GROUT SCHOOL

NASSCO’S INFILTRATION CONTROL GROUTING COMMITTEE (ICGC) IS GAINING NEW MOMENTUM TO BUILD AWARENESS OF GROUTING TECHNOLOGIES

OTHER NEWS

introducing technical advisory council / president’s mid-year report helping prepare tomorrow’s workforce / semi-annual meeting recap
NASSCO WELCOMES NEW FINANCE MANAGER

KEVIN ELLIS HELPS PREPARE NASSCO FOR FUTURE GROWTH

NASSCO is pleased to introduce Kevin Ellis, CPA, CMA, MBA and newest member of the NASSCO team. With NASSCO’s goal to become the industry source of information through education, technical resources and advocacy, a solid financial platform is critical in preparing for the future growth of the organization. Kevin is just the person to help pave the way to sustain and grow NASSCO, especially as we move into international markets.

Fluent in Spanish and Russian languages, from 2002 to 2015 Kevin worked in Eastern Europe teaching professional accounting certification courses for international auditing firms, and currently teaches CPA review courses in the Washington, D.C. area. As a part-time NASSCO employee, Kevin also spends time from January through April completing corporate and partnership tax returns for an accounting firm in Washington, D.C.

A resident of Frederick, Maryland, Kevin spends much of his time in West Virginia where he manages his own vacation property and enjoys his free time as a long-distance road cyclist and avid international traveler.

Kevin can be reached at finance@nassco.org. Please join us in welcoming him to the team.
ADVOCATING FOR TRENCHLESS TECHNOLOGIES: GROUTING
BY SHEILA JOY, NASSCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NASSCO’s goal is to be the industry source for education, technical resources and advocacy. NASSCO training programs, such as the Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP®) and Inspector Training Certification Program (ITCP®) have become North American standards. NASSCO Committees continue to churn out specification guidelines and publications that have become important resources to our entire industry. Advocacy by NASSCO, however, is perhaps the area of important activity that is less well known.

One of the first trenchless technologies for which NASSCO advocated was grouting. Several years ago I had the privilege of interviewing the late Mr. David Magill, who shared with me the history of NASSCO’s involvement in partnering with Avanti and others to help protect the use of acrylamide grout:

“In 1978 when Bill O’Donnell and I started Avanti, CUES was already in business. They were also very instrumental in getting NASSCO started because they, too, believed in standards. Bill served on the NASSCO board for three years.

At Avanti we want to set standards because we believe we sell the best product. Anyone who has a good product wants it to be measured against standards. Bill firmly believed, as I do, in the quality of the products we sell and wanted to show up at a NASSCO board meeting with a keg of acrylamide chemical grout! His purpose was to demonstrate the safety and quality of acrylamide which is low viscosity and turns into a fairly weak gel, allowing the packer to be released from the joint. Acrylamide has great potential, not super strong, but goes into the soil outside of the pipe. It possesses a delicate balance between strength and weakness and works beautifully with existing equipment.

But there were problems. In 1978 in Lake Tahoe, I tried to ship a drum of the grout, and airport employees wouldn’t handle it. Eventually, the EPA tried to get rid of acrylamide.

CUES decided to stop selling the grout, and that left Avanti being the only acrylamide supplier, but also the only one to fight the EPA. In 1990 the EPA decided to put us out of business, so we polled our long-term industry customers and because of the controversy, they really did not want to use acrylamide.

We brought it up to the NASSCO level, asking for their help in identifying the desire of contractors to hold onto acrylamide grout. We got an overwhelmingly positive response, and NASSCO took the next step, hiring attorneys to fight the EPA. Avanti

(Continued p. 4)
contributed money, but so did a lot of other companies such as Aries, Telespector and CUES, as well as contractors and cities. There was a strong, united effort on the part of NASSCO and all members came together to successfully save acrylamide.”

- Dave Magill

While opportunities like NASSCO’s success in the protection of acrylamide grout don’t come along very often, when they do they can change the entire trajectory of a technology. Today, NASSCO advocacy includes the Pipe Rehab and Health and Safety Committees’ involvement in helping to uncover potential safety risks of styrenated resin emissions used in the CIPP process and ensuring the ongoing research conducted by institutions of higher learning leaves no stone unturned. Additionally, NASSCO’s Lateral Committee, specifically a specially-formed Plumbing Code Workgroup, is currently working hard to appeal section 715.3 of the 2021 UPC which effectively eliminates CIPP as a viable option to replace cast iron pipe in buildings.

