



Published by the Water Industry Operators Association of Australia (WIOA)

# WIOA WORDS

DECEMBER 2021

*Merry Christmas*



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The Board, Committee and Staff of WIOA wish all members and their families a safe and happy festive season and we look forward to a prosperous 2022. The WIOA office will be closed from COB 17 December 2021 and will reopen on 4 January 2022. **Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year to all.**

## AROUND THE TRAPS

The November 2021 edition of WIOA's Technical publication **WaterWorks** has been distributed to members recently. WIOA is now managing the production and distribution of the publication and Corporate Members can help support WIOA by advertising your products or services in the May 2022 or future editions. For more information, please contact Craig - [craig@wioa.org.au](mailto:craig@wioa.org.au) or visit the WIOA website to download the 2022 Media Kit at <https://wioa.org.au/publications/water-works/>

We are now on the lookout for technical articles for the May 2022 edition. We are always happy to help operators develop and write articles. If you have an interesting topic, idea or project that you'd be prepared to share with the industry, please contact George via [george@wioa.org.au](mailto:george@wioa.org.au)



Members are reminded that **Membership fees** for 2022 are due on 1 January and a renewal invoice has recently been sent to all members. If any of your personal details are incorrect, please let Sherryn know by email ([sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)) and she will update the membership database.



The **Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA)** has recently released two papers on topics that were at the forefront of discussions at the COP26 global climate conference. The first titled "Towards Resilience" relates to climate change, mitigation, adaptation and resilience measures drawing on information from around the country. The published paper can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/ym8pt8a5>

The second paper titled "**Water Fuelling the Path to a Hydrogen Future**" outlines the basics of hydrogen for the urban water industry, answers some key emerging questions, and points to questions that warrant exploration in the years ahead. This paper is available at <https://tinyurl.com/2p9e44v4>



The Queensland Water Directorate recently released a Blog discussing the question – **Is the Queensland water sector ready for a COVID incursion?** Their short answer is no. The complete answer is more complicated. The blog discusses the potential impact of not having access to the most essential of workers – water and wastewater operators in the face of a COVID outbreak in a town or community. The Blog is available at <https://tinyurl.com/ruuvx2j4>

Australian Industry Standards (AIS) is inviting responses from industry to their annual **Industry Skills Survey** about key issues affecting skills and workforce development. We encourage everyone to participate and your input will assist the development of the 2022 *Industry Outlooks*. The skills surveys aim to build a whole-of-industry picture and will be used to assist in identifying new or emerging skills needs and help inform workforce skills needs for the water sector. The skills survey can be completed online and should take around 5 to 10 minutes. The survey will remain open until close of business on 20 December 2021 and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/j2uk7ukc>



Applications to participate in the **2022 Victorian Network Operator Development Program (NODP)** are now open, noting that the closing date has been delayed to 21 February 2022. The date for the first Session for the new group of operators is scheduled for 26 & 27 April 2022. More information and the application forms are available from <https://wioa.org.au/network-operator-development-program/>



The **Bureau of Meteorology** is pleased to present BOM Webinars. Webinars are offered free of charge and are delivered by Bureau experts across weather, water, climate and ocean information. To receive information about BOM Webinars straight to your inbox, and to learn how the Bureau's products and services can inform your business and policy decisions, register at <http://www.bom.gov.au/webinars/>



The Water IRC through Australian Industry Standards has received confirmation from ASQA that the request for another 6 month **extension to the train out period** for the **Certificate II** (NWP20215), **Certificate III** (NWP30215 & NWP30315) and an additional 12 months for **Certificate IV** (NWP40515 & NWP40615) qualifications have been approved.

## AWARDS

Nominations are now open for the 2022 **Victorian Operator of the Year Award** and also the 2022 **Victorian Young Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by the Institute of Water Administration, Victoria. Even though the 2021 winners have only recently been announced, the date change for the Victorian conference means we need to bring forward applications so that the 2022 winners can be recognised at the conference in February in Bendigo. We encourage as many organisations as possible to nominate your operational staff for consideration for these prestigious awards. Applications close on 21 January 2022 and an application form is available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/>



A reminder to members that applications are being accepted for the **Problem Accepted, Solution Supplied (PASS) Award**. The winner will receive an all-expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA tour to NZ in May 2022 to the value of over \$2,500. Sponsored by Aqualift Project Delivery, applications close at the end of February 2022. Entry forms are on the website <http://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/>

## EVENTS

Delegate registrations for the **83rd WIOA Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Bendigo on 23 & 24 February 2022 are now open. All the information on the event including the technical program and the registration process is available on the WIOA conferences website at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2022/>. If you intend to come along as a delegate, please use our online event registration system ASAP. We have also been advised that there is another conference being staged in Bendigo in the same week, so we suggest that everyone books your accommodation ASAP.

