner with an experienced and trusted consultant to help analyze treatment options and design a viable solution for your community.

Community leaders that take steps to prepare and plan for the testing results will be most successful in addressing citizens' concerns and mitigating potential mistrust and will be well-positioned to receive the necessary funding for their project. Careful planning and preparation now could make all the difference in leading your community through the PFAS issue for years to come. \blacklozenge

Greg Senecal is a certified hazardous materials manager and environmental director at LaBella Associates.

INDUSTRY NEWS SEPTEMBER 2023

Sauereisen names Wendling as new regional manager

Scott Wendling has assumed the role of western regional manager for Sauereisen. He will have a prominent role in directing the activities of sales in the western U.S. Wendling will also provide customer satisfaction, technical service and overall engagement with agents, representatives, customers and applicators.



Scott Wendling

Stellar Service Brands names new brand president

Stellar Service Brands, a multibrand residential and

commercial service organization that includes Restoration 1, bluefrog Plumbing + Drain and Softroc, has appointed Courtney Harmon as the brand president of bluefrog Plumbing and Drain, in addition to her role as brand president of Softroc. Harmon will play a pivotal role in consolidating support and direction for both emerging brands.



Courtney Harmon

Aries sells Water Wells assets

Due to significant growth in its core business of wastewater inspection and rehabilitation product lines, Aries Industries is selling its noncore Water Well assets to Laval Underground Surveys of Fresno, California. The sale allows Aries to focus and invest its efforts entirely in the continued development of solutions for the larger wastewater inspection and rehabilitation markets. LUS will immediately assume responsibility for Aries Industries' water well quotes, parts, service, support and warranty.

American Business Water Coalition launches

The American Business Water Coalition, led by Mae Stevens, senior vice president at Banner Public Affairs and chair of the Banner Water Infrastructure Practice, officially launched with founding member, Jacobs, a Fortune 500 company, and three founding members of the coalition's advisory council: Louisville (Kentucky) MSD, Seattle Public Utilities, and the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans. The coalition will provide businesses with a platform to address the critical need for federal funding of water infrastructure.

I20Water and BlueConduit announce strategic partnership

120Water and BlueConduit announced a strategic partnership to enhance water quality solutions and promote safe drinking water for communities across the country. The collaboration will address the pressing challenges faced by water utilities and primacy agencies tasked with managing compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. The companies aim to deliver comprehensive and data-driven solutions that ensure the safety and reliability of drinking water systems.

American Water Works Association

Having served 10 years as an active U.S. Army officer and an additional 10 years as a reservist, Patrick Kerr began his one-year term in June as the 142nd president of the American Water Works Association with decades of experience working with others to get results. One of Kerr's goals as AWWA president is to expand the association's reach and influence in the water sector by encouraging existing members to personally introduce their colleagues and water sector partners to the benefits of AWWA membership. "We owe it to the water community to expand our reach and increase the capacity of water utilities to provide safe drinking water for their customers," he says in a release. "There is no doubt that being an AWWA member makes you better at your job." ◆

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FLOWING ACROSS THE DIVIDE

Decades in the making, North Dakota's efforts to tap Missouri River water are finally underway

By Ken Wysocky

\$1.1 billion, 125-mile-long pipeline project will eventually bring much-needed Missouri River water to communities in central and eastern North Dakota and help ensure the economic vitality of a region challenged for more than a century by limited water sources. Construction of the Red River Valley Water Supply Project began in December 2020. When the buried pipeline is completed, it's projected to deliver 107 million gallons of water per day to more than 30 communities and rural water systems, says Duane DeKrey, general manager of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, which is supervising the project.

Formed in 1955, the 28-county conservancy district administers federal water programs and operates water-related facilities for the United State Bureau of Reclamation.

"This project will realize the long-standing dream of adequate water supply to central and eastern North Dakota," DeKrey says. "It's the largest water project in the history of North Dakota."

Many of the easternmost communities and rural water systems currently rely primarily on water from the Red River, which flows north into Canada. The water from the pipeline would essentially act as an insurance policy for municipalities in the event of a severe and prolonged drought. At the same time, it would provide the continuous supply of water necessary for growing industrial/commercial needs.

The North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, which is funded with revenue generated by a tax on oil-production revenue, is paying 75% of the project's cost.

"We literally are changing oil profits into water projects," DeKrey says.

The communities that sign up to receive water from the RRVWSP will pay the balance of the cost.

They also will be responsible for building any local treatment plants required to make the water potable and any distribution infrastructure to get it where it needs to go.

It's estimated that the project will use only 0.7% of the Missouri River's available water supply and will supply water for approximately 50% of North Dakota's population, DeKrey notes.

"It's comparable to taking a thimble full of water from a 5-gallon bucket filled with water." About 84% of the water will go to the eastern part of the state, which includes major North Dakota cities like Fargo and Grand Forks.

Water or bust

The project is necessary because surface water in central North Dakota and the Red River valley, which runs north and south through the eastern part of the state, is limited and at times unreliable. Furthermore, most of the available groundwater is fully appropriated.

As a result, demand for water from industries already exceeds available supplies.

In addition, a serious and prolonged drought — which climatologists predict will happen before 2050 — would cripple the eastern two-thirds of the state and deliver nearly a \$33 billion economic blow in the event of a 10-year drought, according to Garrison Diversion estimates.

"We had five months of zero water flow in the Red River at Fargo (located on the state's eastern border) in 1934," DeKrey observes. "If we were short of water back in the 1930s, can you imagine

"We literally are changing oil profits into water projects."

Duane DeKrey



Duane DeKrey



PROJE(T: Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, Carrington, North Dakota

SERVICE AREA: 28 counties, mostly in central and eastern North Dakota

MISSION: Provide a reliable source of affordable and high-quality water

RESPONSIBILITIES: Manage water programs and operate/ maintain facilities for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

FACILITIES MANAGED: McClusky and New Rockford Canals, Snake Creek Pumping Plant

ESTABLISHED: 1955

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Approximately 125 miles of canals; pumping station that's capable of moving up to 2,050 cfs of water from Lake Sakakawea to Lake Audubon, where it flows by gravity into the McClusky Canal.

CURRENT MAJOR PROJECT: Supervising construction of a \$1.1 billion, 125-mile-long, 6-foot-diameter buried pipeline that will carry 107 mgd of Missouri River water to central and eastern North Dakota.

EMPLOYEES:

29

WEBSITE: www.garrisondiv.org "This project will create a huge economic boom of wet industries, such as dairy, hog and poultry operations as well as ethanol and meat-processing plants."

Duane DeKrey

how short of water we'd be now if a similar drought hit with the population so much bigger now.

"If North Dakota wants any kind of wet industries to exist in the future, we need to finish this project," he adds. "As it is, we don't have enough water to process our own crops, most of which are shipped out of state for lack of water.

"This project will create a huge economic boom of wet industries, such as dairy, hog and poultry operations as well as ethanol and meat processing plants."

Special delivery

The spiral-welded steel, concrete-lined and epoxy-coated pipeline is 6 feet in diameter. It will roughly follow the path of State Highway 200 (on the southern side of the highway), which runs east and west in just about the middle of the state.

Building the pipeline will require the acquisition of about 280 parcels for right-of-way easements. So far, more than half of the parcels have been purchased, DeKrey says.

"We are right on schedule. We're in eminent domain proceedings on some parcels, but we still remain on schedule."

The pipeline will carry water eastward at 165 cubic feet per second. The water will travel from an intake structure along a dormant waterway called the McClusky Canal, near the city of

ley

BLACKAVELIC

West Pipe

Workers place the first section of pipe in the ground at the start of construction on the Red River Valley Water Supply Project.

The spiral-welded steel, concrete-lined and epoxy-coated pipeline is 6 feet in diameter.

McClusky, all the way to a discharge structure along the Sheyenne River, south of the city of Cooperstown. The Sheyenne River then naturally flows into the Red River.

"The project is unique because it will take treated water across a continental divide," DeKrey points out.