As for grouting, NASSCO’s Infiltration Control Grouting Committee (ICGC) is gaining new momentum to build awareness of grouting technologies and is busy at work preparing curriculum for an ITCP® course on the subject.

I believe that one of my responsibilities as NASSCO’s executive director is to have a good, foundational understanding of all trenchless technologies as each and every solution has unique features and benefits, appropriate for different types of applications. In pursuit of that knowledge, last September I accepted an invitation from Casey Pieczonka of Prime Resins, Inc. to attend a grouting school at their plant in Conyers, Georgia. Having been in this industry for twenty years, I thought I had a good understanding of grouting technologies, but I was extremely grateful to gain a much deeper understanding of different grouting products and applications.

Part of NASSCO’s mission is to assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies, and that means all technologies.

If you are aware of any industry-wide threats and believe NASSCO’s strong commitment to advocacy can help, please contact me at director@nassco.org.
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Jason Miller | President, Midwest Mole, Inc.
If you attended NASSCO’s semi-annual membership meeting at WEFTEC this past September, you were introduced to the Association’s newly formed Technical Advisory Council (TAC). What began as a replacement search for a new Technical Director evolved as an inaugural, five-member team of aging infrastructure advocates whose varied design, construction and maintenance expertise combine to fulfill our mission:

Supporting NASSCO as the recognized aging infrastructure industry source for education, technical resources and industry advocacy. The TAC will be a passionate advocate for disseminating timely and balanced condition assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation information that is aligned with NASSCO’s vision and mission and consistent with best practices in the industry.

Though newly formed, we have already identified a number of objectives to accomplish over the next year:

- Provide material support to NASSCO’s technical question telephone line for condition assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation questions.
- Assist with technical support of NASSCO initiatives. We recently contributed to on-going NASSCO efforts to amend Section 715.3 of the Uniform Plumbing Code to remove biased and misrepresented language against the trenchless industry.
- Act as peer reviewers to NASSCO and similarly aligned associations to promote best practices in the aging infrastructure industry. Our first major effort was supporting NASSCO’s oversight of Trenchless Technology Center’s “CIPP Emissions Phase II Report,” scheduled for release in mid-December.

As Council Chair, I am partnered with outstanding industry advocates and committed to continuing the legacy of support exhibited by Lynn Osborn and previous Technical Directors. In addition to myself, the TAC is comprised of Chris Macey, P.E.; Kaleel Rahaim; Jerry Weimer; and Lynn Osborn, P.E., who volunteered to bridge the duties of Technical Director to the TAC. We welcome input and suggestions on how we can better support NASSCO and the industry and look forward to a productive year serving you!

Chris Garrett can be reached at ChrisG@NASSCO.org
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SAFEGUARDS TO PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES

BY NASSCO MEMBER MICHAEL HOFFMASTER, RELINE AMERICA INC. AND PLEASANTS CONSTRUCTION

Carroll County, Maryland, situated along the State’s northern border adjacent to Pennsylvania, is not unlike any other municipality when it comes to rehabilitation projects. Once a pipe has been identified as seeing signs of wear or potential failure the owner will determine the best course of action.

If the decision is to use cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP) as the rehabilitation method, then the typical considerations come into play such as pipe diameter, amount of cover over the pipe, load being applied to the pipe and access. If streams and waterways are involved there are additional considerations that the local or state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may impose.

During the permitting process with Maryland DNR, a critically-endangered species was discovered living in the worksite area – the Bog Turtle (Glyptemys muhlenbergii). Bog Turtles are rare to Maryland and are only found in a very specific habitat of
spring-fed wetlands. Bog turtles are the smallest of all North American turtles and among the smallest in the world. Bog Turtles seldom exceed 4” in length and weigh no more than 5 ounces (142 g).

When DNR was notified that UV GRP CIPP was the technology being used on this project, the initial permit was revised due to the environmental safeguards built into this technology. The only precaution needed was that a Wildlife Ecologist had to visit the jobsite the morning of the project to verify that no Bog Turtles were present in the pipe or limits of disturbance.

