



OPERATOR



November 2009 Edition

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IDIOTS get together at the Vic conference - read about the conference on page 8



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Newsletter of the WATER INDUSTRY OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

From Cynthia's Desk

The past few months have been a whirlwind of activity. WIOA for the very first time was able to hold our own committee meeting in our own space. We have well and truly settled into the new office and have set up a small but interesting 'Operator Museum', recognising the progress and changes within the industry. If you happen across any water/operator related historical items, posters or equipment that aided operators in their jobs and needs to find a home give us a call, tell us what it is and if we don't already have one we could find it a place in the museum. Members when passing through town are welcome to come and visit us in Shepparton at any time – the coffee is always on.



*Possibly the only one of its kind in Australia!
The Water Industry Operators Museum.*

With no time to rest after the completion of yet another very successful and extremely well attended 72nd Annual Victorian Engineers and Operators Conference WIOA went straight to other industry conferences as exhibitors. We attended the NSW Local Government & Shires Association Water Conference held in Deniliquin and also the Trenchless Australasia conference held in Melbourne to network and spread news and information on the Association. George was also kept busy attending training focussed meetings and seminars.

We held our second Strategic Planning meeting in August and mapped out the next five years and managed to tick off many points from the last one. The meeting highlighted the changes that WIOA has experienced in the last three years and has provided us with additional focus for what lies ahead. The 2009 Annual Review and Members Information Handbook will cover many of these changes.

As noted in recent editions of 'Words', Membership fees increase to \$25 for Individuals and \$200 for Corporate Supporters in 2010. Invoices will be sent out soon and we will again provide the opportunity for individuals to take up a three year membership to reduce paperwork.

Royce Water Technologies are continuing their support of WIOA by providing a very fancy BBQ for this year's membership prize. To be in the draw, all you need to do is join or renew your membership on time.

As this will be the last edition of Operator for 2009, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support of the Association and wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday season.

I hope you



and have



and



Cynthia Lim

WIOA Operations Manager

**WIOA MEMBERSHIP
HAS MANY BENEFITS.
IT NOW ALSO HAS
IT'S REWARDS!**



All financial members go into the
annual draw in 2010 to win the
fabulous Weber®
Big Family Q™ 300 barbeque.

Sponsored by:



www.roycewater.com.au

Congratulations 2009 Kwatye Prize Winner - Bernd Vetter

Congratulations to Bernd Vetter who was announced as the winner of the 2009 Kwatye Prize.

Bernd's 2009 winning submission states an objective to communicate effectively the contribution made by all people who are involved in our industry, their passion, responsibility and most importantly the opportunity for young people to come on board and counteract our skills shortage.



Bernd Vetter (L) with Rohan Latham of Thermo Fisher Scientific Australia (R)

Life after Kwatye Award 2007

Following my initial work I become involved with a local Geelong contractor in the development of a method to "spot spray" a chemical to tree roots while undertaking close circuit television (CCTV) inspections. The contractor concerned ultimately won the significant project category at the Geelong business excellence awards in 2008 and has undertaken works in Maryborough (refer to paper presented at 72nd Victorian conference).

Also due to the profile that the Kwatye award had, I became involved in the first collaborative project undertaken by Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) and the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organisation (CSIRO). As the project was associated with sewer blockage management within Australia, it directly related to the work that I had undertaken as part of my award. My contribution in this project involved attending workshops & steering meetings, often undertaking presentations to colleagues from across Australia, and arranging a survey within the water industry. I was also able to contribute to the blockage report with photos. The authors of the Blockage Management Report unexpectedly acknowledged my contribution towards this report in the foreword of the publication.

Although my project is ongoing, the receipt of the 2007 Kwatye Prize has certainly assisted me in my personal development and I hope the industry in general. If you have any idea that is associated with the water industry I would thoroughly recommend you apply as you never know where it can lead and what opportunities there are.

Graham Thomson

**Applications for the 2010 Kwatye Prize are now open.
For more information go to our website.**

Kwatye Prize 2008 Winners – Project Update

We all have "bright ideas", whether saving the world, making someone's life easier, or just a better or different way of doing something. But often even the simplest don't go past a few chats over a couple of cold ones. For Nick and I, this prize gave us the support and encouragement to actually do something about one of ours.

We have constructed and tested a small, unpowered model of an atmospheric water harvester, designed to produce clean water by condensing humidity. This has shown that in order to gather meaningful data on the harvesting of water from air, our full scale machine needs to be powered. We are now in the final stages of sizing equipment for our system.