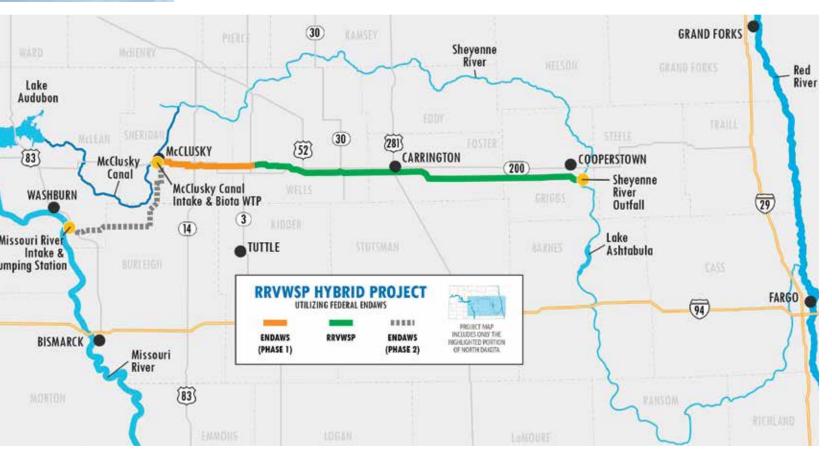
The project includes a break tank located just west of the divide, which separates the Missouri River and Hudson Bay watersheds. Water from the Missouri River is pumped to the divide, then flows the rest of the way by gravity. The break tank keeps the pipeline full of water in the event of a power outage, for example. That, in turn, keeps air out of the system, which helps prevent pipeline damage when water flow starts up again.

The project also will include a treatment plant near the intake structure that will treat the water, but not to drinking water standards.

"We don't want to send potable water into the Sheyenne River, then treat it again at municipal plants," DeKrey explains. "Also,



The construction timeline is largely dependent on the pace of state funding. At the current rate of funding, it could take 25 years or more to complete the pipeline.



The project will roughly follow the path of State Highway 200, which runs east and west through the middle of North Dakota.

most industries have boutique treatment needs that they handle themselves, so it wouldn't make sense to treat the water to potable standards."

A tangled history

The 74-mile-long McClusky Canal — originally part of a significantly larger and more ambitious plan to build canals, reservoirs and pipelines to bring Missouri Water to eastern and central North Dakota — symbolizes the futility of decades and decades of plans aimed at slaking the state's thirst for water.

Built in the mid-1970s, the canal is fed by water pumped from Lake Sakakawea, the largest man-made lake in North Dakota; the lake was created when the United States Army Corps of Engineers built the 2-mile-long Garrison Dam, completed in 1953.

The dam was one of five built under the socalled Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, created by the U.S. Congress in 1944 to control flooding of the river and better manage its water resources. The program was named for the two men who developed the program: Lewis A. Pick, who was the director of the Missouri River office of the USACE, and William Glenn Sloan, who served as director of the Billings, Montana, office of the USBR.

The McClusky Canal originally was supposed

to carry water to the headwaters of the Sheyenne River for irrigation and municipal use. But Canadian officials filed a lawsuit to stop that, alleging that ecological damage could ensue if water from the Missouri River crossed a continental divide and drained into the Hudson Bay watershed. (The Red River drains into Lake Winnipeg, which then drains into the Hudson Bay watershed.)

"That stopped this project cold for many, many years," DeKrey says.

As a result of a lawsuit settlement, the canal was plugged at mile marker 59, just short of the continental divide. Subsequently, the last 15 miles of the canal to the east of the divide is little more than a large, nicely built ditch, he notes.

Furthermore, the canal has carried only about 8,000 to 10,000 acre feet of water a year — a fraction of what was originally promised back in the 1960s — used only for irrigation in a limited area of central North Dakota.

Pipeline progressing

As a former state legislator for 20 years, a farmer and rancher for 30 years and a former deputy director of the state's Game and Fish Department, DeKrey is intimately familiar with the tortured history of efforts to bring Missouri River water eastward. Various plans and proposals have been beset by legal challenges, including some from environmental groups and the state of Missouri, which is concerned about any effort to take water from the Missouri River.

But DeKrey is heartened to finally see some progress. The intake and discharge structures are finished and about three miles of pipeline have been installed as of June, he says.

There's no official completion date for the project; the construction timeline is largely dependent on the pace of state funding. The state has approved \$180 million in funding for the 2023 through 2025 biennial state budget, which would pay for about 43 miles of pipeline construction and additional pipeline design costs.

At the current rate of funding, DeKrey says it could take 25 years or more to complete the pipeline — and costs will keep rising the longer it takes. But no matter when the pipeline is completed, he thinks it will be well worth the wait.

"The state of North Dakota needs this water to thrive," he says. "The future of the state will be built on this water.

"We're finally starting to realize what was promised back in 1944 when the Pick-Sloan plan was approved. After this project is completed, North Dakota will finally receive the water supply it should have received decades ago." ◆

<u>STAYING SAFE</u>

ELIMINATING UNSAFE CONDITIONS

Employers should make it easier for employees to speak up when conditions aren't safe

By Ronnie Freeman

n the workplace we often hear about "unsafe acts," defined as any activity by workers that is not in accordance with the prescribed safety standards, and which can cause or is likely to cause accidents, risk for self or others or damage to equipment or property at the workplace. Generally, anything we do or don't do that can cause an injury is an unsafe act.

Unsafe conditions can be defined as hazards that have the potential to cause injury or death to an employee. It's the environment or the condition of equipment that we might be working around that is considered unsafe. Other examples include defective tools/equipment, missing safeguards, chemical leaks, poor housekeeping (slip, trip and fall hazards) and hazardous atmospheres. Rushing to get the job done can certainly create unsafe conditions and even driving without a seatbelt can be an unsafe condition.

So, who should be responsible for recognizing and correcting unsafe conditions in the workplace? Is it the safety person? Or maybe a manager or a supervisor? Unsafe conditions often exist because employees don't see it as part of their jobs to address the issue. They leave it up to someone else to recognize and address the problem. Maybe they're timid about reporting an issue or feel like

they might "cause trouble for someone." Sometimes, employees may not even realize that the unsafe condition is a hazard since they aren't trained in certain aspects of workplace safety.

This topic reminds me of an interesting encounter that I had early on in my career as a safety professional in a different indusSometimes, employees may not even realize that the unsafe condition is a hazard since they aren't trained in certain aspects of workplace safety.

try. The company I worked for was contracted to perform some services for a large industrial plant and a safety issue was discovered within our organization. The superintendent of the company and I were meeting with the general man-





workplace. This benefits everyone, including managers and supervisors, when their employees care enough to speak up. There should be a written reporting procedure that all employees understand. Once the report has been made, there also needs to be a follow-up procedure so that the unsafe condition is corrected. Every employee should feel safe to report an unsafe condition even if they are new to the job or not a part of the work crew performing the task.

Eliminating unsafe conditions should be a top priority for employers and employees alike to ensure that the working environment is safe for all. \blacklozenge

ager of the plant, and he asked us a question I will never forget: "Who's responsible for safety on the job site?" So, naturally, I thought of myself since I was the safety director of my company. So, that's how I responded. It was not the answer he was looking for. He was looking for the response that everyone was responsible for safety at a job site.

While there are generally stated responsibilities when it comes to workplace safety, such as having a safety professional, everyone should feel the responsibility of speaking up when there are unsafe conditions that need addressing.

So, what can all employees do to mitigate unsafe conditions? First, be aware of your surroundings, especially if the environment is one that changes or is new. Stay alert and be ready to respond to potential hazards that could occur due to the work being performed. Employees should always inspect their workplaces every day even if there was nothing wrong the day before. One never knows when something might have changed while they were away.

One never knows when something might have changed while they were away.

Another important aspect in recognizing unsafe conditions is attending safety training and adhering to the safe work practices that you learn in the training. Safety training should address the unsafe conditions and potential hazards and how to correct them. Pay attention and put it into practice every day.