Utilizing UV GRP CIPP reduces the environmental footprint on the jobsite. The liner is pulled into place using a constant tension winch. Once the liner is in place, it is inflated with air. Then, a light train is inserted into the liner, and the liner ends are secured with a packer (to eliminate air escaping). After the liner is fully inflated, the interior of the liner is inspected using CCTV prior to curing. The speed of the curing is determined by the pipe diameter, liner thickness and the intensity of the UV lamps.

UV GRP CIPP was a good choice in this situation thanks to the liners being totally encapsulated with both an exterior and interior foil to contain the styrene, thus eliminating the potential of resin slugs or spills onsite. Post-cure rinsing of the liner was not required, which is a known benefit of the UV curing process.

The project was a success, and no visible signs of disruption occurred to the Bog Turtles.
NASSCO members came together in large numbers during WEFTEC to learn the latest business activity by NASSCO staff, Board and Committees. Highlights of NASSCO’s semi-annual membership meeting included the introduction of NASSCO’s new Technical Advisory Council (see story on page 7), an update on the research on CIPP emissions conducted by the Trenchless Technology Center (TTC) at Louisiana Tech, and the latest activity by NASSCO Committees including the Lateral Committee’s Plumbing Code Workgroup’s preparation to, with support from NASSCO’s legal counsel, appeal Section 715.3 of the 2020 UPC which eliminates CIPP as a viable option for the replacement of cast iron pipe within buildings. The highly-productive meeting ended with a reception where members and guests networked.

*If you are not yet a member of NASSCO, please join us at nassco.org/join.*
PARTNERING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE
SKILLSUSA AND NASSCO:
PREPARING TOMORROW’S WORKFORCE

BY HEATHER MYERS, PROGRAM MANAGER

Representatives from SkillsUSA and NASSCO met in October to better understand each organization’s goals in preparing skilled workers, how we can partner to achieve them and plans for moving ahead. We know that by working together, we can help prepare young individuals for a career in our ever-growing industry. What does that mean for you? It means that you will spend less time and money training your new employees as they will enter the workforce with the basics – for example: OSHA 10, Transportation Safety Training and more!

A little background
NASSCO initially partnered with SkillsUSA in the fall of 2018 to build awareness of the need to repair our failing underground infrastructure, support the construction segment and present career opportunities to young people and inform them about the long-term, meaningful employment opportunities in the water and wastewater industry.

SkillsUSA is a non-profit organization that provides technical, personal and workplace skills to young people across the United States. Their main objective is to close the skills gap because that is critical to the success of the next generation and to our communities. Trade skills from Arts and Communication to Construction and IT are taught in curriculum across the country, all developed by industry professionals.

With that in mind, what does that mean for NASSCO and you? Keep reading!

The end goal
SkillsUSA members represent 130 skilled occupations and we want our industry to be represented in the future. The ultimate end goal is to have trenchless technology (assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation) become one of their specific areas of study in the construction category so that you have a pool of skilled workers that are ready and eager to get to work for you!

How do we get there?
Getting involved
The first step to getting skilled talent to enter the workforce is to work closely with the leadership at the SkillsUSA headquarters to make connections on the state level. With their help, NASSCO plans to begin reaching out to State Association Directors to gain traction and interest in our industry. We need to help them understand the importance of our industry, the need for skilled workers, why we should have our own curriculum and how all of this could be a benefit to the students who participate in their programs.

At least 10 states need to see the value of having our curriculum before it will be included, so we will need your help to make it happen! The more voices we have, the louder we will be and the more buzz we will create within the SkillsUSA network. Be on the lookout for a new campaign designed to help you communicate clearly to your state’s SkillsUSA Director!

For reference, a list of State Directors can be found here: https://www.skillsusa.org/about/state-directors/

For other ways to get involved, go to: https://www.skillsusa.org/get-involved/
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Don’t miss this important industry webinar from Trenchless Technology Center (TTC) at Louisiana Tech on their findings of the recently-concluded year-long study on safety of styrene emissions in the CIPP process.

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Over the years NASSCO's partnerships with Municipal Sewer and Water, Trenchless Technology, Underground Construction, and WE&T magazines, along with WEF member publications, have allowed us to communicate our mission. Through monthly articles, NASSCO committees and staff provide timely news and information that benefits our members and our industry, and we are grateful for the generosity of these media partners.