The main result of our project will be a tool for assessing the feasibility of such a system, particularly for remote communities and areas where safe, good quality water is expensive. We will use this to accurately assess and size a system to irrigate Nick's farm, and will have the personal satisfaction of having put one of our ideas into practise in a way that benefits both us and others. And who knows where it could go from there...

Paulus des Anges & Nick Bray

CROSSWORD SOLUTION (from Aug 09 Edition)

Congratulation to Darren Sharman and Kristine Hunter – winners of the Bunnings \$30 Gift Vouchers from Actizyme.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	G		C	H	4		P	U	M	P	
2	R			2			E			R	
3	E			S	O	L	E	N	O	I	D
4	A				I					M	
5	S	M	E	L	L	S				E	
6	E			I		P	I	T			
7				Q		R		I			
8	F			U		I		M	I	S	T
9	A	C	T	I	O	N		E		P	
10	T			D		G		R	O	S	E
11						S			2		

DOWN

- A1 Slimey muck often fouling SPS
- D1 Chemical nomenclature for smelly gas often associated with sewers
- G1 A slang term for a bodily fluid
- J1 What should you first do to a centrifugal pump prior to attempting suction lift
- E3 Another name for greasy muck. Also lubricates engines
- D5 One of the principle states of matter
- F5 Ground water under natural pressure (a collection of)
- H6 Electronic device used to control pump cycles
- A8 Another name for greasy muck. Also builds up on obese persons gut.
- J8 Common anagram for Sewer Pumping Station
- I10 Necessary for survival

ACROSS

- C1 Explosive, odourless gas often present in sewers
- G1 Device used to inject Liquid G into manifold
- D3 Type of valve. Opens and close when timer activates
- A5 The most common sewer pump station complaint. [We would also accept SPILLS]
- F6 Hole, deep, dark
- H8 Fine water Droplets
- A9 Something done
- H10 A ____ by any other name would smell as sweet!

ACTIZYME

New Industry- Focused Resources to Support Certificate II, III and IV in Water Operations.



Government Skills Australia (GSA) is pleased to announce a suite of resource materials aligned to Certificate II of the NWP07 Water Training Package, now available from GSA. Resources to support Certificate III and IV are under development and will be available by the end of 2009.

Funded by the National Water Commission under GSA's National Water Learning Resources project, these resources have been developed through extensive consultation with industry over a two year period.

Products developed under this project consist of CD-ROMs containing fully customisable MS Word and/or PowerPoint versions of the following resources developed for each of the units of competence within Certificate II, III and IV.

- Learner Resources;
- Facilitation Resources- PowerPoints, session outline and responses to activities contained in the Learner Resource; and
- Assessment Tools
- Support materials including a water glossary, assessment guidelines and customization instructions.

Availability of the material developed will address major learning resource gaps that exist within the water industry. GSA intends these resources to assist in the provision of a skilled workforce for Water.

The materials are intended for use by enterprise and RTOs and can be purchased by completing the online form available on the GSA website; www.governmentskills.com.au under the 'water' section.

Tamara Shinnars, Project Officer GSA

TRAINING ACHIEVEMENTS RECOGNISED

WIOA, SkillsTech Australia, the Water Industry Training Centre, Chisholm TAFE and Goulburn-Murray Water Training Services would like to acknowledge and congratulate the following Operators for receiving their Certificates in Water Industry Operations during 2009. The achievements of all these people was recognised at the recent Queensland and Victorian Conferences. Well done to all!

Certificate II.

Announced in QLD - Troy Callaghan, Morin Whittam, Ben Hildebrand, Blake Schneider, Craig Smith, Jason Smith & Malcolm Taylor.

Announced in VIC - David Greaves, Jason Dalzell, Michael Koning, Terry Preston, Craig Pullin, Graeme Hays, Nathan Purton, Dion Sleep, Lester Little, Scott Plunkett, Laurie Burmeister, Luke Marcombe, Marcus O'Reilly, Graham Brown, Steven Hunter, Nigel Kennett, Michael Long, Konrad Mueller, Broc Mulcair, Kathleen Smith, Max Gray,