Employers should make it easier for employees to speak up when there are unsafe conditions within the



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A SITE FOR CIPP RESOURCES

NASSCO has amassed and developed educational materials to support the safe and proper installation of CIPP

By Sheila Joy

The cured-in-place pipe process has become one of the most widely used rehabilitation methods in the world. First introduced to North America in the 1970s, it along with many other trenchless technologies such as pipe bursting, spiral wound systems and others — has proven to be an effective alternative to dig-and-replace methods that require the old pipe to be dug up and hauled off to a landfill.

Given CIPP's popularity and wide (and growing) use, over the past several years and months NASSCO has amassed and developed educational videos, specification guidelines, research and other materials to help support the safe and proper installation of CIPP. The following information is all available on www.nassco.org and we encourage anyone involved in the installation of CIPP to know and understand the proper application of the technology and the measures required to keep workers and our communities safe.

Below are a few of the resources available for free download:

- After years of research on the safety of styrene emissions in the CIPP process, the Trenchless Technology Center at Louisiana Tech has provided specific recommendations for CIPP installations using styrenated resins. The entire reports are available at www.nassco.org/safety/styrene-Safety, and TTC's onepage, easy-to-read document titled Recommendations for CIPP Installations using Styrene Resins can be found on that same page under "Related Resources." We strongly encourage everyone to read, understand and follow these important recommendations.
- Styrene has a very noticeable odor, even at very low levels. NASSCO's Pipe Rehabilitation Committee's CIPP Safety Workgroup created a two-page "What's that Odor?" brochure that can be shared with property owners and anyone curious about how to minimize odor during the installation process when styrene-based resins are used. This document is also available for download on www.nassco.org/safety/styrene-safety and can be printed, shared and even posted

to your own website.To accompany this back

• To accompany this brochure, there is also a short and entertaining video called "What's that Odor?" This is available for download to your website, for sharing on social media, and can be found on NASSCO'S Vimeo page: www.vimeo. com/528370223

- To build awareness for aging underground infrastructure, NASSCO's vision is to provide education, technical resources and advocacy to our industry. Two important technical resources pertaining to CIPP installations and safety are available on the NASSCO website at www.org/resources/ nassco-specification-guidelines.
- Safe Use and Handling of Styrenated Resins in CIPP Specification Guideline
- Cured-in-Place Pipe Installation Performance Specification Guideline
- Based on the Safe Use and Handling of Styrenated Resins in CIPP Specification Guideline, NASSCO now offers an online course on the subject. Successful completion of NASSCO's Safe Use and Handling of Styrene-Based Resins in CIPP Exam demonstrates that a student has a basic understanding of knowledge to help protect employees and the environment from potential hazards. To register for the eLearning session, visit www.nasscotrainingsource.org.
- Do you need to educate a customer or community on the CIPP process and the benefits the technology offers? Please share, download and post NASSCO's CIPP 101 video, which can be found here: https://vimeo.com/672110918

NASSCO continues to update its Safety webpage on styrene and many other topics, including vital safety updates, and encourages you to visit nassco.org/safety often, as it is continually updated. To learn more please visit our website. For specific questions regarding styrene or any other safety issue, please email safety@nassco.org. For technical questions, please email our Technical Advisory Council via tac@nassco.org. And to join NASSCO, please visit www.nassco.org/join. Stay safe! ◆

Get the EDge

Training and Continuing Education Courses

PACP Training

Sept. 5, 8 am Eastern

Virtual Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Brandon Conley

Sept. 5, 8 am Central Virtual Includes PACP, LACP, MACP

Trainer: Bryan Ballard Sept. 6, 8 am Pacific Palm Desert, California Includes PACP, LACP, MACP

Trainer: Jerry Weimer Sept. 11, 8 am Pacific Palm Desert, California Includes PACP, LACP, MACP

Trainer: Jerry Weimer

Sept. 12, 8 am Eastern

Virtual Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Paul Booth

Sept. 13, 8 am Eastern Virtual

Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Michael Lukas

Sept. 18, 8:30 am Mountain Virtual

Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Sammy Maestas

Sept. 19, 8 am Central Virtual Includes PACP, LACP, MACP

Trainer: Bryan Ballard Sept. 20, 8 am Eastern Virtual

Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: John Jones Sept. 21, 8 am Pacific Virtual

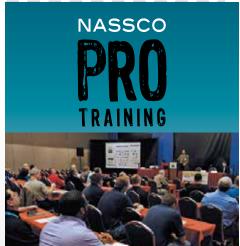
Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Brandon Conley

Sept. 26, 8 am Central Dixon, Illinois Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Jerry Weimer

Sept. 27, 8 am Central Virtual Includes PACP, LACP, MACP Trainer: Brandon Conley

ITCP Training

Oct. 10, 8 am Mountain Rock Springs, Wyoming Includes ITCP-CIPP Trainer: Rocky Capehart



OTHER CLASSES FORMING Contact one of the trainers listed above if you are interested in having a class at your facility or in your area.



Sheila Joy is executive director of NASSCO. She can be reached at director@nassco.org.

NASSCO has amassed and developed educational videos, specification guidelines, research and other materials to help support the safe and proper installation of CIPP.

WORTH NOTING

PEOPLE/AWARDS

Tim Lowe was hired as the county engineer for New Hanover County (North Carolina), replacing **Jim Iannucci**, who retired. Lowe had been the county's chief project engineer for stormwater services.

The **city of Fort Meade** received a \$969,900 grant from the state of Florida's Rural Infrastructure Fund Program to make stormwater improvements in its downtown commercial corridor. \blacklozenge

CALENDAR

September 11-13

California Stormwater Quality Association Annual Conference, Paradise Point Resort, San Diego.Visit www. casqa.org.

September 13-15

Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management Annual Conference, Belterra Casino Resort, Florence.Visit www.inafsm.net.

October 3-4

American Public Works Association-Utah Chapter Fall Conference and Stormwater Expo, Mountain America Expo Center, Sandy.Visit utah.apwa.net.

October 4-6

Southeast Stormwater Association 2023 Regional Stormwater Conference, Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa, Hilton Head Island.Visit seswa.memberclicks.net.

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Utah Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association 2023 Conference, Cedar City Courtyard Marriott Hotel. Visit ufsma.org.

October 24-26

Tennessee Stormwater Association Annual Conference, Montgomery Bell State Park, Burns. Visit www.tnstormwater.org/tnsa-conference.

November I-2

Wisconsin Association for Floodplain, Stormwater and Coastal Management 2023 Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Green Bay.Visit wafscm.org.

February 25-28

International Erosion Control Association Annual Conference, Spokane Convention Center, Washington. Visit ieca. org.

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American Society of Civil Engineers Operation and Maintenance of Stormwater Control Measures Conference, DoubleTree by Hilton, Austin, Texas. Visit www.asce.org.

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Center for Watershed Protection National Watershed and Stormwater Conference, InterContinental Kansas City at The Plaza, Missouri. Visit cwp.org.

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New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association, Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls. Visit nyfloods.org.

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Association of State Floodplain Managers Annual Conference, Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. Visit floods.org.

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SPURRING CAREER RE-ENTRIES

Returnships can give employers access to a largely untapped talent pool

By Ken Wysocky

tilities that struggle to find qualified employees amid the tight labor market might want to consider people who typically don't even get an initial phone-screening interview: experienced workers who are trying to re-enter the workforce after an extended absence.

And organizations can get those prospective employees into the fold via a program known as a returnship. It's like an internship, except that it's designed for older, mid-career professionals who don't want to start all over at the bottom rung of the corporate ladder.

"Returnships are a great way to engage with a talent pool that's been hidden, yet identified as high-caliber employees," says Carol Fishman Cohen. She's the co-founder and chief executive officer of iRelaunch (www.irelaunch.com), a company that helps organizations develop career re-entry programs, and the author of Back On the Career Track: A Guide for Stay-at-Home Moms Who Want to Return to Work. "They're growing in popularity."



In fact, Cohen - who took an 11-year child-rearing break from work herself - says that almost 40% of the Fortune 50 companies run formal career re-entry programs and about 11% of the Fortune 500 companies operate such programs.

"There are now about 125 career re-entry programs at major global companies and about 80% of them use the returnship model and the remainder do direct hiring into full-time roles," she says.

