



Managing and assessing surface storm and urban water are the topics for the December meeting

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Mr. David Pomaville, Administrative Services Manager for the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District will discuss “Managing Urban Runoff and Stormwater Collection Systems to Benefit Future Water Supply.” In this position he is responsible for land acquisition, human resource management, information systems, environmental resources, and office management. The District provides flood control and drainage services within a 400-square mile watershed including the Fresno/Clovis metropolitan area. For over 20 years he has worked with local government on water quality and resource protection issues. For 12 of those years he worked with the local environmental health department conducting inspections of water systems, landfills, and hazardous waste management facilities. He has been with the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District for five years.

Mr. Leslie Chau, Principal Hydrogeologist, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, San Francisco presents “Surface Water and Groundwater Quality Assessments - Integrated Management of Clean Water and Water Reuse.” Mr. Chau will discuss how surface water and groundwater are used conjunctively and how the discharge of exploited waters into surface water is becoming more complex and costly as treatment requirements are ever more stringent to safeguard the quality of the receiving waters for aquatic and downstream usage. Computerized models and mapping techniques now play a vital role in the decision making process for permitting of wastewater discharge, siting of treatment and discharge facilities, storage and recovery of potable water, CEQA compliance, and engineering feasibility studies.

ICWT receives two federal grants totaling over \$1.7 million

A \$1,453,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency – Office of Science and Technology will fund a 5-year program to continue ICWT’s work in educating, promoting, and assisting in the adoption of technologies that improve water utilization, reduce energy demand, and positively impact air quality.

This EPA grant will assist in the development of:

- Solar-voltaic water pumping and training facility – This demonstration and education unit will be located on the Fresno State campus and, along with existing ICWT equipment testing labs, will work to facilitate the adoption of solar energy used in water pumping.
- International Technical Conference (April 1-3, 2007) – ICWT will develop and conduct this technical conference focusing on the application of water technology in addressing the emerging water quality and supply concerns. Preliminary plans include two days of technical sessions and one day of field tours.
- Water reuse education program and demonstration facility – This program will be geared towards educating the general public and the agricultural sector on the benefits of water reuse through an outreach campaign including demonstration activities located at the wastewater treatment facility in Clovis and on the Fresno State Farm Lab.

A \$310,606 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce will keep ICWT at the leading edge of business planning and exporting assistance. The 3-year program will assist water technology manufacturers nationwide with exporting products to Chile and Mexico.

This MDCP Export Development Program will assist in:

- Export ready training – Seminars and one-on-one consulting will help to determine when your business is ready to enter the exporting market.
- Developing and implementing an export marketing plan – One-on-one consulting will be available to

participating companies to provide market research and write the marketing plan. Assistance will be available to help track progress and modify the plan.

- Bringing you face-to-face with prospective customers – Financial assistance is available for participating companies to attend international trade shows, host inbound trade missions from Chile and Mexico, and to network with government officials and end users.
- Establishing a water conservation site in Chile

For more information check www.icwt.net or contact Dan Clawson or Laura Ramos at 559-278-2066.

Third annual Career Expo scheduled for March 16, 2006

The *Water Technology & Manufacturing Clusters* are joining forces to host the third annual Career Expo on March 16, 2006 at Piccadilly Inn Airport.

We are asking cluster companies to support the Expo by:

- Sending supervisors to network with students. A training session for supervisors will also be offered on March 16, 2005.
- Exhibiting their companies so that students can learn more about the products and services they offer.

- Attending the lunch/networking session from 11:30 am-1:00 pm.

The Water Technology & Manufacturing Cluster will host a joint meeting from 9:00 am -11:30 am.

Details will be provided at upcoming meetings and in the next newsletter or for more information call the *Office of Community and Economic Development* at 559-278-8460.

Careers in Manufacturing Technology (CIMT) Internship Program leads to jobs

In the summer of 2005, 18 students served as interns for ten different Water Technology & Manufacturing Cluster companies through the *Careers in Manufacturing Technology* program. Almost 60% of the students participating received full-time jobs with their host company at the conclusion of their internship. Those students not receiving full-time jobs were either still working towards their degree/certificate or had received part-time jobs with companies other than their host company.

The purpose of CIMT is to help ensure that students in the applied technology programs at Fresno City and Reedley Colleges finish their training program before entering the

full-time workforce. CIMT provides hands-on learning opportunities and interaction with potential employers. Part of the Summer Internship Program is the CIMT Training Academy, which is a series of half-day workshops on topics important to the manufacturing and water technology clusters. Workshops covered workplace safety, manufacturing flow processes, basic shop math, teamwork and diversity, and basic job skills and character. These workshops help prepare students for the future by providing them with these unique training opportunities.

For more information on the program call the *Office of Community and Economic Development* at 559-278-8460.

Employment Readiness Specialist Team dedicated to the preparation of a qualified workforce



The Employment Readiness Specialist team at *Workforce Connection* is instrumental in providing employers with a talented pool of skilled, motivated and qualified

candidates for employment. The team's goal is to meet and exceed the hiring requirements of our business clients.