Brendan Roesler, Robert Romeo, Adrian Schulz, Grant Simpfendorfer, Mick Sweeney, Scott Adam, Jim Annandale, Ricky Goddard, Robin Johnstone, Steve Jones, Mark Kaczowski, Darren Kay, James Laube, Christopher King, Steve Massey, Matthew McInnes, Neil Parker, Scott Murnane, Joe Rocca, Jamie Sim, Barrie Smith, Jim Stevenson, Nancy Tidswell, Haydon Wilkins, Adrian Buntine, Matthew Fitzgerald, William Hogan, Brett Szymanski, Earle Williams, Roland Miller, Phillip Ferguson, David McIntyre, Andrew Newham, Mark Quinn, Robert Williams, Doug Couper, Samika Fahy, Tim Lanyon, Douglas Loble, Ashley Meehan, Mark Wilkinson, Dale Cameron, Simon Rosenow, Travis Edwards, Russell Egan, Jay Humphreys, Silvio Fontana, Glen Button, Tyrone Hodge, Robert Morland, Lee Westerveld, Wayne Clarke, Andrew Strange, Mark Bassett, Grant Jacobs, Adam Moss, Andrew Plowright, Brett Thompson, Tony Esdaile, Bernardino Giove, Brett Hambling, Chris Davey, Rylee Duffus, Ryan Scott, Greg Sheers, Aaron Watts, Luke Anderson, Suzanne Hayes, Bradley Hazelman, Glen Baldwin, Timothy Mayo, Rodney Murray, Ken Prain, Jason Langshaw, Christopher Pleydell, Gregory Bensted, Richard Clare, Lucas Snow, Ashley McGraw, Stephen Donat, Ashley Sinnott, Nathan Billington, Colin Clarke, Ben Ciantar, Quentin Goodhand, Chris Jeffree, Noel Roulston, Michael Spicer, Josh Stewart, Jeremy Viglinardo, Brett Smith & James Wright.

Certificate III.

Announced in QLD - Terry Atwell, Andrew Avery, Brett Ballard, Chris Beckhauser, Giovanni Buda, Andreas Constantinou, Graham Chapman, James Creece, Graham Francis, Michael French, Nathan Gemmell, Stephen Glover, Luke Halliday, Ian Heaslip, Terry Heness, Ben Hildebrand, David Holloway, Heidi Josipovic, Stephen McDougall, Seamus McGrady, Benjamin McMichael, Ashley Reidy, Richard Senyard, Jason Sorensen, Craig Smith, Jason Smith, Geoffrey Tansley, Malcolm Taylor, Rodney Trusz, Simon Woodford & Ian Wolski

Announced in VIC - Gary Brumby, Tim Vos, David Greaves, Jason Dalzell, Michael Koning, Terry Preston, Craig Pullin, Stephen Flack, Dion Sleep, Graeme Hays, Peter Huggins, Peter Kanter, Richard Stiffel, Adrian Voigt, Lester Little, Scott Plunkett, Scott Bannister, Bruce Etherington, Steven Hunter, Nigel Kennett, Michael Long, Konrad Mueller, Broc Mulcair, Kathleen Smith, Max Gray, Brendan Roesler, Robert Romeo, Adrian Schulz, Grant Simpfendorfer, Brenton Siviour, Mick Sweeney, Leigh Cheshire, Kriston Nilsson, Graeme Dean, Matthew Fitzgerald, Wayne Mazzella, Earle Williams, Damian Doller, Frank Leocata, James Martin, Steven Spring, Scott Thomson, Trevor Kolpin, Roland Miller, Phillip Ferguson, Glen Payne, Mark Quinn, Robert Williams, Brent Owins, Clinton Burkitt, Travis Edwards, Russell Egan, Silvio Fontana, Andrew Strange, Gerard Ryan, Cameron Edge, Phillip Gall, Geoff McIvor, Jamie Noles, Garry Turvey, Grant Jacobs, Adam Moss, Andrew Plowright, Brett Thompson, Bernardino Giove, Brett Hambling, Norman "Frank" Pendergast, Chris Davey, Ryan Scott, Greg Sheers, Aaron Watts, Baydon Wright, Glen Baldwin, Timothy Mayo, Ken Prain, Luke Anderson, Jason Guthrie, Bradley Hazelman, Gregory Bensted, Richard Clare, Lucas Snow, Ashley Sinnott, Nathan Billington, Colin Clarke, Ben Ciantar, Quentin Goodhand, Chris Jeffree, Noel Roulston, David 'Tim' Balfour, Ray Crilly, Daryl Haag & Stephen Pritchard.

Certificate IV.