"There's been a steady increase in interest in returnships," says Christine Winston, acting executive director of Path Forward (www.pathforward.org), a nonprofit group that connects people coming off career breaks with companies that don't mind resume gaps.

"There are more than 225 companies that offer them in the United States. But in order to bring back the millions of women and other caregivers who aren't participating in the workforce today, we'll need many, many more of these programs."

Re-entry is challenging

Even with today's restricted labor pool, it's hard for this cohort of potential employees to gain traction with companies. Winston says one study shows that after someone is absent from the workforce for more than two years, they're half as likely to get a first-round phone-screening interview after submitting a job application.

"And another study found that someone who explains that their career gap

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.

was taken to be a stay-at-home mom, you're another 50% less likely to get a first-round phone screening interview," she adds.

Returnships help overcome these biases because the programs are structured such that all applicants must have a gap, so applicants don't compete with others currently in the workforce," she points out.

"That way they are being considered on their skills and experience instead of the recency of that experience," Winston explains. "And since caregiving is the No. 1 reason that people of prime working age take breaks from work, returnships can address both the bias around the gap and the bias around caregiving."

A valuable talent pool

Employees take breaks for a variety of reasons. They include providing child or elder care (which the pandemic definitely increased), personal health issues, accompanying spouses on overseas job assignments and retirees who decide

nothing to do with

work performance."

Carol Fishman Cohen

they don't like retirement, Cohen says.

"A common factor among this cohort is the reason for their career breaks

had nothing to do with work performance," she notes. "Fur-"A common factor among thermore, they're predomithis cohort is the reason for nantly women, so if companies their career breaks had are looking to meet gender diversity goals, this could be a great source of talent."

People coming off midcareer breaks typically make for great employees. Why?

Because they're generally well-educated, have great work experience, are teamoriented, are used to deadlines and work pressure, bring a mature perspective to the table and find themselves at a relatively stable stage in life, Cohen explains.

"They've lived more life and are more fully formed as humans, so they know themselves better and have a better sense of where they can add value to an organization compared to someone new who's in more of an exploratory mode," she continues. "They're also full of energy and enthusiasm about returning to work because they've been away for an extended period. Managers commonly say they



inject enthusiasm into their workplaces."

Furthermore, these experienced workers are used to working with different personalities as well as multigenerational teams, can easily access ways to update their skills and don't need to learn basic skills that entry-level employees often lack.

In addition, returnships aid employee retention because participants generally are more loyal

to their employers and not interested in job hopping because they're more mature and know themselves better.

Fairly simple structure

A returnship essentially is an internship that's tweaked to better fit a returning career professional. The typical length of a returnship is 12, 16 or 24 weeks, Cohen says.

Depending on the size of the company, career relaunchers often are brought on board in groups, just like summer interns. But unlike those internships, where interns leave after their stint ends, the intent of most returnships is to hire participants as full-time employees.

Sometimes participants are brought on board specifically to fill open positions. Moreover, the conversion rate — the percentage of people who get hired after completing the program — averages 85%, she says.

"So it's a well-proven business model," Cohen says.

But businesses also can opt to not bring returnship participants on board.

Returnship participants receive customized onboarding and orientation programs and usually are assigned a mentor. In addition, their managers usually receive special training because they'll be contending with people who've been absent from the workforce for years and, as such, can feel profoundly disconnected and lack confidence, Cohen says.

"They undergo a different kind of learning curve that someone who's a lateral hire wouldn't require," she notes.

In fact, the biggest obstacle career-relaunchers face is a diminished sense of self from being professionally unmoored for an extended time period in a society where people's identity is largely built on what they do for a living, Cohen says.

Making returnships work

Successful returnship programs typically have similar key attributes, including someone at the executive level who's a champion of the concept and a handful of managers who are willing to participate in a pilot program.

It also helps to appoint a manager that "owns" the program; select a name for participants other than "interns," which helps colleagues perceive them as team members, not temporary employees; hire a group of participants, which makes training more efficient for organizations and provides strength-in-numbers support for participants; and create a formal name for the program, as well as a dedicated landing page on an organization's website to boost branding efforts and create a focal point for related activities.

In addition, companies should use the program to engage with company alumni who can become potential clients — or even return to the mothership, and educate employees about the program, which in turn can generate word-ofmouth referrals for more career-relaunchers.

Companies can develop programs on their own, but they often underestimate the details involved to create a successful program. That's where a group like iRe-

"They know themselves better and have better sense of where they can add value to an organization compared to someone new."

Carol Fishman Cohen

launch can step in and help, Cohen says.

"We've certainly published a lot of information that's in the public domain that companies can use," she says. "But if organizations want to develop a program quickly, it helps to work with groups like ours to help them launch programs."

The proverbial win-win situation

Both iRelaunch and Path Forward can help match people looking to restart their careers with organizations that have returnship programs

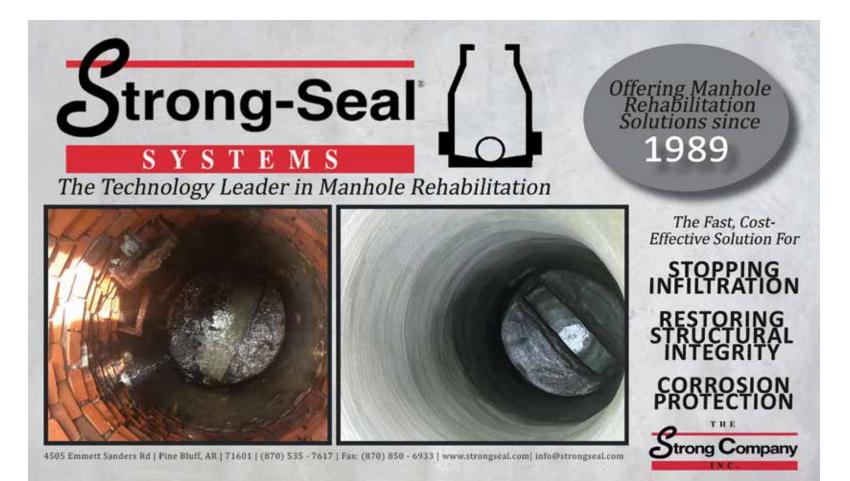
"It works both ways here at iRelaunch," Cohen says. "We bring employers and employees together.

"We also work closely with university alumni organizations, which are very interested in helping alumni that are on career breaks," she continues. "Returnships are very worthwhile for organizations to pursue — it's a win-win situation, both for individuals relaunching their careers and for employers who want to find high-quality talent."





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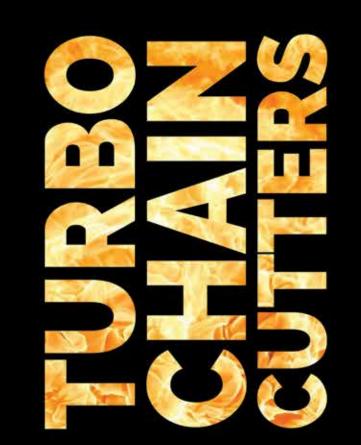
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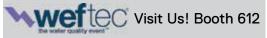
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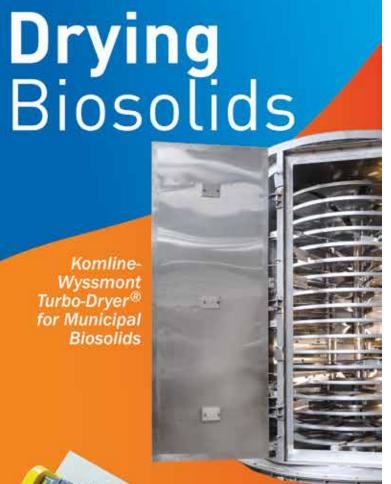
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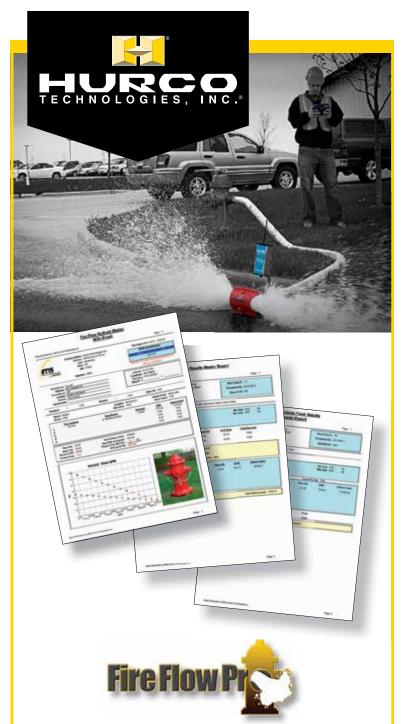


