

SUMMER
2014

The Official Publication of the Water Environment Association of Utah



DIGESTED news

Celebrating 50 Years of Clean Water



Recap

2014 WEAU Annual Conference

Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District
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INSIDE:

Annual Region 8 Pretreatment Association Conference ■ Industrial Facilities Turn to HDS Surveys

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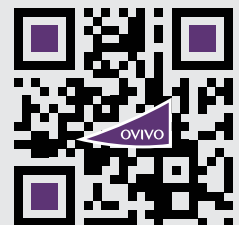
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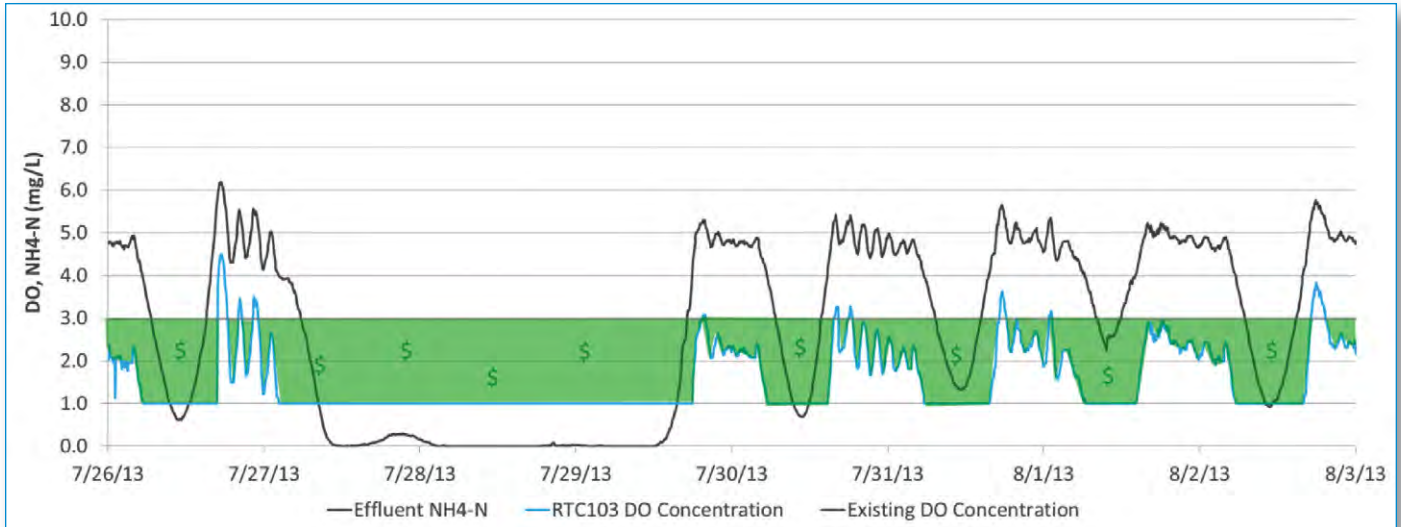
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Do not sit on the sidelines, get involved



Mike Foerster

As I write this, my heart is filled with great reverence for the trust you have placed in me as President of this great organization. I joined WEAU in 1999 as a young engineer. I sat in amazement as I met the leaders of and other greats in our organization. I watched as former Presidents, Leland, Lonn, and others led this organization forward and upward. When Sharon asked me to serve as the Collection's Committee Chairman a few years later, I felt under qualified and a heavy burden placed on my shoulders. That burden has only felt heavier as Lance later called and asked me to run for the Board and again heavier when Jill called and asked for me to take on the presidential track. I look at all the great things that I have observed being done over the years by those who I watched serve and have

grown to admire. Lance, Dru, Paul, Jill, Dan and Mark have each added their own touch of magic to this organization and I feel unworthy to fill their shoes.

As I have continued to ponder their service, I realize that none of them did it alone. They each work for organizations that realize the benefits WEAU can provide and support their service.

In addition, they each had a ton of support from volunteers, each who helped the organization move forward toward a common goal: To help make our homes and communities a better place to live. I continue to be awe struck as person after person approaches me and asks "What can I do to help?" It is this type of attitude that will help us move forward, helping the next generation of professionals become the best professional they can become.

With that said, we continue to need volunteers. Committees can always use more help, Chairmen need more ideas and conferences need more papers. Take the time to ask what you can do. Call up a board member or committee chair and throw your name in the ring. Bring a buddy if you want to. If you think that you don not have time to help out in these ways, ask a board member if there may be something smaller you can do or even just help recruit a new member.

WEAU will continue to move forward. As this continues to happen, please do not sit on the sideline. Be involved. We cannot do anything without volunteers, which includes you. [Dn](#)

Mike Foerster
President

“ I continue to be awe struck as person after person approaches me and asks “What can I do to help?” It is this type of attitude that will help us move forward, helping the next generation of professionals become the best professional they can become.”

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Recognizing great accomplishments

Chad Burrell

Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District is currently undergoing some renovations. As common with most renovations some destruction has to precede the construction. In Snyder's situation they had to demolish an old office building/lab/garage to make room for the

new. New constructions and remodels at our facilities can be opportunities for everyone involved in our industry to come together. Managers and boards might meet with the state and engineers for design plans consistent with discharge permit requirements, engineers might involve

manufacturers of equipment, operators may trial some of this equipment on site, and lab personnel might run tests to monitor efficiency and performance. Renovations are also a time to reflect on the past. Neal Jones worked at Snyder when this particular building was being constructed around 1980 (wow I was only four years old), he has since retired. But he did not miss the opportunity to show up the morning the building was being demolished, and believe it or not he wanted to be the one running the demolition equipment. It was a good opportunity to reminisce and bring out the Tonka Truck desire in all of us.

Our Annual Conference each year in St. George is another way our industry comes together to 'build.' As we teach each other, meet with vendors, and even compete in or observe the Operator Challenge it is also an opportunity for us to reminisce and grow our industry. It is also a wonderful opportunity to recognize those who have made great accomplishments over the last year. Thanks to you all and Enjoy! [DRI](#)



Neal Jones, Dustin Walton, Dave Smilanich



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A resuscitated WEAU Safety Committee

Curtis Simmons, North Davis Sewer District

Training is mentioned in over 4,000 places in the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) regulations! Worker training may well be the most important part of any safety program. Since an entire book could be written just on OSHA training requirements the task of safety training can be overwhelming. Subpar and inconsistent employee training leads to unsafe work practices – a primary cause of workplace injuries.

The WEAU Safety Committee will begin offering CEU credited safety training in conjunction with other scheduled training offerings beginning in 2014. Wastewater collection and treatment operators will now have access to a reliable resource to help with the never-ending task of compliance in our regulation driven industry. Our trainer(s) have unique operator experience such as: confronting the hazards in cleaning a digester, completing maintenance on a diffuser in a 12 foot deep basin, and replacing an impeller in a pump submerged in a wet well of 'biological hazards.' All these conditions are routine for wastewater operators. A trainer without these types of experiences could not effectively relate to treatment operators about working safe in these situations.