Announced in VIC - Craig Griggs



Vic Young Operator of the Year Award 2009

The Institute of Water Administration (Vic) received five excellent nominations in 2009. Congratulations to everyone who was nominated and they included:

Ray Borg	- Southern Rural Water
Colin Ros	- Goulburn Valley Water
Kimberley Heath	- Goulburn-Murray Water
Lee Franke	- North East Water
Donald Hughan	- Goulburn-Murray Water

The judges' job was very difficult this year due to the high quality of all the applications. The winner of the 2009 Young Operator of the Year is Mr Lee Franke from North East Water.

About Lee Franke.

Lee began his career with North East Water as a trainee in Wodonga in April 2006. He performed so well that he was offered a full time position as a Treatment Operator with the Wangaratta Operations group. During his 3½ years with North East Water, Lee has been able to demonstrate a high level of maturity and reliability with an ability to independently investigate and rectify treatment issues as they arise.

Lee has been involved with a number of major capex projects and has shown an ability to work through issues to see a project completed. Lee was heavily involved with the introduction of fluoride dosing in Wangaratta and worked with contractors through the construction of the project, ensuring that work was being performed in a safe manner.

Recently, Lee has moved from the Wangaratta WTP to take on the responsibility of lead operator at the North Wangaratta WWTP. This has involved Lee extending his knowledge from water treatment to a wastewater lagoon based system that also incorporates a DAF process with effluent discharged to a nearby stream and local reuse system. He has committed significant effort to ensure that the plant operates with minimal environmental impact.



Lee Franke (R) receiving the perpetual plaque from Peter Quinn, President of IWA (Vic) at the Victorian Conference Awards night.

Lee represents NEW in a number of different forums, always demonstrating a professional approach to his work.

Lee's aptitude and commitment to his work has ensured that he is a valued employee, appreciated for his consistent delivery of results. North East Water will continue to support Lee to further develop his operator skills, but can already see a large amount of potential for him to go places in the industry. Lee is a very deserving winner of the IWA Victoria "Young Victorian Operator of the Year" for 2009.

Lee wins the perpetual plaque for 12 months, an individual plaque to keep and an all expenses paid trip to join the WIOA team at the New Zealand Operations Conference being held in Hamilton in May 2010.

Vic Operator of the Year Award

Drum roll ... and the winner is ... **Steve Hunter** from Veolia Water



Steve (L) pictured with Andrew Chapman from AWA (Vic)

As announced at the WIOA Conference on 3 September 2009, Steve's nomination cited a long list of many outstanding achievements demonstrating his initiative and innovation for improved treatment and efficiency.

Amongst other things, Steve has championed a number of initiatives and process optimisation projects at the water treatment plants in sludge handling, pre-treatment and development of a flowmeter verification technique for measurement of accuracy of the Specimen Hill flowmeter utilising a survey method of the service reservoir, hydraulic modelling and flowmeter measurement.

As a central team member, also working as an on-call operator at both the water and wastewater treatment plants Steve:

- Develops strong relationships with clients, contractors and other service providers.
- Champions inspection and maintenance works for transfer network assets.
- Displays a high level of initiative and regularly supports other team members
- Developed a large number of the safe work instructions particularly in the areas of laboratory practices and handling hazardous chemicals.
- Developed competency based assessments for new and existing operators .
- Mentors junior operators and willingly shares his knowledge of water treatment and the transfer system.
- Team captain for the 2009 global corporate fitness challenge.

Congratulations Steve!

Contributed by **AWA Vic**

Safe Drinking Water!

Is the water you produce at your Water Treatment Plant safe?

Do you provide it 100% of the time?

Are you sure?

The Water Treatment Alliance aims to reduce the risk of waterborne disease through the optimisation of Water Treatment Plant operation – and lets face it, the vast majority of WTPs in Australia have some capacity for improvement!

The Alliance is based on the successful American 'Partnership for Safe Water' developed after the tragic Milwaukee event in 1993 where over 400,000 people became ill from drinking water contaminated with *Cryptosporidium*. The Partnership has been able to demonstrate significant improvement in the production of safe drinking water in the US since then.

The Alliance promotes a structured process to monitor long-term performance of a WTP, to identify anything that may have an adverse impact on the ability of a WTP to produce safe drinking water, and then identify and implement necessary improvements to overcome these limitations.

Improvement can only be assessed if something can be measured. The program monitors filtered water turbidity which is the single best measure to monitor improvement in *whole of plant performance*.