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Linabond, Inc. 805-484-7373 • www.linabond.com

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Hydraulic Specialty 844-282-1060 • www.hydraulicspecialty.com

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Super Products LLC 800-837-9711 • www.superproducts.com

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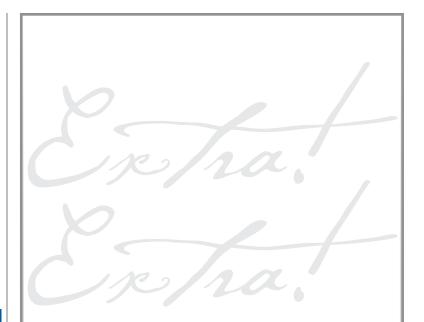
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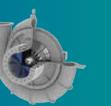




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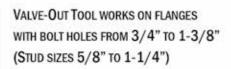
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844-400-2379; www.aerzenrentalusa.com; Booth 5014

AllMax Software Operator 10 Wastewater

Operator10 Wastewater from **AllMax Software** is a leading software solution for wastewater management, catering to both industrial and municipal facilities. The user-friendly interface simplifies data

collection, analysis and realtime monitoring of treatment processes, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards. Its automated data logging, customizable report-



ing tools and trend analysis empower

operators to make informed decisions and promptly identify potential issues. The software's robust capabilities allow users to minimize downtime, reduce operational costs and maintain environmental compliance effectively, optimizing overall wastewater treatment system performance. Trusted by operators worldwide, it is a reliable and efficient solution to streamline wastewater operations.

800-670-1867; www.allmaxsoftware.com; Booth 819

Anaergia OmniMix

The high-thrust **Anaer**gia **OmniMix** submersible mixer delivers 30,000 gpm of flow. Its gearless directdrive motor averages less than 6 kW power draw. Ideal



for varying solids content and feedstocks, it automatically adjusts torque and speed to avoid cavitation, abrasion and power loss. The mixer effectively mixes material from approximately 1% TS to 15% TS, and The 96th annual Technical Exhibition and Conference offers international water and wastewater professionals exposure to the newest products, along with waterquality education and training. This year's event, from Oct. 2 to 4 in Chicago, promises to show off some of the finest new products on the market for municipal water, industrial water and wastewater professionals. Below is a preview of some of the newest products that will be highlighted at this year's show.

its anti-ragging sickle-shaped propeller sweeps backwards to prevent fibers from snagging. Operators can adjust mixer height and direction to break up floating layers and resuspend grit. Roof-mounted service box enables mixer access and servicing without taking digesters offline.

866-978-9785; www.anaergia.com; Booth 3643

Aqua-Aerobic Systems AquaPrime

The **AquaPrime** cloth media filtration system from **Aqua-Aerobic Systems** utilizes a disk configuration and OptiFiber PF-14 pile cloth filtration media to effectively fil-



ter high solids waste streams without the use of chemicals. Ideal for primary wastewater treatment and wet-weather applications, it has proven removal efficiencies and provides high-quality effluent, even under varying influent conditions. The system is designed to handle a wide range of flows in a fraction of space compared to conventional primary clarifiers. The filter's high solids removal in comparison to conventional treatment puts the technology in the advanced primary treatment category.

815-654-2501; www.aquaprimefiltration.com; Booth 4448

Aries Voyager

Technicians can navigate pipes and capture mainline details with the **Voyager** from **Aries**. The high-definition mainline inspection system is equipped with CANbus tech-



nology and a 1080p WiperCam camera for inspecting mainlines relined 6 to 48 inches and up.

800-234-7205; www.ariesindustries.com; Booth 1262

Asahi/America Series 19 MAV MultiPack

Asahi/America has expanded its Series 19 electric actuation line to include a multiturn unit capable of operating on diaphragm and gate valves. The Series 19 MAV MultiPack actuator, like all Series 19 actu-

ators, comes standard with multivol-

tage capability, a visual position indicator, an LED light to indicate valve position or fault, and auxiliary contacts. Controlled by firmware, it is available in two sizes to meet valve torque requirements and comes as an on/off or modulating unit. It mounts on Asahi/ America Type-14 1/2- to 4-inch diaphragm valves and 1 1/2- to 4-inch gate valves.

800-343-3618; www.asahi-america.com; Booth 2255

BDP Industries 3DP Belt Press

The **3DP Belt Press** from **BDP Industries** is the proven, reliable machine for all types of dewater-

ing applications. Recent improvements to this modern belt press have led to increased odor control and solids containment. New features



include odor hoods, mist-reducing showers, piped away filtrate, and increased automation. According to the maker, the increased containment of material has led to an even more efficient machine, while also becoming more operator-friendly. Contact BDP for more information or come see our machines and speak with us in person in Chicago!

518-695-6851; www.bdpindustries.com; Booth 3612

Blue-White FLEXFLO M5 Peristaltic Metering Pump

The **FLEXFLO M5 Peristaltic Metering Pump** from **Blue-White** is an advancement in high-volume, precision chemical feed. It is fully enclosed, easily configurable and does not require external control devices to operate. The pump



features a large 5-inch display for easy viewing of simple, intuitive touchscreen controls. Its remote control signal options include Pulse, 4-20mA, Modbus TCP, EtherNet/IP, and PROFIBUS for enhanced supervision and automation for critical metering and transfer applications. The energy-efficient unit delivers outputs of 0.0302 to 534 gph at just 75 rpm motor speed, maximizing energy efficiency. Because it's a peristaltic pump, it will not vapor lock or lose prime. **714-893-8529; www.blue-white.com; Booth 1248**

Bright Technologies, Division of Sebright Products, Belt Filter Press

The compact 0.6meter skid-mounted **belt filter press** from **Bright Technologies, Division of Sebright Products** has stainless



steel frame and roller construction as well as radius wedge zone and wing roller for sludge dewatering. Components include a sludge pump, polymer system and washwater booster pump. Options include a sludge flowmeter, air compressor and discharge conveyors. The compact walk-around skid design can be utilized in as little as a 10-by-20-foot floor area. Rates of 25 to 50 gpm make it ideal for small applications or when a processor has outgrown dewatering containers. **800-253-0532; www.brightbeltpress.com; Booth 2801**

CLA-VAL 63 SERIES

The **CLA-VAL 63 SERIES** is an electronic pump control valve designed for installation on the discharge of booster pumps to eliminate pipeline surges caused by starting and stopping the pump. The valve is controlled using the CLA-VAL

PC-22D Pump Control Panel installed with programmable control curves for optimum opening and closing rates customized to the specific application. It also has the option to interface with SCADA systems for retransmission of pressure, flow rate, valve position and valve alarms.

800-942-6326; www.cla-val.com; Booth 3302

Crane Pumps & Systems Barnes SITHE Chopper Pump

The **Barnes SITHE Chopper Pump**, distributed by **Crane Pumps & Systems**, is a versatile and efficient solution that will solve clogging problems in any application — saving time, money and resources. The chopper features the option to select either an oilor air-filled motor to suit the

application. Both options solve clog-



ging with a patented chopping technology that slices even the most troublesome solids in the waste stream. This premium efficient IE3 motor delivers significant energy savings and is easy to service. The dry-run submersible motor combined with proven chopping hydraulic performance can handle anything thrown it's way. **937-214-9008; www.cranepumps.com; Booth 2908**

Eagle Microsystems PS-2000 Multifunction Controller

The **Eagle Microsystems PS-2000** is a multifunction controller capable of being configured as a process controller, sensor monitor and data logger. It can fulfill a large number of tasks



that would normally require multiple separate instruments. This is accomplished by its ability to accept a wide variety of input signals and the availability of up to 10 user-configurable relays. The multifunction controller uses a color touchscreen interface allowing for intuitive operation and configuration.