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The last six months have been a whirlwind of activity for NASSCO and it shows through increased membership and high levels of committee activity. Below are just a few of the significant accomplishments achieved since NASSCO’s Annual Conference last April, all of which help to achieve NASSCO’s mission to set standards for the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure:

**Formation of NASSCO’s Technical Advisory Council:** The introduction of NASSCO’s Technical Advisory Council (TAC) at WEFTEC in September was a huge leap forward to achieve our goal to ensure the continued acceptance and growth of all trenchless technologies. The TAC consists of industry leaders with impressive experience in assessment, maintenance and a variety of rehabilitation techniques. Chris Garret, P.E., chairs the Council which includes Chris Macey, P.E., Lynn Osborn, P.E., Kaleel Rahaim and Jerry Weimer. Read the full story here: https://www.nassco.org/news

**Increased Partnership with SkillsUSA:** Past-President Tim Vivian and I met with NASSCO staff and SkillsUSA in October to discuss increased opportunities in the coming 12 months. One of our industry’s greatest needs is the development of a strong workforce to get work done properly, and NASSCO’s goal is to work with SkillsUSA on curriculum for junior- and high-school students to promote the many benefits of a career in wastewater assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation. We will be meeting with SkillsUSA state directors in December to develop relationships on a state-by-state basis. See full story on page 12.

**Completion of TTC’s CIPP Emission Study:** After nearly a year of intensive in-the-field research, the Trenchless Technology Center (TTC) at Louisiana Tech has delivered the final report on findings pertaining to the safety of styrene emissions used in the CIPP process. TTC will present its final report to the public on Tuesday, December 17, via webinar. NASSCO will also present and publish updated recommendations based on the results. Webinar registration information can be found at nassco.org. See Save the Date on page 14.

**NASSCO’s First-Ever Regional Exchange:** For many years NASSCO members and others aligned to our industry have expressed a desire for NASSCO to conduct educational events across the country. Attendance at our Annual Conference, especially for those individuals working for municipalities or public agencies, is not always possible. NASSCO, in partnership with Doetsch Environmental Services, Inc., hosted the NASSCO Motor City Exchange in Dearborn, Michigan on November 7. The event was a huge success and validated the need to bring NASSCO “on the road”. The next Exchange, NASSCO’s Crescent City Exchange, will be held in New Orleans on November 5, 2020. See full story on page 26.

**New Office Location and Staff:** NASSCO moved offices from Marriottsville, Maryland to Frederick, Maryland on November 14. This move not only provides more amenities and a more appropriately sized workspace for NASSCO staff, it will also result in lower rent and utilities and be more convenient for the majority of NASSCO employees. NASSCO also hired a new Finance Manager, Kevin Ellis, to provide new structure and accountability for the financial management of NASSCO, helping set the foundation for NASSCO’s future growth. See full story on page 2.

**Increased Committee Participation:** NASSCO committees are on a roll, thanks to the internal coordination of scheduling meetings, holding committee members accountable, and ensuring chairs and co-chairs are active and engaged. NASSCO’s Government Relations Committee, for example, is hosting it’s first-ever Washington D.C. NASSCO Fly-In on December 10. The event will bring in members from across the country to meet with their local representatives. This is just one of many committee accomplishments; a full report on all committee achievements will be made at NASSCO’s 2020 Annual Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. To join us in D.C. in December, visit nassco.org/government-relations.

This above list of accomplishments since April is impressive, but not comprehensive. To support these new initiatives and activities, NASSCO staff continues to improve operational efficiencies and processes, working toward NASSCO’s goal to become the industry source of information through education, resources and advocacy. It’s an exciting time for NASSCO and I thank you all for your commitment to this great organization and – most importantly – the communities we serve.
For cutting-edge trenchless and traditional solutions to maintaining the underground utility infrastructure, attend UCT. Conduct real business with vendors showcasing equipment and services in the exhibit hall. Educational program features: Pressure Pipe, Manhole Rehabilitation, a Tunneling and Microtunneling track, and tracks dedicated to Sewer/Water.

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While the RehabZone got a face-lift last year with all new technology banners, a new logo and a brand-new website on steroids, there is still room for improvement as we move forward with 2020. The exhibit floorplan has been altered to be more open concept which will give the attendees a better overall view of the entire Zone as well as being able to see the demonstrations from anywhere in the RehabZone. It has also been reorganized to break out sections pertaining to assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation (new banners with the new identity will call out each area) to better reflect NASSCO’s mission and the new RehabZone website (www.rehabzone.org). In addition to the new banners, we are also upgrading the hanging sign so attendees can easily find us from the floor and we are also upgrading some of the presentation equipment.