The Alliance:

- Is fully compatible with and enhances other management tools such as ISO, HACCP and the ADWG framework for the Management of Drinking Water. It differs from these management tools in that it is purely operations based.
- Is a practical program for the optimisation and operation of the whole WTP and involves all steps in the treatment process.
- Provides a formal approach to identifying limiting factors and implementing changes.
- Provides a structured way to monitor and assess progress and performance.
- Strongly advocates a team approach rather than an imposed management approach.
- Builds capability within the organisation rather than with consultants or individuals.
- Can contribute to sensible asset management.
- Provides accountability to customers, regulators and government.

The program is flexible, designed to allow water utilities to use it in any way they wish and to progress through it to the level and at the rate that suits them. A level of external scrutiny is provided for in the process.

Three levels of membership have been established to allow some flexibility to cater for the objectives of different water utilities.

All levels of membership are supported by the program manager and include a detailed training and induction program that describes how the program should be implemented at your Utility.

Level 1: Self Improvement

Requires the collection and submission of 12 months baseline filtered water turbidity data. The data is analysed and benchmarked against data from Australian and American plants. A Level 1 report is prepared and submitted to you.

Level 2: Self Assessment, Review and Award

Requires submission of a minimum of two subsequent years of data and a detailed self assessment report that reviews the ability of your plant to produce safe drinking water and what steps you plan to introduce at the plant to improve this ability.

The additional data and the self assessment report are reviewed by an Australian review team and feedback provided. Successful maintenance or improvement in water quality and progress with the self improvement plan leads to formal recognition with a Level 2 award plaque.

Level 3: Self Assessment, Review, Site Review & Award

Level 3 is essentially the same as Level 2 but includes an actual site review carried out by an Australian review team, and submission of a report on the outcomes of the review to you. Based on a satisfactory site visit, an award plaque will be presented to the utility.

In addition to the formal elements described above, the Water Treatment Alliance runs workshops and training courses in conjunction with the Water Industry Operators Association of Australia in areas critical to the optimisation and operation of water treatment plants and water supply systems in general.

The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) is responsible for the administration of the Water Treatment Alliance. More information on the Alliance can be found at the Water Services Association of Australia Website:

www.wsaa.asn.au/About/WaterTreatmentAlliance or by phoning Nathan Smith at WSAA on (03) 9606 0678

For as little as \$1000 why not become part of the Alliance today and join a growing number of utilities taking seriously the provision of safe drinking water.

The data you collect and the improvements you make will go a long way to producing safe drinking water 100% of the time and will allow you to demonstrate it.

“Think Pathogens or Drink Pathogens” – A lesson in filtration

Over two days in late June, 12 participants took part in a Filter Inspection training course run by Peter Mosse at the Shepparton Water Treatment Plant. Peter is one of the leading authorities on filters and various other aspects of water and wastewater treatment and is also a leading voice in the water industry.

Peter started his career at Gippsland Water where he worked in various roles for 18 years, before leaving to start his own consulting business. Peter is editor of WIOA's Water Works Journal, runs a variety of training seminars and he has a genuine interest and passion for the water industry.

The participants came from various Goulburn Valley Water districts as well as operators from North East Water and Coliban Water. There was a wide range of experience across all of the participants, with some people being new to the water industry and others that had been around for a long time and had seen and heard it all! This led to great discussions on operator's own experiences, issues, problems and was also a very successful networking forum for internal GVW operators as well as guests from our neighbouring water authorities.

Day 1 kicked off with a general overview of the water treatment process and then focused on the very important role that filtration plays in that process. We learnt that chlorine will kill bacteria and “most” viruses but only a “well” run filter system will remove *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* and that filters are the only barrier to Protozoan pathogens in conventional water treatment plants. This led into a take home message of the two days “Think Pathogens or Drink Pathogens”.

We then looked at some case studies of incidents that have occurred in the past such as the largest documented waterborne disease outbreak in United States history, Milwaukee Wisconsin, in 1993. With a population of 1.6 million over a two week period 403,000 of those residents became ill and over 100 people died when one of the two water treatment plants that serviced them was contaminated with *Cryptosporidium*.

In another case in 2000 in Walkerton Canada with a population of 4,800, seven residents died and 2,300 became ill when their water source was contaminated with *E. coli* O157:H7.

All the case studies that we looked at had one thing in common contamination of the source water and treatment system failures. This really highlighted to everyone the significant responsibility that we all have managing our water treatment plants and ensuring that we are providing “SAFE” drinking water 100% of the time.