The WEAU Safety Committee members are not professional presenters or experts in all types of wastewater operations. We will recruit process and procedural experts from the wastewater industry with good communications skills to train on safety topics with the wastewater perspective.

The Utah wastewater industry has specific needs and with the combined knowledge and safety experience from the WEAU membership the training experience will be relevant at the worker level.

The WEAU Safety Committee is asking for your support and input. Please contact any member of the WEAU Safety Committee if there is specific safety instruction that your utility needs. The Committee will actively work to provide safety training from an operator point of view that will help you evaluate risks to minimize accidents and possibly save a life.


WEAU needs an additional member to serve on the Safety Committee. A representative from a smaller utility would be an ideal candidate. If you would like to share your knowledge and experience to advance the goals of this committee, please contact Curtis Simmons, North Davis Sewer District 801-728-6832.

WEAU Safety Committee Members

Kirk Freeman,
Salt Lake City Public Utilities

John Woodrow,
Central Davis Sewer District

Curtis Simmons,
North Davis Sewer District

David Actor,
Snyderville Basin Water
Reclamation District 



“ Please contact any member of the WEAU Safety Committee if there is specific safety instruction that your utility needs. The Committee will actively work to provide safety training from an operator point of view that will help you evaluate risks to minimize accidents and possibly save a life.”

WEAU Safety Committee members:


John Woodrow has been with Central Davis Sewer District since 2008 as Collection Operator. He is the Assistant Safety Officer. John was awarded the Outstanding Collection Operator in 2012. John is currently attending Weber State University to finish his Bachelors Degree. John

enjoys doing anything outdoors including hunting, fly fishing, camping, and coaching little league football. John jumped at the opportunity to be on the safety committee. His goal is to keep the training's operator oriented, and keep these other seasoned committee members under control.

David Actor has worked in the wastewater Industry for over 15 years at the Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District (SBWRD) in Park City, Utah. He manages development, design, and construction of collection system capital improvement projects and special projects. David also manages the SBWRD Safety Program which oversees health and safety for the District's 38 employees.

David's water and safety career began with the US Geological Survey (USGS) in the Pacific Northwest gathering chemical and mapping data from high mountain lakes in the Cascade Range. Safety at that time in his career involved staying above the water surface. The USGS work advanced to nautical charting work (hydrography) with NOAA, National Ocean Service on the Pacific Coast, Alaska, and Hawaii. David's health and safety experience included responsibility for shipboard emergencies and crew health and fitness as a shipboard medical officer. Following his nautical charting experience, David worked in the hazardous waste industry with a consulting engineering firm and a large hazardous waste management company where safety training and compliance were vital to ensure that projects in controlled and uncontrolled environments were completed safely.

David has worked on both coasts, the Midwest, Alaska, Hawaii, China, and Brazil in field and industrial settings where safety training, safety awareness and safety as a core value ensure a safe work environment. The Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District recognizes that its employees are its most valuable asset. It considers safety a critical element of any task.

David graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California. His interests include travel, road and mountain biking, motorcycling and winter sports. He lives in Summit Park with his family and an aging chocolate Labrador. 



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Co-Chairs of the WEAU Safety Committee

Kirk Freeman is the Safety Specialist for the Salt Lake City Water Reclamation Facility. Mr. Freeman has over twenty years' experience in Safety, working for Utilities, municipalities, and private industry. He enjoys teaching, Safety evaluation, and reading, and believes the wastewater industry is ripe for Safety over performance.

Curtis Simmons (Curt) is a full time Safety Specialist for North Davis Sewer District. Like many of his peers Curt started his wastewater career as an operator in 1989. During his tenure at North Davis he served many different positions including Refrigeration and HVAC Technician, Computerized Maintenance Management Specialist, and Emergency Response Team Coordinator. In 1991 Curt became the District Safety Coordinator as a part time position along with his regular duties and served this position until 2009 when he was given the full time position as Safety Specialist.

Curt served ten years with the local community fire department as a firefighter/EMT achieving the rank of Deputy Fire Chief before resigning in 1997. This opportunity gave Curt the knowledge to bring to North Davis his experience in emergency management, mitigation, and emergency response.

Curt still lives in the same community where he grew up just about two miles from work. His interests include motorcycles, car restoration, and wood working.

As you can see we are a diverse group with varied experiences. 

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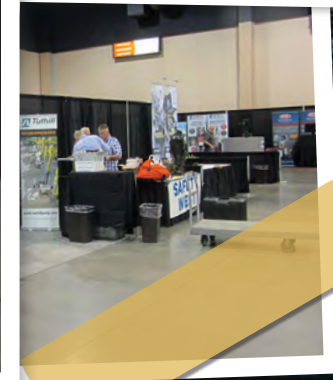
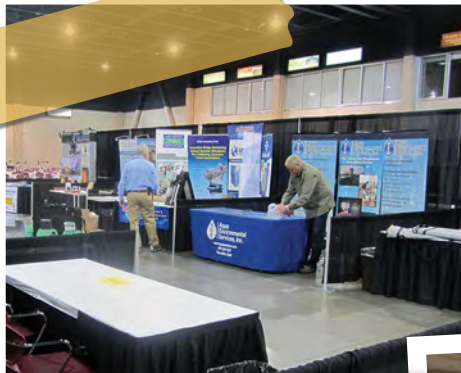
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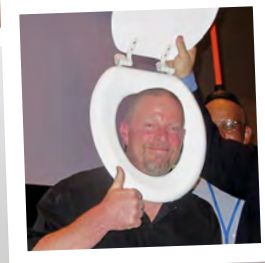
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2014 *Recap*



2013 Awards List



2013 Outstanding Collections Operator (Under 5 MGD)
Gary Wilcox, Ash Creek



2013 Outstanding Collections Operator (Over 5 MGD)
Brent Jorgenson

2013 Outstanding Laboratory Technician
Kevin Taylor, Central Weber Sewer Improvement District

2013 Outstanding Maintenance Specialist
Brett Olson, Central Weber Sewer Improvement District

2013 Outstanding Pretreatment Specialist
Spencer Parkinson, South Valley Water Reclamation

2013 Outstanding Supervisor
Matthew Kesler, Provo City



2013 Outstanding Water Reclamation Operator (Over 5 MGD)
Weston K. Youd, Jordan Basin Water Reclamation

2013 Outstanding Water Reclamation Operator (Under 5 MGD)
Robert Tabor, C-Martin Co. (Dugway)

2013 Outstanding Young Professional
Becky Tanner, Central Valley Water Reclamation



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2013 Outstanding Biosolids Program

Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility

2013 Outstanding Laboratory

Provo City Water Reclamation

2013 Outstanding Pretreatment Program

Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility

2013 Outstanding Water Reclamation Facility (Over 5 MGD)

Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility

2013 Outstanding Water Reclamation Facility (Under 5 MGD)

Tooele

2013 Outstanding Collections System (Under 5 MGD)

Midvalley Improvement District

2013 Outstanding Lagoon (Non-Discharging)

Kanab City

2013 Outstanding Lagoon (Discharging)

Plain City

2013 Outstanding Safety Program

North Davis Sewer District (Curt Simmons Safety Officer)



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St. George Operator Challenge 2014

John Marteliz

Let me begin with how to pronounce my name correctly, John Marteliz. John \jān\ \Mār-te-lēs\ noun, definition; to permanently borrow stereo equipment in the middle of the night. Also means to cut ones grass. Now that we have that out of the way, let us move on.