610-323-2250; www.eaglemicrosystems.com; Booth 4045

EBARA Pumps Ameracas DKEU/DKEXU

EBARA Pumps Americas recently released the **DKEU/DKEXU** submersible wastewater product line. These pumps are designed with improved hydraulics to match anti-clog performance and operating efficiency conditions. Technical features such as semi-open backswept impellers, grooved suction covers, internal cooling system and IE3 efficiency motors make up a competitive class offering. The pumps will offer discharge sizes 2 through 10 inches and horsepower ranges from 2 to 60, with dry pit and six-pole versions available. **803-327-5005; www.pumpsebara.com; Booth 1635**

ELODE USA Electro-Osmosis Dehydrator

The compact **Electro-Osmosis Dehydrator** from **ELODE USA** can easily retrofit in line with many existing presses. It is specified to reduce sludge disposal cost



by 60% by producing much drier sludge cake. It uses the electrical potential difference in the sludge cake to separate water in the process and it works on 95% of municipal cakes tested without any chemical, polymer, heat nor mechanical press. It can be used to turn 15 to 20% DS cake to 40 to 45% DS quickly.

201-568-7778; www.elodeusa.com; Booth 7739L

Emerald Coast Manufacturing WAVE

The **WAVE** from **Emerald Coast Manufacturing** is an all-climate, heavy-duty vacuum wastewater sampler. The ABS/acrylic case provides superior weather protection, according to the maker. Its 7-inch color touchscreen grants ease of programing and status viewing. This refrigerated sampler provides composite sampling with high accuracy, and the powerful vacuum system will lift nearly 30 feet. It is completely userfriendly. Sample size can be programmed, and the system will automatically adjust to ensure an accurate repeatable sample.



850-469-1142; www.emeraldcoastmfg.com; Booth 5153

Flomatic Valves Model 40856 Ball Check Valve

With today's increasing use of nondegradable sanitary products, **Flomatic Valves** offers a solution to meet the harsh complexities of congested wastewater systems — the AIS-compliant **Model**



408S6 Ball Check Valve.

It is AIS compliant and designed according to AWWA C508 standard lay lengths. The self-cleaning model has no sharp edges or snag points, helping to prevent clogging from nondegradable sanitary products. There are no moving parts except for the Buna-N vulcanized metal ball.

800-833-2040; www.flomatic.com; Booth 4821

Fournier Rotary Press

The **Fournier Rotary Press** is an innovative dewatering solution that simplifies the process of separating water from solids. It achieves this using slow-

rotating filter screens and a restricted cake solids outlet. This technological advancement can produce a drier cake and cleaner filtrate compared



to traditional belt presses, centrifuges or screw

presses. One of the main advantages of the press is its ability to deliver cost savings in terms of operations and maintenance. Fournier offers free laboratory testing on sludge samples from treatment plants and provides full-scale onsite piloting. Rental units are available.

800-463-6328; www.fournierdewatering.com; Booth 848

Franklin Electric FPS FVT Series Vertical Lineshaft Turbines

From deep-set vertical lineshaft turbines delivering 2,500 feet of head — to axial-flow turbines moving 35,000 gpm — **Franklin Electric's** array of pumping solutions is engineered to handle the toughest applications. **FPS FVT Series Vertical Lineshaft Turbines** are ideal for commercial, municipal or industrial applications where





water supply is readily available. Plus, they come in a variety of configurations, including mixed or axial flow. Outfitted with ASTM A48 high tensile cast iron bowls, investment-cast 304 stainless impellers, and bronze bearings standard, operators get superior materials for proven durability, aligned with a highly efficient broad operating range.

866-271-2859; www.franklinwater.com; Booth 4012

Hach RTC Software

Optimize your processes like never before with **RTC Software** from **Hach.** RTC software is now hosted on the SC4500



Be Right

controller, allowing the user to take advantage of potential energy, chemical and labor savings, from a simple and environmentally friendly solution.

800-227-4224; www.hach.com; Booth 1014

Halliday Products Series F Flushmount Floodtight Covers

Series F Flushmount

Floodtight Covers from **Halliday Products** are made from highly durable aluminum and stainless steel, featuring EDPM compression gaskets, spring assists and stainless steel cam



locks. They are structurally designed to support a 25-foot column of water.

800-298-1027; www.hallidayproducts.com; Booth 448

Hayward Gordon HydroMix

The **HydroMix** hydraulic mixing system utilizes a **Hayward Gordon** solids-handling

or chemical processing pump to recirculate and discharge the contents of a tank through strategically installed nozzles within the same tank. Systems develop



a mixing regime in the fluid volume consisting of circular and top-to-bottom fluid motion. The mixing regime promotes the uniform blending of the contents and solids suspension. These systems develop fluid velocities of greater than 90% of the tank. They can obtain complete mixing in less than 120 minutes, and reduce maintenance with no moving parts located inside the tank. All projects are validated using computational fluid dynamics. Common mixing applications include anaerobic digesters, sludge storage tanks, equalization tanks and basins, crude oil storage tanks and chemical blending tanks. 855-693-8595; haywardgordon.com; Booth 1635

InfoSense SL-RAT

Are staffing shortages adding extra stress to your job? **InfoSense's** new, turnkey service offering

- using **SL-RAT** - can

provide actionable information to focus cleaning resources and manhole maintenance requirements. Service teams can inspect over 10,000 feet of gravity sewer lines per day, providing all the data needed in a user-friendly, cloud-based GIS dashboard. Let us become the force multiplier that helps your team work smarter, not harder.

877-747-3245; www.infosense.com; Booth 720

Inovair Blowers IM-Series

Inovair's highly efficient and durable **IM-Series** geared centrifugal blowers deliver a low total ownership cost. Thanks to the use of industry standard components, its proven design offers simplicity



and affordability. It offers documented energy savings as high as 45% relative to PD and multistage blowers, and without the electrical complexity and durability issues seen in high speed turbo blowers. Customers are supported by the advantages of a vertically integrated manufacturer, with the maker controlling design, production, and service. **913-469-7244; www.inovairblowers.com;**

913-469-7244; www.inovairblowers.com; Booth 5263

JDV Equipment Nozzle Mix System

The dual-zone **Nozzle Mix System** from JDV Equipment provides uniform mixing patterns that produce even distribution and a stable environment. It optimizes solids suspension and contact to promote efficiency in a wide range of applications. The system is designed with pumps installed outside the tanks and are typically chopper pumps or pumps incorporating in-line grinders. The high-velocity nozzles mounted inside the tank completely mix the tank contents. Applications include anaerobic digestion, biosolids storage, blending tanks, excess flow tanks, septage or leachate, anoxic zones, CSO handling, aerobic digestion, secondary treatment and biosolids holding ponds. 973-366-6556; www.jdvequipment.com; **Booth 3840**

Keller America LevelRat

The **Keller America LevelRat** is built to provide reliable, low-maintenance service in wastewater level measurement applications. It offers 0.5% FS TEB accuracy, dual outputs (one analog and one RS485 digital), and models equipped with a 4-20mA analog output include Keller's guaranteed lightning protection at no additional cost. The LevelRat is available with or without a protective spacer and is built



to order in the U.S. with a lead time of only three business days.

877-253-5537; www.kelleramerica.com; Booth 2655

Komline-Wyssmont Turbo-Dryer

The **Komline-Wyssmont Turbo-Dryer** is a tried and tested dryer design for even, thorough, and

rapid drying using a system of rotating trays which material is transferred onto one after the other. This high thermal efficiency, low-maintenance dryer produces Class A Biosolids. It offers a small footprint and low operating cost.