The Cutter Challenge will again be a feature of the Zone for a third year in a row and, fittingly, there will be three different vendors sponsoring/participating in the event. In the past we have only had two vendors participate so this year it will be bigger and better, and we hope to continue this trend in order to allow attendees a chance for a true hands-on experience.

This year we are evaluating all of our samples for display and trying to have as much of a variety as possible. For example, we want to better represent UV cure technology. While this is not a new technology, it is gaining momentum in the United States and our goal is to increase awareness. Between the Cutter Challenge and the UV cure technology displays we should have four trucks on display in the RehabZone, which is an improvement from years past. We are also looking for other ways to engage those who visit, so we are considering things like a trivia contest and/or a happy hour and more!

With all of these great improvements, be sure to visit the RehabZone at UCT 2020 in Fort Worth, TX January 28-30.

Visit www.rehabzone.com to learn more or get involved!
Tell us a little about you – how did you end up in this industry? Through Bible study! Sheila Joy and I were in a Bible study together in 2006 and became close friends. We both owned our own branding/marketing agencies, but in totally different industries, so we had a lot in common. My clients were in the hospitality, technology, non-profit and medical industries. Sheila’s clients were all contractors or manufacturers of trenchless technologies. Fast forward to 2018 when Sheila was offered the position of NASSCO’s Executive Director and asked me if I was interested in buying New Phase Marketing. I said yes!

Tell us about your company. We develop distinct brands for our clients, whether a start-up that needs to create a brand or an existing business that needs a bit of a face lift to step up their game and remain competitive. We also manage all facets of marketing on an ongoing basis, including advertising, social media, PR, direct marketing, SEO and of course graphic and web design. Clients include Hydromax USA, MaxLiner, Applied Felts and Duke’s Root Control. We also worked with RainStopper to update their brand identity. Bottom line in all we do is to bear fruit for our clients.

Why did you join NASSCO? To learn! I am thrilled to be a part of this industry. So far I have met only good, hard-working people who come together to do what is best for the underground infrastructure industry. I have a year under my belt, and I can’t wait to learn more and more to better serve our clients. I also want to give back to this industry through active involvement in NASSCO. Ensuring our communities are safe through the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure is something we can all agree on, and NASSCO is the place to make that happen.

What are the top challenges facing our industry? As I talk to colleagues outside the industry, they are amazed to hear about all the new innovations available to utilities, and the great effort being made to ensure the safety of infrastructure and the communities and people they support. I think the importance of these innovations and the great passion the industry has for safety and welfare needs more prominence in the media. NASSCO is doing a good job of bringing some of that awareness to our communities through its government relations initiatives, but much more can be done on the consumer level and it is an area I plan to aggressively pursue.

How should NASSCO help address this issue? Continue to partner with organizations outside the industry to bring to light the importance to our country of assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure innovation. It’s also critical to ensure our relationships with institutions of higher learning are on the forefront of technological advances, and NASSCO’s partnership is key.

How has being a NASSCO member helped your career or business? I have learned a LOT, and I have been blessed with new business. My company has grown 25% in the last year in revenue and I don’t see that stopping any time soon. In fact, my short-term goal is to further reinforce my company’s foundation through new talent and resources to ensure we can manage the marketing accounts of every client with excellence.

What else should other NASSCO members know about you? I’m always ready with my drumsticks to stand in at a local honky tonk to play a few country (or Southern rock) songs with the band.
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**DECEMBER**

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- 12/3-12/5: Orlando, FL
- 12/3-12/5: Dublin, OH
- 12/3-12/5: Murfreesboro, TN
- 12/3-12/5: Virginia Beach, VA
- 12/4-12/6: Compton, CA
- 12/9-12/11: Laurel, MD
- 12/10-12/12: Boise, ID
- 12/10-12/12: Covington, GA
- 12/10-12/12: Orlando, FL
- 12/17-12/19: Kansas City, MO
- 12/18-12/20: Baton Rouge, LA

**ITCP-CIPP**
- 12/2-12/3: Cincinnati, OH
- 12/3-12/4: Kansas City, MO
- 12/5-12/6: Framingham, MA
- 12/11-12/12: Seattle, WA
- 12/17-12/18: Frederick, MD
- 12/19-12/20: Sioux Falls, SD