This year's Operators Challenge was one of the best we have ever had. The competition was intense, but the camaraderie between the teams was the most impressive thing this year. North Davis defended their title and took home 1st place finishes in process control and in lab. Central Valley gave them a run for their money and finished 2nd overall. They took home a 2nd place finish in process control and two 3rd place finishes in the pump

and in the safety event. Cottonwood took 3rd overall and showed very well during the competition with a 1st place win in safety, 2nd place finishes in pump and collections, and a 3rd place finish in the lab event. South Valley Water Reclamation Facility was also a strong team with a victory on the pump and a 2nd place finish on the safety event. Central Weber, led by Clay Marriott, won the collections event. The City of Henderson was the overall winner for Nevada and did a great job with a 2nd place finish in the lab event and a 3rd place finish on the process control event. It was great to see our neighbors from Nevada again this year. They are great competitors and representatives of the Ops Challenge, as evidenced by The City of Las

Vegas Straight Flush team, who won the Sportsmanship award. This is the second year in a row that Nevada has taken home that prestigious award.

I want to thank Brett Olsen and Tim Madsen on a fantastic job organizing the Ops Challenge this year. Thanks to all of the judges as well, for donating your time and being thorough and consistent throughout the day. That is what we need to compete at the national level. You all did a fabulous job getting all of the teams through in a timely manner. Thanks to all of the Municipalities, Management, Board Members, Coworkers, and W.E.A.U. for your continued support.

I hope you all enjoyed this year as much as I did. I look forward to seeing everyone again next year. [DM](#)



PWO reflection


John Marteliz

When I take a look back at our Annual Conference and the Operators Challenge this year, I think back to people like Lance Bennion, of the North Davis Sewer District, and how colorful his personality (and language) was. In every event, Lance would try his hardest. He didn't want to let himself, his teammates, or his district down. As he was participating in an event, you could see how he would get so flustered, from time to time, with different tasks he had to accomplish. To his credit though, Lance hung in there and competed like a seasoned vet. Lance did earn himself a few penalties, though, from a slight slip of the tongue along the way. While participating in the collection event, we all thought that Lance had fixed his wild ways from some earlier errors as he blurted out "shoot" instead of his other word of choice. Well, we were all wrong, because 10 seconds later, the Lance we had begun to know came back with a vengeance.

It was also great to see Chad Burrell, from Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District, at the competition this year. Chad is a great ambassador of W.E.A.U. and the Operators Challenge. He is just one of those guys that when you look at him, you can't help but laugh, wait that didn't come out right. I mean Chad has


"We all make a difference in our industry. This competition encourages us to be better in every facet of our profession."

a personality that can make anyone smile. Chad did an amazing job taking pictures and just simply making the other teams feel more comfortable during the Challenge, especially those Nevada teams that were competing for the first time ever. It's people like Chad and Lance that this competition is all about. We all make a difference in our industry. This competition encourages us to be better in every facet of our profession. I want to personally thank each and every one of you that judged or participated in the Challenge this year. This has been my fondest time in St. George and I will never forget it. [DJI](#)



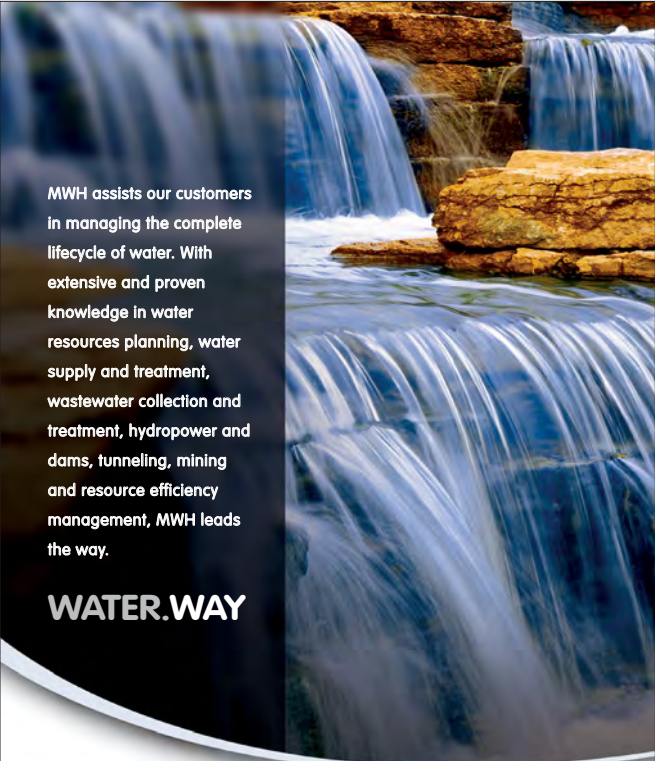

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WEAU ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Operator Challenge Judges and Teams

Thanks to all!!!

Judges:

Pump

- Chris Reilley
- Gordan Evans
- Cody Snyder
- Cody Roholt
- Sharon Burton
- David Peterson

Process Control

- Sharon Burton

Safety

- Eddy Alex
- Gary Faulkner
- Becky Tanner
- Marlo Davis

Lab

- Tiffini Adams
- Sherry Sheffield
- Anthony Daw
- Rita Smith

Collection

- Chris Brown
- Gary Hill
- Mark Schrader

Teams:

1. City of Las Vegas Nevada Water Pollution Control Facility: Waste Water Warriors

- Carl Michaelson
- Carlo Catarata
- Philip Gonzalez
- Marvin Taclas
- Jose Machuca



3. Clark County Nevada Water Reclamation District

- Ryan Pharr
- Thomas Crawford
- Nate Seltenreich
- Brianne Accola
- Nate Richmond



5. South Valley Water Reclamation Facility: Backdraft

- Delaun Fullmer
- Angelo Trujillo
- Cory Zeman
- Weston Gardner



2. City of Henderson Nevada Water Reclamation Facility: Dumplings

- Lance Lomprey
- Jason Scoble
- Rick Anaya
- Brian Carlson
- Clayton Coon



4. Composite Team From Provo, Timpanogos, and Central Davis: Leftovers

- Trace Workman
- Neal Ford
- Jonathan Hepworth
- Brandon Burton



6. Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility: Wasted Gas

- Jared O'Brien
- Mike Earl
- Darrin Morris
- James Magill
- Jeremy Deppe



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Judges and Teams (continued)

Teams:

Thanks to all!!!