Over the next day and a half we got our hands dirty and delved into the practice side of filter inspections and optimization looking at techniques such as:-

- Filtration targets
- Turbidity breakthrough
- Backwash rates
- Filtration rates
- Air scour rates & clean bed head loss
- Filter media inspections
- Bed fluidity & expansion
- Solids retention
- Deep bed investigation



Getting our hands dirty and learning all about correct methods for media filter inspections.

The techniques learnt over these two days equipped those that participated in the course with the background theory and practical skills to go back to their plants and undertake detailed filter inspections at their own plants.

From all accounts after the course some people, such as Colin from Northern hit the ground running, undertaking filter inspections on the Barmah Water Treatment plant the very next week. The Central Water Treatment team has scheduled inspections and investigations of all their filters in the next couple of months.

As a result of Peter's course, I think everyone gained a much better appreciation for the importance that filters have in producing safe drinking water and the subsequent importance to regularly check our filter operation and condition. By doing so, we can be confident that Goulburn Valley Water will continue to provide safe drinking water.

Contributed by **Chris Spokes**, Goulburn Valley Water

2009 Victorian Conference Report



David (R) chatting to one of the many exhibitors at the conference.

WIOA once again delivered a magnificent conference at Bendigo. What a great venue for the trade show - the Bendigo Exhibition Centre. There were so many stands to visit this year and suppliers to catch up with.

One of the highlights of the WIOA conference that always gets me is the standard of papers that is delivered every year, and this year was no exception. I would like to congratulate all the presenters and the winners of best paper by an operator and best paper overall - the amount of subjects covered was fantastic.

One of my favourites was the paper by John Granzien, Winner of Best Operator Paper at the Queensland conference earlier in the year. I'm sure a lot of people in this industry have had to deal with all the issues mentioned in this paper as a lot of our facilities have been inherited from various authorities - some in good repair and others not!

I also enjoyed the dinners (as usual!) with the standard of entertainment improving every year. I expect Rove, or someone similar, to be hosting the show in the years ahead the way it's going.

Most people I spoke with were very impressed, as was I with Lauren Burns. It was interesting to get an insight into the amount of work involved in being an Olympic athlete and how people end up involved in the sport they become great at and represent their country at such a level.

Once again, well done to everyone involved in the staging of the WIOA Conference and I know all the attendees from Central Highlands Water are looking forward to next year, and many years to come.

Contributed by **David Reyne** ~ WIOA Member

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VIC CONF PRIZE WINNERS:

Vic 'Wal Whiteside' Operator of the Year – Steve Hunter, Veolia Water

IWA Vic Young Operator of the Year – Lee Franke, North East Water

Hepburn/Iwaki Prize for Best Paper Overall –

Greg Comer, Goulburn Valley Water



Best overall paper Hepburn Iwaki Prize - Greg Comer (L) with Damien Alston

Actizyme Prize for Best Paper by an Operator:

- 1st – Greg Comer, Goulburn Valley Water
- 2nd – Gwynn Hatton, Barwon Water
- 3rd – Bert Pynappels & Graeme Bartle-Smith, GWM Water



Actizyme Prize winner Greg Comer (L) with Alex Maderasi

WITC Best Operator Poster Paper Award:

- 1st – Peter Tolsher, EGL (Operations)
- 2nd – Sean Doyle, Barwon Water
- 3rd – Bill Mackrell, Wannon Water



WITC First Prize Peter Tolsher (R) with Stephen Wilson

Best trade site overall: Winner of the WME Media Prize – Australian Valve & Filter Industries



Best trade site overall

WIOA meets 1000th Member

In March this year WIOA reached an important milestone when we signed up our 1000th Member. To celebrate this we invited the lucky new member, Patrick Berry from NSW, to an all expenses paid trip to one of our conferences. We enjoyed Patrick's company for the duration of the Victorian conference in Bendigo.



George Wall WIOA Executive Officer with Patrick Berry (R) receiving a commemorative certificate to note the occasion.

Email received from Patrick after the conference.

Cynthia,

I would like to thank you and the members of WIOA for your hospitality during the recent conference and exhibition in Bendigo.

I found both the conference and trade exhibition to be extremely well organised and most beneficial, and hope to be able to attend again in the future.

Best regards,

Patrick Berry

"Unmotivational" Port Label, Vic conference



INEPTITUDE

If you can't learn to do something well,
learn to enjoy doing it poorly.

Corporate Member News

Why is it all about the application....not the valve?

What 20th-century engineers did to improve the water supply wrought a host of stunning transformations—in public health, in living standards, and in both urban and agricultural development.

