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NASSCO's PACP Positioned as Industry Standard for North America *NASSCO providing support, additional training to former NAAPI members*

BALTIMORE, MD – Sept. 26, 2008 – In the wake of the Sept. 2, 2008 announcement that the North American Association of Pipeline Inspectors (NAAPI) has ceased operations, NASSCO's Pipeline Assessment and Certification Program (PACP) has been positioned as the new standard for North America.

Upon closing its doors, NAAPI referred its members to NASSCO for operator training and certification services. NASSCO is preparing for this unexpected demand in Canada by securing PACP Certified Trainers into each Canadian Province. Under PACP, operators do not need to be re-certified. A QA/QC program within PACP allows contractors and municipalities to monitor the accuracy of each technician and require further training if indicated.

"We are working hard to help former NAAPI members convert their NAAPI certification to PACP and get many more people trained," said Irvin Gemora, executive director of NASSCO.

Recognized as the industry standard in the United States since 2001, NASSCO's PACP provides standardization and consistency in the way sewer pipes are evaluated, coded and managed. PACP creates a comprehensive and reliable reservoir of data to describe the sewer pipe that can be used in prioritization, planning, and renovation of the wastewater collection system. In addition to standardizing the evaluation of sewer pipes and standardizing TV inspection codes, NASSCO's PACP also includes user certification, tools for data integration and mapping.

Additionally, NASSCO's PACP training includes the Manhole Assessment and Certification (MACP) at no additional charge. In the near future NASSCO will introduce the Lateral Assessment (LACP) portion of the PACP also at no additional charge.

"We're pleased to offer additional training to our fellow industry professionals in Canada," said Gemora. "It's long been our vision to establish a standard for all of North America. Our entire industry will benefit with more effective rehabilitations by using a single standard for pipeline defect coding."

In June 2008, Canada's Center for Expertise and Research on Infrastructures in Urban Areas (CERIU) established NASSCO's PACP as the new industry standard in Quebec Province.

NASSCO offers PACP training throughout the year across the United States. To see a complete schedule of PACP and other training and education courses available from NASSCO, visit www.nassco.org or call Andrea Carter at (410) 486-3500.

About NASSCO

NASSCO is dedicated to setting the industry standards for the rehabilitation of underground utilities through training, education and networking opportunities for the trenchless technology industry. Established more than thirty years ago as a not-for-profit trade association, NASSCO (National Association of Sewer Service Companies) represents contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, engineers and municipal workers. To learn more about NASSCO, visit www.nassco.org or call (410) 486-3500.