7. Magna Water District: Magna Flow

- a. Clint Giles
- b. Ed Tucker
- c. Rob Jaterka
- d. Dallas Henline
- e. Beau Lampear



8. North Davis Sewer District: Royal Flush

- a. Gordon Call
- b. Tyler Barfuss
- c. Mark Mudrow
- d. Tom Anderson
- e. Lance Bennion



9. Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District: Pards

- a. Dustin Lewis
- b. Dakody Gines
- c. Dustin Walton
- d. Jordan Probst
- e. Chad Burrell



12. South Valley Sewer District: Unflushables

- a. Jordan Boone
- b. Mike Olsen
- c. David Thatcher
- d. Weston Youd
- e. Bryant Thacker



10. Cottonwood Improvement District: Collection Commanders

- a. Dan Watts
- b. Jonathan Gubler
- c. Chris Brown
- d. John Marteliz
- e. Jeff Murphy



13. City of Las Vegas Nevada: Straight Flush

- a. Destry Myers
- b. Taylor Fishell
- c. Lance Lizama
- d. Jon Yoffee
- e. Carlo Catarata



11. Central Weber Sewer: Vortex

- a. Clay Marriott
- b. Brody Floto
- c. Kevin Draper
- d. Shawn Vockler

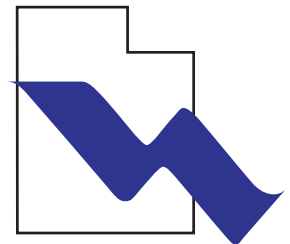


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WEAU ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2014 WEAU Operator Challenge Score Sheet

Team Name	Safety			Laboratory			Maintenance			Collection			Process			Final	
	Time	Score	Rank	Time	Score	Rank	Time	Score	Rank	Time	Score	Rank	Time	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
#1 SVSD (Jordan Basin)	857.47	38.75	9	20:13	38.78	12	11:05	60.47	9	6:55	31.50	12	-810.00	57.68	8	227.19	11
#2 IV (Straight Flush)	818.66	44.33	8	15:45	58.96	8	11:32	55.99	10	4:43	67.24	10	-230.00	38.73	12	265.24	10
#3 Central Weber	525.10	86.47	4	13:20	69.88	7	8:43	84.55	6	2:42	100.00	1	-1155.00	68.95	4	409.85	5
#4 Cottonwood Impr Dist	430.84	100.00	1	9:30	87.20	3	7:33	96.43	2	2:57	95.94	2	-680.00	53.43	10	433.00	3
#5 Snyderville	618.94	73.00	6	10:06	84.49	5	8:19	88.67	5	3:10	92.42	3	-705.00	54.25	9	392.83	6
#6 North Davis	534.91	85.06	5	6:40	100.00	1	7:43	94.70	4	3:16	90.79	4	-2105.00	100.00	1	470.55	1
#7 Magna	645.53	69.18	7	15:52	58.43	10	9:32	76.31	7	3:16	90.72	6	-530.00	48.53	11	343.17	8
#8 Central Valley	501.56	89.85	3	10:01	84.86	4	7:40	95.28	3	3:16	90.78	5	-2040.00	97.88	2	458.65	2
#9 SVWRF	454.35	96.62	2	11:33	77.94	6	7:12	100.00	1	3:51	81.32	8	-950.00	62.25	6	418.13	4
#10 Clark County WRD	950.36	25.42	12	15:48	58.73	9	11:59	51.34	12	4:24	72.38	9	-820.00	58.01	7	265.88	9
#11 IV (Wastewater Warriors)	937.97	27.20	11	23:16	25.00	13	11:40	54.59	11	7:19	25.00	13	190.00	25.00	13	156.79	13
#12 City of Henderson	903.72	32.11	10	8:35	91.34	2	10:29	66.66	8	3:29	87.27	7	-1535.00	81.37	3	358.76	7
#13 Composite	953.28	25.00	13	18:15	47.67	11	14:35	25.00	13	5:30	54.51	11	-1095.00	66.99	5	219.17	12

Score Sheet Comments

1. Process score entered in as a negative number due to score formatting ascending.
2. First place formatted in red with green background.
3. Second place formatted in green with yellow background.
4. Third place formatted in blue with orange background.
5. What ever cell C51 is set at, limits the minimum score.
6. With the exception of process, all times entered are minutes then seconds in decimal form(6:15 sec = 6.25)

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In the past, the conventional, manual surveying of industrial sites for retrofits or facility expansion often required hundreds of hours, sometimes over months, and sometimes involved potentially hazardous locations. When as-built infrastructures were hidden or not precisely detailed in original plans, the resulting survey errors usually led to expensive re-work or change orders for retrofit or expansion projects.

Today, high-definition survey technology (HDS) makes it possible for data to be collected from hundreds survey points, with densities and accuracies of 1/8 inch, in a matter of hours instead of days or weeks. Provided by professional specialists, HDS can be used to survey a plethora of industrial projects such as processing plants, refineries, and mining operations and other facilities that plan to make modifications, retrofit, expand, or upgrade key equipment.

HDS technology is based on an imaging laser that collects up to 50,000 survey shots per second, making it far easier to provide data that can be used for 2D line work or 3D models.

The HDS system also features an external camera that collects photographic images in a 360-degree, RGB color values. These image files are later fused to the data points that are assembled as “point clouds,” which can then be utilized for site mapping, project planning, and civil, structural and MEP design as data is extracted into formats such as AutoCAD, Revit, and MicroStation.

EFFICIENCIES THAT LEAD TO SAVINGS

Stan Postma is vice president of Utah-based engineering services firm, MWH Americas Inc. (a subsidiary of MWH Global). His organization has recently undertaken the renovation of a hydroelectric power plant that is operated by the City of Logan, in northern Utah.

“We needed to evaluate some existing structures, including a powerhouse that is about 100 years old,” Postma explains. “I knew about HDS type of scanning, and thought it would be a good application for the project. So, we engaged McNeil Engineering’s HDS team to do that for us. This service captured all of the information about the building in a very quick and efficient manner, enabling us to plan around the existing structure with very accurate information.”

McNeil Engineering (Sandy, Utah) is a multi-faceted firm that performs HDS scanning for the past 5 years, as well as other survey-related services, civil engineering, structural engineering, consulting and landscape architecture.

Postma says that the City of Logan also commissioned MWH to survey an existing dam that is going through some design modifications near the powerhouse site. He says the 3D data the HDS system provided was very helpful in planning that project as well.

According to Postma, this data enabled his staff to put the dam in a 3D animation so they could view it from any angle. This was a very useful tool because it provided a precise reference, and eliminated the need to send personnel to the site for visual confirmations.

“We’re going to end up with savings on change orders and construction efficiencies all around,” Posta concludes. “Having all the information available in such great detail is going to save money. HDS scanning is very cost-efficient tool.”