To maximize the quality of Workforce Connection recruitment services, the Employment Readiness Specialist team takes an active role in evaluating the skills and proficiencies of all job seekers. To ensure the best possible job seeker/employer match, all Workforce Connection clients are required to complete a series of assessments. These tools take the guesswork out of hiring decisions by providing reliable measures of the client's abilities and competencies.

In order to be referred to a potential employer, the client must receive the "stamp of approval" from their assigned specialist that confirms that they meet all the required standards for the position. This thorough evaluation process ensures that job seekers meet the specific qualifications of each individual employer they are referred to.

Workforce Connection has adopted the Workeys, Casas, and Pesco™ assessments that identify skills required for over 10,000 jobs nationwide. Employment candidates are assessed in the following areas:

- Reading
- Locating information
- Applied mathematics
- Reasoning
- Vocational aptitude
- Interest inventory – occupational; work ethic and attitudes; and job temperament
- Academic proficiencies
- Transferability of skills to match job-specific competencies to job requirements
- Other work needs – manual dexterity, etc.

In addition to the assessments, Employment Readiness Specialists take an active training role in preparing clients for job interviews. The team's hard work, expertise, and dedication to excellence is evidenced by the caliber of job seekers referred to employers.

The Employment Readiness Specialist team is another way the Workforce Connection can save your business time and money. Call 1-877-954-HIRE (4473) today.

Industry News

New Ultra-Portable Down-Hole Video Camera From Laval



Laval Underground Surveys announces the release of the new R-CAM 1000 – the industry's first completely portable, dual-view camera unit for down-hole photography. Designed for wells 4-12 inches in diameter and up to 1,000 feet deep, the R-CAM 1000 features a color viewing monitor and can record pictures directly to VHS tape.

The R-CAM 1000 includes the most popular features of Laval's legendary R-2000 system in a more portable package, and includes a 1,000 foot Kevlar reinforced drop cable, a motorized winch system, and 12-volt DC battery power supply all on a convenient transport cart.

For more information, visit the Laval Underground Surveys website at <http://www.lavalunderground.com> or call the company at (559) 255-1396 or toll free in the USA, Canada and Mexico at (800) 344-7205.

Laval Underground Surveys pioneered the use of underground video photography over 60 years ago, and continues to manufacture the industry's premiere cameras and systems. Laval Underground Surveys is located in Fresno, California.

Laval Underground Surveys • 1365 North Clovis Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727 • Contact: Bill Vander Plaats 800-344-7205
www.LavalUnderground.com

September meeting wrapup

Presentation by Martin McIntyre

Mr. McIntyre discussed the current and future water issues impacting the state, the valley and the Fresno metropolitan area. He presented today's compelling water issues in both a local and a regional context. A copy of this presentation is available at www.icwt.net.

Presentation by Ashley Swearengin

Ms. Swearengin provided an overview of the *Regional Jobs Initiative (RJI)* and the goals that have been met to date. Since the rollout of the RJI and the Water Cluster eight new clusters have surfaced because they have seen the advantages. The RJI is currently focusing not on new companies but growing the existing companies. The RJI believes that this will make it easier to present the needs to the government. In addition, they are also working on getting interstate status for Highway 99.

The Governor, with the recommendations of the RJI developed the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. The partnership is comprised of eight counties, eight members from private industry and eight secretaries. The purpose of the partnership is to make recommendations on what the valley needs. It is made up of seven working groups including, water, economic development, air quality, workforce and higher education. If you would like more information check www.fresnorji.org.

International Water Conference

Plans are underway for the first International Water Conference scheduled for April 1-3, 2007. If you have any suggestions on topics, water technology specialist; and industry leaders that should be involved please contact Dan Clawson at dclawson@csufresno.edu.

**To submit articles or for more information contact Laura at 559-278-2066
or by email at Iramos@csufresno.edu**

WATER CLUSTER MEETING

**December 15, 2005
9 – 11 A.M.**

*Central Valley Business Incubator
2555 Clovis Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612*

**Please RSVP to Iramos@csufresno.edu
or (559)278-2066**

From the North: Take Freeway 99 South to Freeway 41 North/41 South. Stay on 41 North/41 South to 180 East (Kings Canyon). Take 180 East to 168 East (Clovis/Huntington Lake). Continue on Freeway 168 East to Shaw Avenue Exit. Turn right onto Shaw Avenue. Follow Shaw to Clovis Avenue and turn right onto Clovis Avenue. Turn left onto Santa Ana (just south of Sierra Vista Mall), and turn into the first driveway on the right. The building will be on your left. There is a sign that reads Central Valley Business Incubator.

From the South: Take Freeway 99 North to Freeway 41 North (Yosemite). Take Freeway 41 North and follow until Freeway 180 East (Kings Canyon). Get on Freeway 180 East (it is helpful to stay in the right lane after merging onto 180 from 41) and follow to Freeway 168 East (Clovis/Huntington Lake). Take Freeway 168 East to Shaw Avenue Exit. Turn right onto Shaw Avenue. Follow Shaw to Clovis Avenue and turn right onto Clovis Avenue. Turn left onto Santa Ana (just south of Sierra Vista Mall), and turn into the first driveway on the right. The building will be on your left. There is a sign that reads Central Valley Business Incubator.