800-225-5457; www.komline.com; Booth 2231

Lakeside Equipment Raptor Multi-Rake Bar Screen

The **Raptor Multi-Rake Bar Screen** from **Lakeside Equipment** is an efficient, proven screen technology for removal of inorganic solids that can be harmful to downstream equipment in municipal and industrial applications. The heavyduty design provides durability and



long life in the most severe conditions. High removal efficiency and low headloss is achieved with multiple rakes cleaning the screen and rake teeth penetrating the bar openings to positively remove captured material. The benefit is rapid debris removal for applications with a high screenings load at treatment plant headworks, pump stations or combined sewer systems. It is designed for rapid debris removal and deep channels, and offers coarse or fine screening, with spacing 3/16 inch and larger. Minimum headroom is required. It has a stainless steel design, with low maintenance and high performance.

630-837-5640; www.lakeside-equipment.com; Booth 1631

OZ Lifting Products Aluma-Lite 1000 Davit Crane

OZ Lifting Products' full range of innovative

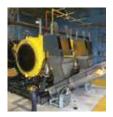
davit cranes and lifting solutions will be showcased in Chicago. These patented davit cranes are constructed of carbon fiber, composite, aluminum and steel, providing users with safe, lightweight and portable options for demanding applications. They allow wastewater and water pro-

fessionals to lift more weight further out, which presents many benefits for various lifting and material handling operations. Visit the OZ Lifting Products booth to view our wide range of material handling solutions that can improve safety, efficiency and productivity in the wastewater industry.

800-749-1064; www.ozliftingproducts.com; Booth 8505

Prime Solution Rotary Fan Press

The **Rotary Fan Press** from **Prime Solution** is an efficient, sustainable system that provides a simple mechanical dewatering solution with a variety of sizes, plug-and-play systems, as well as customizable options available. With greater throughput



for comparable size, the compact footprint allows the system to be easily retrofitted into tight spaces. Automation of the press makes it easy to walk away and focus on other tasks. Minimal maintenance and parts provide savings in time and money. Low energy and water use reduce the impact on and cost of utilities. **269-694-6666; www.psirotary.com; Booth 6715**

Saf-T-Flo Chemical Injection Saf-T-Seal

The **Saf-T-Seal** elastomeric duckbill tip from **Saf-T-Flo Chemical Injection** can be a timesaver when added to injection quills dosing sodium hypochlorite or ammonia. These chemicals are prone



to forming deposits, which eventually lead to a clogged injection quill. The tip can be added to any 3/8- or 1/2-inch injection quill to help reduce tip clogging, extending maintenance intervals.

800-957-2383; www.saftflo.com; Booth 1357

SAVECO North America FOG BEAST

The **FOG BEAST** from **SAVECO North America** has been developed to process a more viscous type of waste. A sloped inlet guides the heavy materials into the screen and reduces sedimentation. A U-shaped flushing header cleans the tank between loads. This is a dual drive screening system that allows for the independent operation of the screen and transport tube. Drum speed can be slowed or increased to promote faster unloading and capture. Along with the dual drive flexibility, the drum sits at a 25-degree angle, which fur-

ther aids in capture efficiency. The drum is supported from the top with an oversized slewing ring bearing. The top support feature eliminates the need for support arms at the inlet which collect debris. **815-636-8306; www.savecowaterna.com; Booth 1621**

SEEPEX Smart Air Injection

Smart Air Injection is a **SEEPEX** customized system solution for pumping over long distances. The system uses compressed air and polymer injections to convey sewage or other media with a dry matter content of 20 to 40%, over distances of

up to 1,000 meters. This combination ensures a low-pressure level in the delivery line, as well as low friction, which trans-



lates into a long life cycle and low operating costs. The system is easy to integrate into existing automation and control systems; reduces the pressure rating of the pipework and valves; and is an enclosed pipework system, eliminating unpleasant odors or rainfall dilution. Open hopper systems with Smart Conveying Technology reduce maintenance time by up to 85% with the maintain-in-place design, requiring no disassembly of discharge pipework. **037 864 7150** unum scener scenet Booth **737**

937-864-7150; www.seepex.com; Booth 737

Sulzer Pumps Solutions HST Turbocompressor

The **HST Turbocompressor** from **Sulzer Pumps Solutions** offers an advanced design with

digitally controlled magnetic bearing technology and a premium efficient high-speed motor driven through a builtin frequency converter. It has no mechanical wearing parts or lubricants requiring mini-



mal maintenance. This is made possible by electronically controlled magnetic bearing technology, which levitates the integrated rotor/shaft/impeller singlepiece assembly along the self-diagnostic features of the active magnetic bearing controller. The result is a compressor with no performance deterioration over time and no need for scheduled maintenance. They are widely used in wastewater treatment plants and

in low-pressure industrial processes. 203-238-2700; www.sulzer.com; Booth 3625

Vactor 2100i

The **2100i** from **Vactor** provides the cleaning power needed to handle the toughest sewer chal-

lenges. This system employs advanced technology that not only enhances the performance of the equipment but the individuals who operate it — meaning less



fatigue, more comfort, push-button operation, greater precision and superior power and performance. An international dealer network maintains a vast inventory of spare parts and offers fast shipment to any region of the world. Altogether, the rugged, reliable unit is easy to operate and maintain, and is an easy choice when you are looking for quality equipment that is built to last.

815-672-3171; www.vactor.com; Booth 3862

Vaughan Conditioning Pump

Don't miss the **Vaughan Conditioning Pump** on full display during this year's Operations Challenge. As a proud sponsor of the Vaughan Maintenance Event, we invite you to come support over 50 teams from around the globe work-

ing specific scenarios that include one of our most popular pumps. American-made and built to last, the pump is designed to be used in several different applications to save you from costly clean out cycles and maintenance. **360-249-4042; www.chopperpumps.com; Booths 1412 & 6831**

VEGA Americas VEGAPLUS

The **VEGAPLUS** line of 80 GHz radar sensors from **VEGA Americas** uses precision focusing to deliver reliable measurements regardless of internal obstructions, changing temperatures, condensation or dust. The series is a

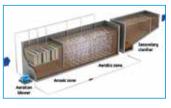


standalone loop-powered sensor available as either a compact version with cable connection housing or with an IP68 housing and fixed cable connection. These sensors are easily adjusted via Bluetooth with a smartphone or tablet, making setup and diagnostics significantly easier.

800-367-5383; www.vega.com; Booth 4444

Veolia Zeelung

Upgrading wastewater treatment plants for capacity expansion or nutrient removal can be complex and



expensive. The **Zeelung** membrane-aerated biofilm reactor from **Veolia** is a technology used to improve the conventional activated sludge process without having to construct new bioreactor tanks. It expands plant capacity and improves nutrient removal in a simple, fast and modular way while also reducing energy and mitigating GHG emissions. It is a platform for a suite of wastewater treatment applications, amongst them is zeeDENSE, a state-of-the-art product to obtain super-intensification of activated sludge, resulting in increased treatment capacity for biological reactors and secondary clarifiers.

866-439-2837; www.watertechnologies.com; Booth 2012

YSI, a Xylem brand 3017M

YSI's 3017M analyzer uses EPA-approved DPD methodology to continuously measure free or total chlorine in municipal drinking water or wastewater effluent. It is accurate, reliable, and built with advanced flow injection technology, factory calibration, and simplified tubing, which lowers reagent use

and maintenance requirements. Primary applications for drinking water include monitoring residual chlorine for process optimization, alarming and reporting. Primary wastewater applications include disinfection control, monitoring dechlorination, and process optimization. It can operate as



a standalone analyzer or integrate into an IQ SensorNet system for better visibility and control of the process. 937-767-7241; www.ysi.com ◆



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PRODUCT NEWS

Product Spotlight

Camera system streamlines cleaning and inspection process

By Craig Mandli

Municipalities are constantly on the lookout for ways to optimize the budget and increase efficiency. Can-Ex Technologies provides cities and towns with the means to efficiently monitor and survey their sewer system assets by centralizing their inspection data through use of the ZIPCAM 360.

"We saw the current process of inspecting sewers as inefficient. Right now, you open the manhole to clean the sewer, jet it, close it, then reopen it to inspect," says Louis Légaré-Lapointe, Can-Ex Technologies co-founder and one of the inventors of the ZIPCAM 360. "We thought that in the best of worlds, you should be able to do everything in one go, to keep the road closures as short as possible. Not only can the ZIPCAM 360 do everything while only opening the manhole once, it does it at a fast speed, with durability and inspection quality."