ELIMINATING ERRORS

Many design and engineering firms turn to HDS technology because the scans it provides are so accurate that it virtually removes the need to work from records that could be somewhat inaccurate, thereby eliminates the need for re-work.

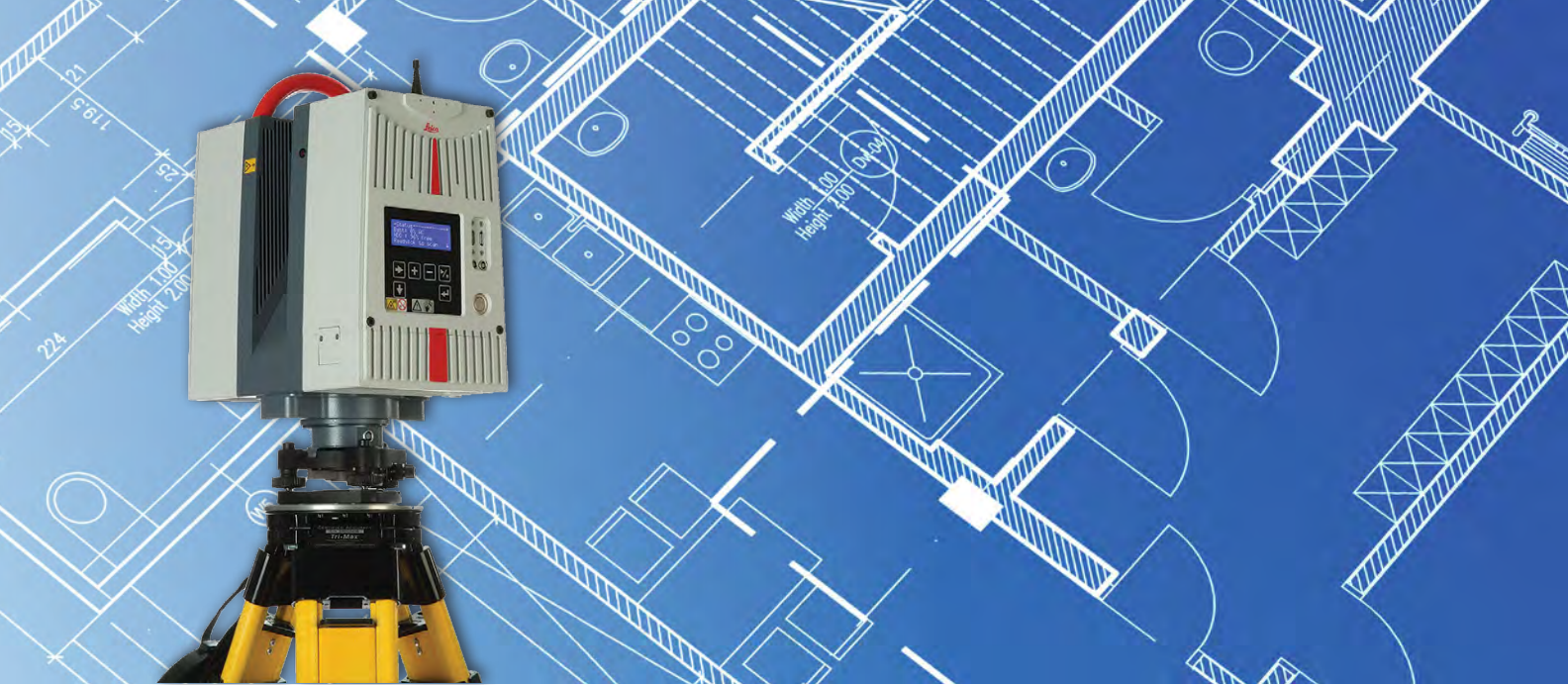
Another McNeil Engineering client, Hubbard Engineering (Mesa, AZ) used the HDS scanning service for a retrofit project at WestWorld, a large, open-air equestrian center and events arena in Scottsdale, Arizona.

“The extreme summertime heat was limiting WestWorld use, so the owners decided to enclose and air-condition the arena,” says Adrian Burcham, P.L.S., Director of Land Survey at Hubbard.

“This was a large retrofit project,” says Burcham, “We scanned the interior because there were no plans available. The HDS technology enabled us to precisely pinpoint the as-builts for design purposes, including the new HVAC system.”

Burcham says it took just one day to complete the scanning, which he feels could have taken several weeks with a conventional survey team.

“McNeil was able to accurately measure every bolt and column in the original structure,” he says. “Also, we got better accuracy on the visible objects in the arena. We were able to map them tighter than you could using conventional tools.”



Burcham adds that the 360-degree photos that McNeil created from points all around the arena were also quite helpful. Used in conjunction with point clouds, the photos made it much easier to reference the project visually.

AN ADDED MEASURE OF SAFETY

Because all scanning is performed from ground level, HDS scanning technology is unobtrusive, making it unnecessary to interrupt production processes.

This convenience also adds a measure of safety, as pointed out by Brian Akers, Piping Lead at Job Industrial Services, Inc. (Salt Lake City). Job Industrial Services handles retrofit and expansion projects with refineries, mining, and

power & gas transmission facilities in Utah and throughout the U.S. Naturally, safety is a priority of the firm.

“HDS technology, it improves on the safety of our personnel because we spend significantly less field time in potentially dangerous environments,” Akers explains. “This is the case particularly in the refinery industry, where you may have thousands of miles of infrastructure. If we’re doing a retrofit, we can have a service provide laser scans, and with the point cloud information we can do a model a lot more accurately than we can do with conventional field measurements.”

Job Industrial Services has had McNeil Engineering team perform HDS scanning

at a recent refinery project because the team possessed the necessary state-required training certification and other safety-related qualifications.

“That removes the need for our organization to invest in HDS equipment, create a scanning team, and then send them out to the job sites,” Akers explains. “All that saves us capital and the loss of considerable production time at the office end.”

For more information, contact McNeil Engineering, 8610 Sandy Parkway, Sandy, UT 84070; Phone: 801-255-7700; Toll-free: 888-303-7700; Fax: 801-255-8071; Email: info@mcneileng.com; or visit the web site www.mcneilengineering.com 



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Annual Region 8 Pretreatment Association Conference

Missoula, Montana

The Pretreatment Committee provides two local trainings a year in Utah and supports the Region 8 Pretreatment Association (R8PA) annual conference. This year the conference was held in Missoula, Montana where over 120 attendees from Region 8 and a few states outside the Region gathered together.

Utah was well represented on the planning committee this year, with our own Jennifer Robinson from Division of Water Quality as Chair, Adam Butterfield from Jordan Basin as Vice-Chair, Marlo Davis from Snyderville Basin as Treasurer and Spencer Parkinson from South Valley as the Utah Representative. Each did a great job organizing the conference from presenters to networking opportunities. R8PA elections were held this year, putting Andra Ahrens from Salt Lake City as Secretary and Adam Butterfield as Treasurer. We wish them luck on their new responsibility and thank Marlo for his service.