**ITCP-MR**
- 12/3-12/4: Cincinnati, OH
- 12/18-12/19: Frederick, MD

**JANUARY**

**PACP**
- 1/2-1/3: Waterloo, IA
- 1/7-1/9: Ann Arbor, MI
- 1/13-1/15: Palm Desert, CA
- 1/13-1/15: New Castle, DE
- 1/13-1/15: Frederick, MD
- 1/14-1/16: Belmont, NC
- 1/14-1/16: Springfield, IL
- 1/14-1/16: Norwalk, CT
- 1/15-1/17: Denver, CO
- 1/21-1/23: Maumee, OH
- 1/27-1/28: Fort Worth, TX
- 1/28-1/30: Milwaukee, OR
- 1/28-1/30: Milwaukee, WI
- 1/28-1/30: Lexington, KY

**PACP 1-Day Recert**
- 1/27: Fort Worth, TX

**ITCP-CIPP**
- 1/8-1/9: Baton Rouge, LA
- 1/14-1/15: Cary, NC
- 1/16-1/17: Charleston, SC

**ITCP-MR**
- 1/7-1/8: Baton Rouge, LA
- 1/16-1/17: Charleston, SC

**FEBRUARY**

**PACP**
- 2/4-2/6: Vancouver, WA
- 2/4-2/6: Altamonte Springs, FL
- 2/4-2/6: Irwin, PA
- 2/4-2/6: Kalamazoo, MI
- 2/10-2/12: Frederick, MD
- 2/11-2/13: Madison, WI
- 2/11-2/13: Mason, OH
- 2/11-2/13: Meridian, ID
- 2/19-2/21: Pinellas County, FL
- 2/25-2/27: Montecito, CA
- 2/25-2/27: Whitestown, IN

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Everyone has their reason for doing this work.

My family is from coal country. For me that means being resilient with a can-do spirit. I am proud of my family and recognize that they endured hardships that I will never face. Unfortunately many of the industry advancements to protect workers were adopted after they were forced to retire, as a career of exposures and inadequate health and safety protections took their toll. So health and safety is personal to me, whether it’s in the coal fields of my forefathers, shipyards where my immediate family continue our proud tradition, or within the aging infrastructure industry that is my career passion. With this formative background, I am convinced that worker and public safety requires an even-handed approach to cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) installations – specifically the concerns over styrene exposure.

Over the past 30 years I have planned, designed and managed the rehabilitation of gravity and pressure pipelines, mostly for wastewater applications. I consider myself a student of CIPP as I witnessed it evolve and mature to a competitive industry that has innovated to expand its application and methods of installation. Yet at its core, most of the CIPP work I have been involved with utilized resins that contained styrene. Recent questions about CIPP safety issues raised my awareness regarding acute and chronic health concerns for the general public and workers. As a student, my curiosity drove me to seek facts to support sound decisions when recommending and specifying CIPP for my clients. This type of solid judgment is an ethical requirement of my licensure as a Professional Engineer – hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public; and issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner. Our industry benefits when we all work together to make health and safety our highest priority, and to assess the styrene issue in an objective and truthful manner that ultimately benefits the public.

So how do we achieve this balanced and objective view? I suggest the following guidelines and recommendations:

1. Allow the discourse to proceed with sound studies from the industry and academics to facilitate best available information. This includes properly citing references from previous work and applying per its intended use. Channeling my plain language coal country roots: ask permission and let the authors know how their work is being used.
2. Promote good science to address narrowly focused health and safety issues. The issues of concern during CIPP installation (worker and public safety) versus concerns about the product over its intended service life (public health) are distinct and separate.
3. Embrace recommended improvements to worker safety based on peer-reviewed studies that include industry representatives, since they best know how to amend and widely adopt changes in work processes from wet-out to installation. These remedies are in addition to existing best practices and regulated health and safety requirements. Let’s not use emission exposure to address an issue that is really a confined space or trench safety root cause.
4. Repeat Steps 1 to 3 until we agree that we have satisfactorily addressed “the safety, health and welfare of the public.” Until then, let’s agree to “issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.” NASSCO is providing leadership and supporting good science with sponsored academic research. Coupled with the contributions from industry advocates, I believe we are well on our way to forging the best path forward.