The hydrovac nozzle camera produces a high-end inspection at a much faster speed and much cheaper price than traditional methods, according to Légaré-Lapointe. It works by recording a 360-degree panoramic video without needing manual operation inside the pipe. The distance is displayed right on the video file, meaning the inspection videos it produces can be NASSCO PACP-compliant.

"Comparing it to a nozzle cam wouldn't do it justice, because it offers features such as pan-and-tilt on the video and is centered in the pipe," he says.



"You can't compare it to a crawler either, since it collects the entire pipe in panoramic, 360-degree 4K HD video, is faster and it requires no manual operation and no truck-mounted inspection unit. It's the best of both worlds, combining the speed and ease of use of a nozzle camera with the accuracy and quality of a crawler robot."

The unit effectively streamlines the cleaning and inspection process. Inspections are done passively, as a byproduct of regularly scheduled sewer jetting. Inspection footage is compiled for every pipe that gets cleaned, and the workflow becomes even simpler if the user adopts ZIP suite's integrated workflow, with web-based analysis software and PACP coding services.

"Since it is very securely connected to your jetter hose by our quick-connect propulsion nozzle, it can work just fine in heavy flow, high water head and high slope environments without needing to worry about being able to get to where it needs to go and making it back out," says Légaré-Lapointe. info@canex.tech; www.canex.tech

SPECIAL REPORT

OZ Lifting XR Series davit cranes

OZ Lifting Products has launched its XR Series of davit cranes for

wastewater and water operators. The Winona, Minnesota-based manufacturer has released the model in 500and 1,000-pound capacities, but the long reach of the range is a standout benefit for operators. Where other davit cranes typically have reduced capacity when it is in the lon-

gest reaching position, this series maintains its maximum capacity rating in all configurations. This means wastewater and water professionals can lift more weight, further out, which presents many benefits for numerous lifting and material handling applications. The smaller crane weighs only 57 pounds and the larger crane weighs 95 pounds. Both have a maximum 62-inch reach and maximum hook height of 87 inches.

800-749-1064; www.ozliftingproducts.com

In-Situ Aqua TROLL Seven-Port water quality instruments

In-Situ's Aqua TROLL 700 and 800 multiparameter sondes hold six Aqua TROLL sensors and an automatic antifouling wiper. The seven-port water monitoring instruments expand the company's Aqua TROLL portfolio, which now includes both five- and sevenport water quality sondes for a variety of surface water, coastal, groundwater and aquaculture applications. Both instruments are ideal for long-term continuous monitoring and spot checking in freshwater, brackish water and saltwater environments. And both



are part of In-Situ's shared ecosystem of products designed to work together from handheld to cable to communication. Available in vented and non-vented options, both the 700 and 800 connect to VuLink telemetry for remote monitoring or the Wireless TROLL Com for communication with a Bluetooth-enabled mobile device using the free VuSitu mobile app. The Aqua TROLL 800 has internal battery power, internal logging and a micro SD card for backup data storage. 800-446-7488; www.in-situ.com







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PRODUCT NEWS

SPECIAL REPORT

Patterson portable davit cranes for mobile lifting

Patterson davit cranes allow for servicing multiple locations with a sin-

gle piece of equipment, minimizing upfront investment. The low maintenance, easy-to-assemble crane can be used at the plant or on a truck for lifting pumps and other equipment in and out of pits and manholes. The cranes are now available with an optional magnet attachment that is perfect for lifting road eyes and other metal pieces weighing up to 2,000 pounds. Built with Patterson's hallmark safety and



durability, the crane and magnet attachment were developed with the highest quality materials. The crane features a brake that keeps loads in position without creeping and comes standard with a hot-dipped galvanized finish, steel sheaves and stainless steel hardware to prevent rust and corrosion. Available in 1/2- and 1-ton capacities, the cranes are built for safety, minimal maintenance, extended life - reducing cost and increased efficiency. Learn more and watch the assembly video online.

800-322-2018; www.pattersonmfg.com/crane-details

Reed Manufacturing Double Squeeze PE squeeze-off tools

New from Reed Manufacturing, the double bar PE squeeze-off tool Double Squeeze line is designed to stop flow in PE pipe. Two squeeze points on the double bar increase squeeze confidence and yield optimal flow control. Other features include lift handles, reduced weight and controlled, low-effort squeeze. Reed offers the full range from 1/2- to 8-inch PE diameters. Sliding bar handles on the manual squeeze tools make work in tight places easier and increase leverage for tightening. Grease fittings at friction points make operation smooth



and extend tool life. Aluminum bars are anodized or painted for protection from the elements. All PE squeeze tools use positive stops to prevent damage caused by over-clamping. Multiple size/SDR settings on one pair of stops provide convenient over-squeeze protection for standard pipe sizes.

800-666-3691; www.reedmfgco.com

Jones 7000 Series break check valve

The J7000 Series break check valve from Jones Water Products (a Mueller brand) can be easily fitted to any Jones wet barrel hydrant. If a hydrant is struck by a vehicle, the J7000 slowly closes automatically to minimize water hammer and protect infrastructure and property damage. This automatic shut-off can reduce water loss by 90% or more. The J7000 emits a mist of water providing notification that an accident has occurred so crews can quickly get the hydrant back in service.

800-423-1323; www.joneswaterproducts.com



QED Environmental Systems Eliminator high-capacity bladder pump

QED Environmental Systems' new Eliminator high-capacity bladder pump is designed to handle light nonaqueous phase liquids and dense nonaqueous phase liquids, as well as viscous contaminants including crude oil. Available for 2- or 4-inch wells or larger, the Eliminator pump offers 100% air-powered operation, no contact between drive air



and contaminated fluids, and simple flow optimization. The pump uses a bladder made of PTFE or elastomer to isolate the pump air supply from pumped liquid, so there is no contact between the air and the contaminated fluids inside the bladder. As a result there are no emissions of potentially contaminated air. A wide range of accessories are available, including roving well caps that allow accurate pump inlet positioning, and bladder replacement kits for easy field maintenance. 734-995-2547; www.qedenv.com **♦**

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sion. aluminum water tanks, floation fronts, 65,000k gvw, showing 16,630 hours, odometer 119,678 miles. \$60,000. Please contact Mitch@mitchellcontractinginc.com or call 985-200-0518. MS (M09)

10

MISCELLANEOUS

South Coast Water District Request for Qualifications: Progressive Design-Build-Operate-Maintain Services Bid Posting Date: August 3, 2023 Questions and An-swer Due Date: August 16, 2023, at 5:00 PM (PDT) Bid Closing Date: September 7, 2023, at 11:00 AM (PDT) South Coast Water District ("District") is soliciting Statements of Qualifications ("SOQs") from qualified firms to design, construct, operate, and maintain an ocean water desalination facility in Dana Point, California, at Doheny State Beach and vicinity ("Project") The Project will treat and deliver up to 5 million gallons per day ("MGD") of potable water with potential for future expansions up to 15 MGD. Under the progressive design-build-operate-maintain ("PDBOM") Project delivery method, a a firm or firms will be selected on a

best-value basis and will (1) design and construct the Project, and (2) subsequently operate and maintain the Project for a period of 15 years ("Contract Servic-es"). Funding for this RFQ includes grants and loans from various State and federal programs. As such, State and federal requirements encourage Disadvan-taged Business Enterprises to submit an SOQ for this Project. This RFQ invites respondents to submit SOQs describing their technical and financial qualifications to perform the Contract Services. The issuance of this RFQ is the first step in a two-step procurement process. Only firms that respond to this RFQ, and are short-listed by the selection committee in accordance with the requirements of this RFQ, will be (a) Issued a Request for Proposals ("RFP") and (b) invited to sub-mit a proposal in response to the RFP. Three proposer teams are expected to be short-listed as eligible to participate in the RFP stage of this procurement. To learn more about this Project, ask questions, view documents, and submit an SOQ, please register on the District's PlanetBids procurement portal: https:// pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/19768/portal-home. For questions about the RFQ process, please email purchasing@scwd.org. (M09)

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