The two and a half days of training was opened by Mayor John Engen from Missoula. He was a great way to start the Conference and had many of us laughing throughout his presentation. Other topics included updates on programs from around the region, enforcement actions, local limits, pretreatment safety, outreach programs, odor, surcharge, samplers, FOG and much more. We even had great presentations from our own Lee Rawlings from South Valley Water Reclamation on Toxicity, Clif Swain from Provo City on Metal Finishers and Paul Krauth from DWQ on Mass Balancing.

Missoula is a beautiful location and is a fairly large city. Depending on your definition of walking distance, there were several restaurants within walking distance of the hotel. There was even more within driving distance. Those that drove around Missoula quickly discovered there are a lot of One-Way Streets, Roundabouts and Dead Ends.



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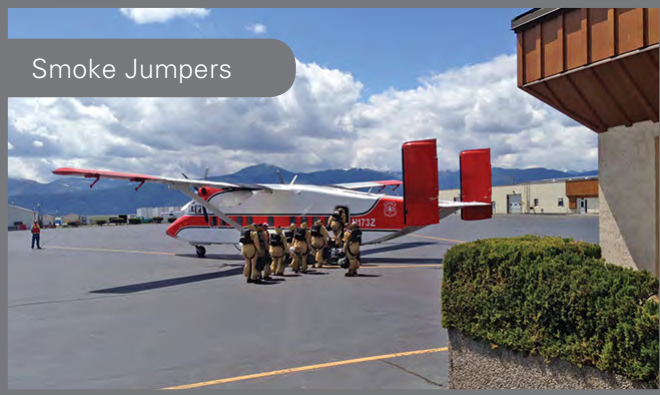
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Missoula, Montana

Smoke Jumpers



The walking path along the river was a great location for running, walking and watching surfers, canoes, jet skis and other activities. It also lead to the hiking path for the 'M' located on the Missoula mountainside by University of Montana. The more adventurous people rode a bike or ran up the trail, while the common people walked.

The planning committee also arranged for the group to have a tour of the Smokejumpers Base and Museum of Mountain Flying. It was interesting to learn more about the Smokejumpers and there were amazing planes in the Museum.

We look forward to next year's Conference. We are sure that Jen, Andra, Adam and Spence will do a great job. And of course, those who get nominated to present and/or help. [DJI](#)



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Lonni Rasmussen

John Marteliz

When you have an individual such as Lonni Rasmussen, where do you begin to write about him. With such a vast array of talents and accomplishments its hard to focus on one particular event. There is however one event that stands out over the rest. It dates back to April of 2010 at the WEAU annual conference. Cottonwood Improvement District was nominated for the Outstanding Safety Award that year. Lonni had a great deal to do with Cottonwood being nominated for that award because he is the Safety Coordinator for them.


Lonni often conducts safety training classes for his employees. He also makes sure that his employees follow the safety guidelines designated by Cottonwood. Needless to say, Lonni is a valuable asset to Cottonwoods' safety program. That year in St. George, Lonni was a judge for the Operators Challenge. He helped judge the pump event. Part of being a judge is helping reset the event after a team has completed that event.

While Lonni was getting the lift station ready for the next team to run the event, he pulled out his old trusty pocket knife and cut into the zip ties that held the floats on the lift station. Before you knew it, there was Lonni holding his thumb and blood dripping on the floor. He cut himself so deep that he severed the tendon by his thumb. He ended up going to the emergency room where they stitched him up and sent him on his way.

So the next night at the Awards Banquet, Cottonwood won the Outstanding Safety Award and guess who went up to receive the award. None other than Mr. Safety himself with a splint on his hand. Here are some of his other accomplishments that he would be proud of. Lonni has been with Cottonwood Improvement District for 30 years. He is currently the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor for them. He also currently serves on the Collections Committee. In 2002 to 2003, Lonni served as the President of WEAU.



In 2011 Lonni redeemed himself from the prior year's mishap and won Outstanding Supervisor. Lonni is also part of the Certification Council. Lonni provides a great service for operators as he teaches collection classes for them. Lonni, we thank you for what you have done for the association and continue to do for it. Your value and service are second to none. We are forever grateful to you. [DM](#)




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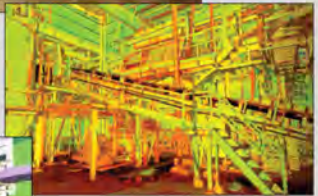


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Landia completes mixer and pump retrofit for new Utah bioreactors



Timpanogos WWT Facility in American Fork Utah where Landia has completed a successful pump and mixer retrofit.

“Over the past 25 years, Landia has installed thousands of mixers and axial flow pumps in U.S. wastewater treatment plants...”

Ed Yates, Maintenance Coordinator for Timpanogos Special Service District, commented: “The move to bioreactors has been a learning experience for us, with a great deal of hard work put in to achieve the required mixing and recirculation. Landia’s pumps and mixers are performing well and the support we’ve been given by the company to help get the equipment up and running to our satisfaction has been exemplary”.

The (\$77M) project, which also features a new headworks and influent pump station, has increased the capacity of the treatment plant from 18.3 mgd to 30 mgd.

Over the past 25 years, Landia has installed thousands of mixers and axial flow pumps in U.S. wastewater treatment plants for mixing and pumping of activated sludge.

Serving the water, wastewater, general, electrical and environmental industries, Bowen Collins & Associates’, numerous successful projects include a Sewer Master Plan and Asset Management Assessment for Salt Lake City’s sewer system, which consists of approximately 640 miles of pipe, 8,500 manholes, and 33 lift stations. [bn](#)

At the newly expanded 30 MGD (million gallons daily) Wastewater Treatment Facility in American Fork, Utah, Landia has completed a successful pump and mixer retrofit that has transformed eight existing oxidation ditches into new high-rate activated sludge bioreactors with biological nutrient removal, solids dewatering, and UV disinfection.

A total of 48 Landia submersible mixers and 16 Landia axial flow pumps are achieving complete mixing and nitrate recycling in a new activated sludge process at the site run by the Timpanogos Special Service District, close to Utah Lake, which serves 10 cities in the region.

Working in close conjunction with leading Utah and Idaho engineering firm Bowen Collins & Associates, Inc to select long-lasting equipment that would give optimum performance, mixers from Landia now mix the sludge in the anaerobic and anoxic tanks, whilst internal Landia Recycle Pumps send nitrified mixed liquor from the aeration basin onto the anoxic tanks.

Operating at low propeller speed, each Landia mixer is equipped with large surface area propeller blades to ensure gentle treatment of the activated sludge.

The axial flow pumps operate on Variable Frequency Drives, by which each pump’s flow rate is optimized for the required Nitrate recycle rate.