I am the beneficiary of my coal-mining ancestors committing themselves to creating a better life by fighting for safer mining standards. That is their legacy. At this point in the evolution of CIPP, we are creating ours. Let’s make the industry and our children proud.

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GraniteNet is the next generation condition assessment software for the water/wastewater industry. GraniteNet software is asset based, which enables the software to easily interface with other asset based software products such as ESRI ArcGIS Mapping systems, and asset management systems to include Cityworks, Infor Public Sector (Hansen), IBM Maximo, and others. Intuitive and easy to use, data and video can now be accessed via a web portal.

GraniteNet is a solution to orchestrate many processes to drive down costs. GraniteNet aggregates information into one place for better decisions: cleaning, CCTV, smoke, lateral, GPS, hydrants, water valves, street lights, signage, gas lines, etc. Please visit gnet.us.com/csd to learn more and schedule a demonstration or call/email us as noted below.

Dashboards are available to help track productivity and quickly see how much activity has been achieved in a given week, month or YTD.
On October 29 the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure gave unanimous, bipartisan approval to the Water Quality Protection and Jobs Creation Act of 2019 (H.R. 1497), for which NASSCO sent an endorsement letter in support of the Act. NASSCO's Sewer System Heroes grassroots advocacy program has a new call-to-action for NASSCO members and – in fact – anyone aligned to our industry, to send their own letter of support. To quickly identify your representatives and send a pre-written email, visit nassco.org/government-relations and click the “take action” button.

H.R. 1497 will reauthorize and increase funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund Program (CWSRF). The bill will authorize $14 billion over five years to support the CWSRF program, which would be a significant increase over the average $1.4 billion the program received annually.

Additionally, the bill extends the CSO/Stormwater grants program that NASSCO championed the creation of last year. The provision in the bill will extend the program for five years and provides $1.25 billion in grant assistance for CSO, SSO, and stormwater collections and conveyance infrastructure projects.

The bill will also provide up to $140 million over five years for wastewater workforce development. Additionally, in recognition of the escalating costs of compliance with water treatment mandates, the bill provides increased subsidies to support disadvantaged communities’ infrastructure needs. For the first time, the CWSRF would be authorized to issue grants, in addition to loan principal forgiveness, to disadvantaged communities.

Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) is trying to get the bill onto the House Floor as soon as possible in 2019, but with an unfinished FY19 Budget and possible Articles of Impeachment requiring House Floor time, it’s uncertain how quickly H.R. 1497 bill will proceed. In the Senate, the Environment and Public Works Committee has stated they intend to consider CWSRF reauthorization in the 2020 WRDA bill, which will begin consideration in early 2020.
Trenchless methods have been widely used for the inspection, repair and replacement of buried pipelines in the gas, water, and sewer markets for well over half a century. In fact, it could be said that the first applications of trenchless were the use of cement mortar lining in the early 1900s. Utilities and municipalities have established standards and regulations to guide and enforce the application of trenchless methodology within their jurisdictions. However, building and repair work performed on drainage plumbing inside buildings extending to connect with the public sewer is regulated by plumbing code. Until recently these resources have not been expanded to include plumbing codes.

There are two major model plumbing codes within the United States, the International Plumbing Code (IPC) and the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC). These model codes are developed and published by the International Code Council (ICC) and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), respectively. The inclusion of trenchless methodology to replace existing sewer pipe within these model codes began with the addition of pipe bursting in the 2015 Edition of the IPC. The 2015 Edition of the UPC added trenchless methodology for the replacement of building sewers (or service laterals) and adopted ASTM F1216 for CIPP as a mandatory referenced standard.

During code development for the 2018 Edition of the UPC a proposal was made by a representative of the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute to prohibit the use of CIPP for the replacement or repair of existing sewers originally constructed of cast iron. NASSCO’s Lateral Rehabilitation Committee quickly took action to have this proposal rejected. After all other options were exhausted, NASSCO filed for a Temporary Interim Amendment (TIA) to remove the language which is inconsistent, conflicting and without substantiation for its inclusion. This TIA cites the facts that there was no technical basis to support the prohibition; the addition of the language is inconsistent causing the UPC/ANSI standard code to include an approval to use trenchless methods, then in the same section prohibit their use in one specific material -- cast iron pipe; and, that the adoption of the language violated IAPMO’s rules and regulations creating an unreasonable restraint on trade, possibly violations of federal and state antitrust laws. The TIA will be heard by IAPMO’s Standard Council before the end of 2019. In addition, during the 2021 UPC code development cycle, proposals to remove the ban and conflicting language that was adopted in Section 715.3 Existing Sewers of the 2018 UPC were rejected. This process is ongoing with an appeal filed for review before IAPMO’s Standards Council.