Valves were to play an important role in controlling the water quality so new more efficient purpose fit designs were needed to control water supply more effectively.

The evolution of valve design that occurred during this time was driven by the need to meet new health and performance standards and the new application demands that followed.

To emphasise how important it is to understand valve selection criteria our company Australian Valves & Filter Industries (AVFI) was recently asked to assist a project manager in identifying the correct valve for a project that had specified a 600 mm Nozzle Check Valve.

After checking the velocity and critical closing time our engineers were able to establish that AVFI model 4020 Slanted Seat Check valve with built in internal Dampener was a far more economical choice for the project. The 4020 check valve features matched the performance criteria in the specifications which required quick response time, full leakage tightness and the dampener eliminated any water hammer issue, fulfilling the requirements of the application.



By having a clear understanding of the valve application AVFI were able to save the project manager tens of thousands of dollars which he was happy to share with the water authority. Accepting a more practical solution also reduced the delivery lead time by choosing a more readily available product.

As an Australian company AVFI are leaders in valve solutions for the water and wastewater industries. Every day our staff are contacted by clients seeking recommendations. Our clients include contractors, project managers, consultants, design engineers and representatives of wholesale outlets across Australia.

Australian Valve & Filter Industries (AVFI), proud to be the recent winner of the best overall trade exhibit at the WIOA 2009 Bendigo Conference.

Call us now to discuss your valve project.



Ph: 1300 789 256

Email: avfi@avfi.com.au

Web: www.avfi.com.au

Corporate Member News

Mono Pumps, in conjunction with South East Water and MWH, have been awarded a High Commendation in the category of Engineering Excellence Award for Technology as a result of the Flinders Sewerage Project – An Innovative Backlog Sewerage Scheme by Engineers Australia in the Victorian Engineering Excellence Awards 2009.

This innovative sewerage project provided a technologically advanced Pressure Sewerage system for the townships of Flinders and Shoreham located on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. The key technological innovations introduced into pressure sewer technology by Mono Pumps included:

- Telemetry linked Remote Monitoring and Control System;
- Electronic Pump Over Pressure Protection;
- Easy to maintain pump unit package with 24 hours emergency storage; and
- Longer life rotor and stator, with the ability to pump up to 80m head.

Other engineering innovations pioneered included: Two Mono Pumps transfer pump stations with pressure vessels (rather than wet wells) which can engage the emergency storage within each property.

James Wyatt, Mono Pumps Waste Water Product Manager, says "this scheme required the re-thinking of how a pressure sewer system can and should operate, with the intention of minimising any potential impact on the resident whilst ensuring South East Water maintained maximum visibility and control over the entire network." This was achieved through the integrated telemetry solution and ensuring the long-term reliability and protection of the sewerage network through the implementation of over-pressure protection. The ability to design, manufacture and supply Pressure Sewerage units that produced up to 80m pressure eliminated the need for additional expensive and unsightly transfer pump stations whilst our Engineering team ensured the solution would far exceed typical life expectancies of alternative pressure sewer equipment.

The Mono ECO range of pressure sewer units offer further advantages to installers and operators through the incorporation of a unique dry well chamber which houses all mechanical and electrical equipment. This provides significant advantages to installers and operators of the units as at no time is there a requirement to come into contact with the collected sewage. The grinder pump can be installed, inspected and removed from the dry well chamber with no risk of contact with sewage or requirement to wash down the pump prior to handling.



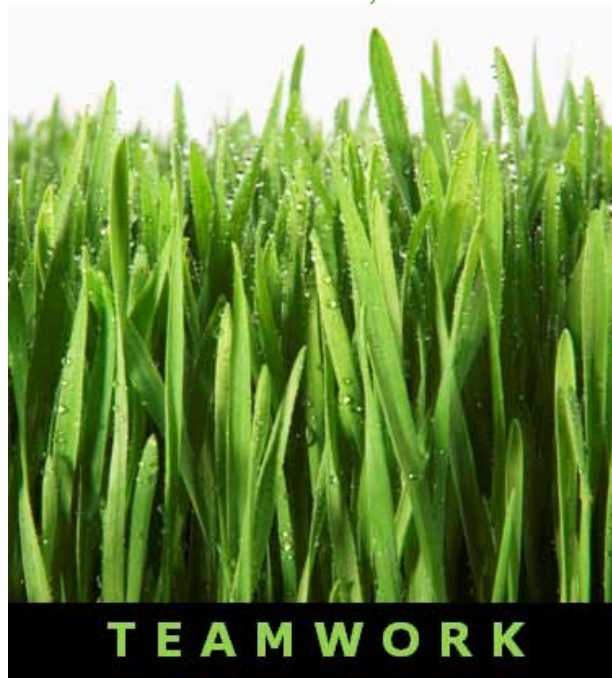
The unique dry well chamber.