JOB NOTICE

Process Engineer/ Assistant General Manager

Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility (CVWRF) is seeking a qualified candidate to assume the position of Process Engineer/ Assistant General Manager. Applicants must possess a B.S. or higher degree in Engineering or Environmental Sciences and ten (10) years management experience of 40+ employees in environmental/wastewater control, engineering, or related scientific fields. Experience in dealing with Elected Officials and Elected Board Members is a must. A Professional Engineers License is preferred. Applicants may contact the CVWRF Human Resources Department at (801) 973-9100 for a complete job description and application. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, July 22, 2014. [bn](#)



Norris P. "JR" Palmer 1951-2014

Norris Palmer was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. Upon returning home from Vietnam after serving his country as a United States Marine, Norris applied for an Operator position at the local wastewater treatment plant in Syracuse, Illinois. Soon after starting this position Norris became the supervisor over the three city treatment plants. During this period of his life Norris became acquainted with the need for pretreatment in industrial waste streams due to an issue caused by a local facility making propane cylinders that was wreaking havoc on one of his treatment plants.

Norris joined the staff at South Valley Water Reclamation Facility (SVWRF) in November 1984 as a shift supervisor for the Operations Department. After a short time in Utah, Norris began attending school at UVSC and received an Associate's Degree in Wastewater Treatment. When SVWRF developed its Pretreatment/User Charge Program in May 1990, Norris took over as the head of that department. During the early years of Pretreatment at SVWRF, Norris faced many challenges, but with the help of Ray Wright and Bob Olson, he was able to overcome all of them and created a very successful Pretreatment Program. Many of the different restaurants and businesses did not want to comply with the new requirements imposed by SVWRF. One of Norris' favorite memories was about meeting Ezra Taft Benson, President of the LDS Church in the 90's. Norris was always amused because the

temple wouldn't allow him to enter the front doors but they would allow him entrance into the bowels of the building. The meeting took place in a storage area just off the kitchen of the LDS Jordan River Temple to discuss how to get the temple in compliance with the SVWRF Rules and Regulations.

Under Norris' direction as Pretreatment Administrator/Director, SVWRF won the 1st Place National EPA Award for Outstanding Pretreatment Program in 1999 and the 2nd Place National EPA Award for Outstanding Pretreatment Program in 2008. SVWRF also won local WEAU awards for Outstanding Pretreatment Program over 5 SIUs in 1992, 1996, 1999 and 2002.

In March 2005 Norris accepted the challenge of becoming the Operations Department Director, as well as the Pretreatment Director, for SVWRF. During Norris' time as Operations Director, SVWRF completed its most recent expansion without violating their UPDES permit requirements. While Operations claimed a large majority of Norris' time, his passion for Pretreatment remained. Norris was the Director over Operations and Pretreatment at SVWRF for just over six years.

In early 2011, Norris chose to accept the early retirement package offered to him by SVWRF. He felt that there were no more challenges for him; as SVWRF was running optimally and he had successfully dealt with the most troubling Pretreatment clients.



Norris retired in July 2011 after almost 27 years at SVWRF and walked out with his head held high, justified in his accomplishments.

On March 28, 2014 Norris Palmer passed away due to complications suffered by a heart attack that occurred the previous day. Norris leaves behind a great legacy in the wastewater industry in Utah, Region VIII and especially at SVWRF. Norris will be greatly missed especially at the poker table where he enjoyed leaving more behind than what he had planned. [\[in\]](#)

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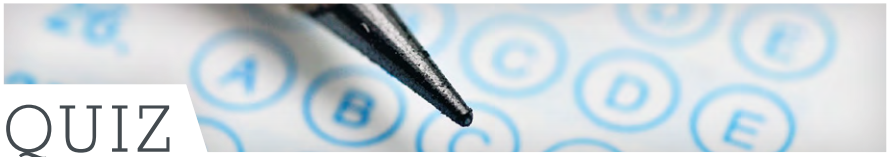


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Emergency Preparedness

What you don't do can hurt you!

By The Collection Committee

1. Preparing for an emergency is one of the most difficult job responsibilities.
a. True b. False
2. You should never leave the company's property during an emergency unless you are instructed to do so.
a. True b. False
3. What should be done to know if everyone is safe in a disaster?
a. Wait till payday to see if they pick up their check.
b. Call their cell phone.
c. Listen for cries of help.
d. Set up a rally point.
4. Which of the following is "**NOT**" a good place to seek shelter during an emergency?
a. Under a sturdy piece of furniture.
b. Under a heavy framed entry way.
c. Under a doorway with an attached door.
d. Under a counter.
5. You should turn off the natural gas at the meter right after an earth quake.
a. True b. False
6. When evacuating a building during a fire, you should take the elevator instead if the stairs because it is faster.
a. True b. False
7. You should never move an injury victim unless there is a physical danger in the area.
a. True b. False
8. What should you do if a chemical spill is dangerous to you or your facility?
a. Immediately try to clean it up.
b. Evacuate the building and leave the property.
c. Activate the fire suppression system.
d. Take steps to prevent further injuries or damage.
9. What is the first step in knowing what to do in an emergency?
a. Talk to co-workers about past emergencies and what they did.
b. Learn first aid and CPR then practice it on passers by.
c. Understand your companies emergency preparedness program.
d. Read and understand the OSHA regulations.
10. Cell phones are a reliable means of communication in a disaster.
a. True b. False
11. List emergency supplies that you should have in your earthquake preparedness kit?
12. What supplies are in your kit right now?
13. What are you going to do so answers to question 11, matches those to question 12?

Maintenance Quiz

By Gordon Evans

1. T/F Preventative maintenance means fixing problems as they happen? ____.
2. T/F An effective maintenance management system always includes at least preventive maintenance, a maintenance records system and a spare parts inventory? _____.
3. A link in the sprocket chain on a drive is broken. Before you attempt to repair the chain you should first, _____, _____, and _____.
4. One item that must be on a lock out tag besides directions for removing the tag and the date the tag was installed are _____.
5. The ungrounded or "HOT" conductor in an electrical circuit is usually what color?
6. Leakage around the packing on a centrifugal pump is required because the seal water acts as a, _____.
a. Vapor barrier b. Lubricant
c. Air tight seal d. Coolant
7. The primary controlling method for positive-displacement blowers is _____.
a. Speed b. Discharge air pressure
c. Power consumption d. Airflow rate
8. The cause of a compressor starting too often may be _____.
a. A clogged intake filter
b. Inadequate draining of the intercooler
c. The wrong setting on the unloader
d. A loose piston nut
9. The sweep on a circular clarifier 100 feet in diameter makes 1 full revolution every 45 minutes. It is driven by a 1/2 HP motor that runs at 1750 rpm. Calculate the gear ratio for the drive mechanism?
10. Calculate the force against a plug of 30-in.-diameter pipe where the test pressure is 9 psi.