Consistent with its mission to set standards and assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies, NASSCO is continuing to work towards the removal of this unjustified prohibition that decreases the efficiency of the competitive process involved in the repair or replacement of cast iron pipe in building sewers by unjustly limiting consumers from utilizing an effective, economical, and safer means to address an existing sewer pipe that has deteriorated beyond its service life. The NASSCO Plumbing Code Workgroup—a subset of the Lateral Rehabilitation Committee—was formed in 2018 with a focus to educate and establish standards to support the inclusion and enforcement of trenchless methods within plumbing codes.
NASSCO’S MOTOR CITY EXCHANGE

INAUGURAL EVENT DRAWS MUNICIPALITIES, ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FROM ACROSS THE MIDWEST

While snowy weather may have delayed them, it sure didn’t stop attendees of NASSCO’s inaugural educational event, the Motor City Exchange! Co-hosted by Doetsch Environmental Services, Inc., 138 attendees, of which roughly 50% were from public agencies, came eager to listen and learn from speakers, exhibitors and each other on November 7 at the historic Lovett Hall on the grounds of Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

The event kicked off with an introduction to NASSCO by Sheila Joy, Executive Director, who focused on the impact NASSCO makes as the industry source for education, technical resources and advocacy. A keynote speech on infrastructure funding by Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, representing Michigan’s 12th District, was the cornerstone presentation, followed by a technical session designed to mirror NASSCO’s mission to set standards for the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure and to assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies:

Understanding Infiltration and Inflow (I&I)
Dave Hamberlin, Project Manager, TREKK Design Group

Understanding the Roles of Assessment, Maintenance and Rehabilitation in I&I
Lynn Osborn, P.E., Owner LEO Consulting, LLC and Technical Director, NASSCO, Inc.

The Value of NASSCO’s PACP® in Consistent Condition Assessment
Jerry Weimer, Owner, Jerry Weimer Consulting and PACP Trainer

Case Study: PACP in Action
Geoff Grant, Vice President, Brown and Caldwell

Unique Considerations in Cleaning Large Diameter Pipe
Joe Schotthoefer, VP Operations, Doetsch Environmental Services, Inc., and VP of NASSCO’s Board of Directors

Tackling the Number One and Two Causes of SSOs: Roots and FOG
Bob Hunn, Ohio Valley Sales Manager, Duke’s Root Control, Inc.

An Overview of Trenchless Technologies for Pipe Rehabilitation
Chris Macey, Americas Technical Practice Leader, AECOM Canada
Attendees earned CEUs or PDH credits for attending the one-day event and left with a clear understanding of the differences between infiltration and inflow, the causes of SSOs, and solutions to prevent or repair the problem. But it wasn’t all work. To add some extra fun to the day, attendees competed against each other in two online games to test the knowledge they gained on each topic covered, and the event concluded with a mixer to allow attendees, exhibitors and sponsors to network and unwind after a day of intense learning.

By all accounts the attendees saw great value in the Exchange. When asked, on a scale of 1 to 10, (with 1 being “absolutely not” and 10 being “absolutely”) if attendees would recommend the event to their fellow employees, the average number was 9.2!

The Motor City Exchange would not have been possible without the generosity of its sponsors (Doetsch Environmental Services, Inc., Green Mountain Pipeline Services, Granite inliner and MTech Company) or its many exhibitors (Applied Felts/MaxLiner, Bell Equipment Co., BLD Services, LLC, Fleis & Vanderbrink, Inland Pipe Rehabilitation Great Lakes, Jack Doheny Companies, Pipelogix, Inc., Pipetek Infrastructure Services, SAK Construction, LLC, Vacuum Truck Rental and Visual Imaging Resources, LLC).

With this successful event under its belt, NASSCO is now busy planning the 2020 Crescent City Exchange in New Orleans, Louisiana next fall. Check nassco.org/events for the latest on Exchange and other events throughout the year.
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