Further benefits of the dry well chamber include ease of access as all components are located at the top of the collection tank, no risk of accidental entry to contaminated and confined space along with fast turnaround times for operators. Because of this project Victoria is now a recognised knowledge base centre for pressure sewer technology. Mono Pumps are Australia's leading designer and manufacturer of Pressure Sewerage System (PSS) solutions along with progressive cavity sewerage transfer pumps, sewerage grinders and inlet screens.

For further information please contact james.wyatt@nov.com or visit www.monopumps.com



"Unmotivational" Port label, Vic conference



TEAMWORK

The tallest blade of grass is the first to be cut by the lawnmower.

New Members

Welcome to the following people and companies who have recently joined our Association as a Member or Corporate Supporter.

New Individual Members include

Kelvin Woods, Robert Barratt, Marcus Hamblet, Robert Edwards, Chris Ashley, Kevin Hunt, David McMaster, Louis Van Slobbe, David Bubner, Adrian Mawer, Matthew Gittoes, Don Campbell, Jason Rolff, Jeff Coulson, Russell Clark, Cameron Willmott, Ian Johnson, Julian Kinder, Paul Frizzell, Paul Ratcliffe, Fraser Kleinschmidt, Rudi Regel, Michael Niven, Shaun Johnston, Fleet Edwards, Andy Law, Ian Matheson, Bert Pynappels, Bob Millar, Brenten Hogan, Mark Dacey, Ricky Newell, Col Thompson, Steve Rickard, Rob Morris, Russell Wilson, Kev Munro, Phil Childs, Paul Rattray, Mark Ferguson, Ankit Parikh, Craig Shepherd, Patrick Freeman, Geoffrey Harris, Mark Pescud, Ryan McGowan, Nataly Orr, John Shearer, Sean Doyle, Greg Comer, Neal Ragau, Chris Hall, Chris Howard, Michael Koning, Garry Lanham, Barry Dare, Tony Anderson, Chris Carr, Gary Harvey, Stephen Flack, Pal Atkins, Mark Collins, Grant Woolley, Nigel Van Noord, Jason Crack, Leigh Rush, Riccardo Furfaro, Wayne West, Mark Michael, Don Robertson, Malcolm Taylor, James Castle, Shane O'Shea, Martin Schelberg.

New Corporate Members include

Clearwater Recruitment, Australian Innovative Systems, Ativo Maintenance and Project Services, AquaManage, Alexandrina Council, Water Systems Australia, Xypex, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Power & Water Corporation, Pentair Water, Hunter Water Corporation, Sealing Solutions, IDEXFMT, By Air Liquid Mixing Solutions, BioRemedy Pty Ltd, Electronic Keying Australia, The Banner Lady, GMA Water Services, Brown Brothers Engineers, Yarra Valley Water, Chatoyer Holdings, Gladstone Area Water Board, Water Bore Redevelopers, Rockhampton Regional Council, Australian Drain & Pipe Repairs.

2010 Weekend Seminar & AGM 20th and 21st March

Presentations from

~ Bilfinger Berger Services ~

Topic to be advised

~ DCM Process Control ~

Advancements in process control and water characterisation, using "real-time" UV/Vis monitoring.

~ Electronic Keying Australia ~

Electronic Master Key Systems

Come along to network, learn & relax with
your fellow WIOA mates.



GREAT OCEAN ROAD, WARRNAMBOOL, AUSTRALIA

Coming events

2009

- 17-18 Nov** WME, Excellence in Industrial & Commercial Water, Melbourne
- 25 Nov** Water Infrastructure Group, Eastern Irrigation Scheme Site Visit and Tour, Carrum, Vic

2010

- 20- 21 Mar** Weekend Seminar and 2010 AGM – Lady Bay Resort, Warrnambool
- 21-22 Apr** 4th WIOA NSW Water Industry Engineers & Operators Conference, (venue TBA)
- 23-24 Jun** 35th Qld Water Industry Operations Workshop, CQU complex, Rockhampton
- 1-2 Sep** 73rd Annual Vic Water Industry Engineers & Operators Conference, Bendigo

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Next Edition

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