Answers:

1-F, 2-T, 3-d, 4-c, 5-f, 6-f, 7-f, 8-d, 9-c, 10-f

1-F, 2-T, 3-Lock out, tag out, and try out, 4-Name and signature of person installing the tag, 5-Black, 6-b. Lubricant, 7-b. Discharge air pressure, 8-c. The wrong setting on the unloader, 9-1750 rpm X 45 minutes = 78750/1 gear ratio, 10-785 X 30 in. X 30 in. X 9 psi = 6385.5 lb.

Thanks for the support

First I want to thank you all for your help with the conference. The final amount raised from the bowling tournament for Water For People was \$2347.97. For breakfast on Thursday we had 28 join us and sign-in. Matt and Steve did a great job getting in front of everyone and sharing their thoughts and experiences so when you see them thank them! We had 10 people donate blood at the drive. We hoped to have more. Hopefully next year we can get over 20 people sign up to get on the *Be the Match* bone marrow registry list. Eleven tagged along for the tour of Ash creek. All in all we did amazing and the conference was amazing, too! Thank everyone for your hard work. I had a blast and hope you did too!

Some notes for the 2015 conference:

- **Bowling** – The conference is scheduled for the last week in April for 2015 and 2016. Schedule this in as soon as possible. I think they start making the schedule in August or September. Sunset bowling 435-674-4455. I am working on determining when they will set the 2015 schedule. Wednesday will probably get a better turnout after the BBQ.
- **Blood drive** – They may not be willing to do this next year due to the low numbers this year. Scott is re-evaluating it. So planning that we do it again, we need to make it not during breaks over the pa system and see if we can get the schedule paper work set out when registration

is done to hopefully get more attention drawn to it. Andrea with South Valley Improvement would be a good person to oversee this – *bint bint nudge nudge* :)

While in St. George, we discussed our new committee co-chairs since I will not be here. Jason Morgan and Bryan Mansell will be the new co-chairs for the Young Professionals in the upcoming year. I know they will do amazing and hopefully you feel the same way. James Dixon will be our new student chair who will also do an amazing job. Thank you guys for being willing to step up to the plate... You got this!

Jason and Bryan It's all yours!! I am so thankful to have gotten to know you all and to have been a part of this wonderful organization. Being a part of the YPs and the WEAU has inspired me to be a better person. I love the friendships that have been created here and hope to continue them. We truly have a wonderful organization that I have been lucky to be a part of! I am sad to be leaving you all and hope the best for you.

Thank you again for all your help!

Becky Tanner
Young Professionals
Committee Chairperson [bn](#)

“ I am so thankful to have gotten to know you all and to have been a part of this wonderful organization. Being a part of the YPs and the WEAU has inspired me to be a better person.”



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YP recap

By Becky Tanner, Gary Vance, and Michael Moe

This year at the Annual WEAU conference our YPs had a lot going on. Starting on Tuesday, April 29 with our 2nd annual bowling fundraiser tournament where all proceeds went to Water For People (WFP). This year we were able to donate \$2347.97 to WFP. Garth Bateman from South Valley Water Reclamation Facility was the winner of the 50/50 pot, where 50% of everything was raised went to WFP and the other half went to a raffle winner. Garth so kindly donated his half of the pot to WFP. Thanks Garth!! The first place team of the tournament was from Clark County Water Reclamation Facility with the help of Utah's Paul Krauth. The all Utah bowling team with the highest score was from Goble Sampson. A huge thanks to those who came out. I had a blast and hope you did, too.

Wednesday was the Operator Challenge. All 13 teams did fabulous!! North Davis Royal Flush took 1st overall for the WEAU. Congratulations and good luck at WEFTEC. As always it is a pleasure to watch and root all of the teams on. At lunch, I (Becky Tanner) received the Award for Outstanding YP in the WEAU for 2013. I would like to thank everyone for their support and considerations for this award. I am truly grateful to be a part of this wonderful organization. Wednesday evening, we had the PWO and Young

Professional BBQ in the evening at Fiesta Fun Center, consisting of good food, great people and lots of fun. It was nice to be able see everyone sit back relax and just socialize after a hard day of competition.

Thursday was our busiest day starting our day bright and early at 7:00 AM for breakfast at the Black Bear Diner. Young Professionals were able to enjoy breakfast together prior to heading over to the WEAU conference for the day. Attendees were able to chat about sewer while diving into some excellent pancakes, bacon, omelets, biscuits and gravy! Yummy! In addition, the Myers brothers (Steve and Matt) were gracious enough to stand up and share some of their experiences working in the wastewater industry and specifically with WEAU and the young professionals. The breakfast was a great way to kickoff the day's events. The American Red Cross came out to do a blood drive where we collected several units of blood. We also had a booth set up for *Be The Match* Bone Marrow Registry. This registry helps to find matches for bone marrow for those with cancer. We appreciate everyone who donated, you were very giving this year and I hope we will continue this tradition. In the afternoon we went on a tour of Ash Creek Wastewater Facility which received the outstanding non-discharge lagoon award in

“The Utah State University students are to be commended for their efforts as they devoted many long nights and weekends to the study of wastewater.”

2012 and in previous years also. I personally enjoyed seeing all of the lagoons. It was also different to see the goats and kids playing and working hard to keep the banks free from weeds and other debris. I also found it very interesting that they are able to land apply all of their water, well what doesn't evaporate and recoup most if not all of their costs from sales of their hay and goats. Thank you Blair and Kim for giving us the chance to come see your amazing facility. It really is outstanding!

The annual conference also included a presentation from the winners of the WEAU Student Design Competition. The problem statement focused on providing solutions for bringing the Morgan City wastewater treatment lagoons into compliance with pending nutrient regulatory requirements. Those who attended the presentation in St. George were impressed by the design concepts presented, conclusions made, and the overall quality of the presentation. The Utah State University students are to be commended for their efforts as they devoted many long nights and weekends to the study of wastewater. WEAU will be sponsoring the USU team to compete in the national competition at WEFTEC in New Orleans this fall. We wish them the best of luck and know that they will represent WEAU well in the design competition.

Thank you for everyone coming out and especially everyone in the YP committee who help put all of our activities together. Without you, it wouldn't have been such a success!! We look forward to seeing you all throughout the year and at next year's conference. [DH](#)



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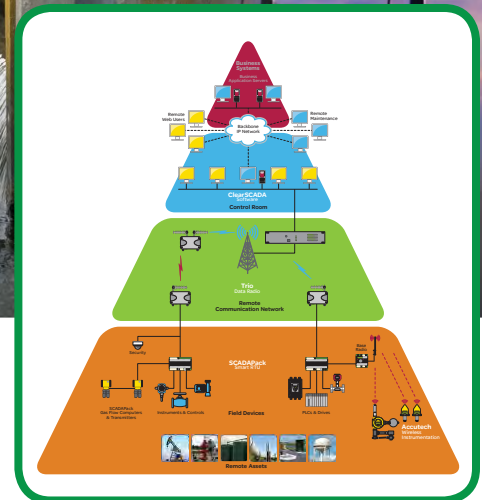
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