We understand that not everyone can attend the Victorian conference as a delegate, so please keep in mind that entry to the exhibition is FREE. We encourage everyone to get a carload of people together and come and have a look through the exhibition, even for just an hour or so.

WIOA invites all Victorian Water Suppliers to participate in the **2022 Ixom Victorian Best Tasting Tap Water Competition** with heats to be held at the WIOA Victorian conference in Bendigo on 22 February and the Grand Final at lunch time on 23 February 2022. More details are available on the WIOA website <https://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2022/victorian-water-taste-test/>



Victorian Water Corporations are invited to enter teams of 2 competitors into the keenly contested **3rd Victorian Main Tapping Competition** (supported by Coliban Water and Reece Civil) that will be conducted as part of the Victorian Conference in Bendigo. The fastest team will have \$1,000 donated to a charity of their choice, as well as having their names engraved into the perpetual trophy. Check out the WIOA website for more information - <https://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-main-tapping-competition/>



The itinerary for the **2022 Operators Tour of New Zealand** from 20 to 28 May 2022, including attendance at the WIOG Operations Conference in Dunedin, is currently being finalised. The tour will only proceed if mandatory quarantine restrictions are not in force on either side of the Tasman. Based on past tours, the approximate cost will be \$1,800 AUD per person plus airfares. To allow us to book accommodation, the bus and confirm prices, registrations will close on 1 February 2022. Anyone interested in participating should register your interest with the WIOA office ASAP.

The Water Industry Operations Group NZ (**WIOG**) Conference will be held in Napier, New Zealand from 25-27 May 2022. Further information on the conference is available at [www.wiog.org.nz](http://www.wiog.org.nz)

## TRAINING COURSES

**AMS Training & Solutions** (<https://www.amsts.com.au/>) is excited to announce the release of their Level 2 RO Training as an online offering, via the Neptune Water Treatment Resources App. Search for 'DHP Neptune Lite' in the App Store or Google Play. Enable location services to see Australian specific content and updates. All their online training options are available through Neptune.



The next **IWES event** will be held online in February 2022 with their **Principles of Wastewater Treatment Course** and a new course on **Integrated Urban Water Management and Assessment**. Early Bird Sale ends on December 20, so lock in your discounted price before then to save up to \$1,000 off your registration price. Please note that while this event is online and as such not subject to physical seating limitations – they are still limiting places to ensure each participant receives adequate teaching and question time. Visit <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-online-2022/> to find out more or to register.

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

**Clean TeQ Water** announced the launch of its new PHOSPHIX™ technology, which selectively removes phosphate from water and recovers a solid phosphorus product that is suitable for reuse. Recovering phosphorus from wastewater to substitute phosphorus derived from finite phosphate rock is an increasing trend, with the EU currently recycling 50% of phosphorus from sewage and countries such as Switzerland and Germany having regulations governing the recovery and recycling of phosphorus in the wastewater treatment sector. Contact Will McKean for more information at [wmclean@cleanteqwater.com](mailto:wmclean@cleanteqwater.com)

Quoting a senior climatologist at BOM, we are likely to see some extreme heat days heading into 2022. To help manage the safety and risk to our workforce, **Air-Met Scientific** has heat stress monitors available for sale and rental. Contact Air-Met on 1800 000 744 (sales) or 1300 137 067 (rental) for more information.

**POSITIONS VACANT** - For information on these positions visit <http://wioa.org.au/positions-vacant/>

The positions vacant section of our website is one of the most visited sections of the WIOA website and listed 209 positions in 2021. Currently positions for several **Water & Wastewater Operators, a Senior Assets Engineer and several other** roles are available. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## 2022 EVENTS

- 23 & 23 February **83<sup>rd</sup> WIOA Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 28 February **PASS Award**, applications close
- 23 March **SA Water Interest Day, Happy Valley WTP**, South Australia
- 6 & 7 April **14th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 20-28 May (TBC) **WIOA Tour of New Zealand**, South Island
- 3 & 4 August **46th WIOA Qld Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 & 21 September **3rd WIOA SA Water Industry Operations Conference & Expo**, venue TBC



Become a friend of WIOA on **FACEBOOK** and follow us on **TWITTER** or **Linked In**

**KEEP YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE.** If your phone number, mailing address or email address has changed please email Sherryn your new details ([sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.

*Seasons Greetings*  
FROM ALL AT WIOA