2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECAP

2018 committee accomplishments / president’s message
the exchange / executive director’s message / special awards

OTHER NEWS
November 7, 2019

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UNIFIED COMMITMENT.
HIGHER STANDARDS.
BETTER COMMUNITIES.
NASSCO’s 2019 Annual Conference kept traditions alive in Fort Lauderdale last month by welcoming members and their guests to the event with a poolside welcome reception. Other traditions included activities like the golf tournament and the awards banquet where we recognized the incoming and outgoing Board, announced the Trainer of the Year and inducted two new members to the Select Society of Sanitary Sewer Sleuths. More about special awards can be found on page 21.

With a different format for the General Membership Meeting, The Exchange and Committee Day, new traditions have begun. This year, attendees got an overall update about committee activities and other NASSCO initiatives during the General Membership Meeting and then jumped right into The Exchange—an educational event—after lunch that same day. More information about these can be found on page 15. The following day was dedicated to everything to do with committees! Active participants met to discuss any outstanding items from the past year, to determine goals for the coming year and to welcome newcomers interested in getting involved moving forward.

We also honored Past Presidents during a special reception to show our appreciation for their service to NASSCO over the years and for their ongoing contributions into the future. As mentioned before, we rounded out the week with our awards banquet after which attendees enjoyed casino play to support NASSCO’s Scholarship and Charitable Giving Program. We are always looking for ways to give back to our industry!

Thank you to all who attended the Annual Conference this year and please enjoy photos from the event on the following pages. To see all photos from NASSCO’s 2019 Annual Conference, visit NASSCO’s Facebook page.
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NASSCO’s mission is to set standards for the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure and to assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies. Our vision is to increase the awareness of aging underground infrastructure and to provide viable solutions through education, technical resources, and industry advocacy.

Our highly active committees make this happen. Adhering to our core values of knowledge, fairness, adaptability, camaraderie, efficiency and support, NASSCO’S dynamic committees made a major impact on our industry in 2018.

NASSCO’s Asset Management Committee worked with the Buried Asset Management Institute on its Certification of Training in asset management; developed deeper relationships with institutions of higher learning; and compiled a list of each state’s requirements and needs pertaining to asset management.

As a 501(c)(6) trade association, one of NASSCO’s greatest responsibilities is to ensure we are heard in Washington. This year NASSCO’s Government Relations Committee did just that when I, along with a contingency comprised of the Committee’s chair and co-chair, NASSCO Vice President Joe Schotthoefer, and Steve Dye, our government relations consultant, visited Capitol Hill to meet with congressional offices and staff. We introduced NASSCO and expressed the need for increased funding for the repair of our aging infrastructure. The Committee also lobbied congress to support a new grant program in America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018. Usually water infrastructure funding is via loans or financing, but a grant program will provide a new source of funding for many of the most difficult to fund projects. To support these initiatives, the Committee created the first-ever NASSCO Sewer System Heroes grassroots advocacy program so members can quickly and easily contact federal Senators and Representatives via nassco.org. This highly active committee also developed a federal policy recommendations document to provide an overview of the needs and challenges of underground water infrastructure.

NASSCO’s Health and Safety Committee made great strides in providing the industry with the latest in health and safety requirements of local, state and federal regulatory agencies. One of the main achievements of this Committee was the development of a safety video on pipe plug safety. The Health and Safety Committee also explored ever-increasing health and safety issues surrounding opioid addiction and suicide, examined opportunities to provide NASSCO safety training via certified safety instructors, and developed content for future safety videos, which will become part of a growing library on nassco.org.
Closely tied to NASSCO’s Pipeline Assessment Certification Program, the **Infrastructure Condition Assessment Committee** focused much of its time on providing recommendations to improve and enhance PACP training materials. Specific activities included reviewing condition grades, developing a metric version of PACP, and writing a script for a PACP Risk Management Online Training Video. But this important committee’s activity did not stop there. Members also contributed content and edits to the recently-released Manual of Practice, developed and published a Cross bore Specification Guideline, and presented on the topic of The History and Benefits of PACP at the 2019 WWETT show.

Originally formed to expand PACP in South America, this year NASSCO’s **International Relations Committee** also worked to address specific needs of our Canadian market. Organized by CISTT - Colombia’s institute of the International Society for Trenchless Technology – the Committee held two PACP courses in South America which drew students from Costa Rica, Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador and Chile.

Much of the **Lateral Rehabilitation Committee’s** activity this past year came from a separate workgroup developed to focus on plumbing codes. One of the most notable activities was working together to protect Cured-in-Place pipe as a viable option for the repair of cast iron piping. The Committee also presented lateral rehabilitation overview presentations during industry conferences throughout the year.

Ensuring manhole rehabilitation is properly represented across the industry, the **Manhole Rehabilitation Committee** presented at industry conferences, and contributed content to NASSCO’s recently published Manual of Practice and the RehabZone Committee. They also finalized revisions to the NASSCO and ASCE Manual of Practice on Manhole Rehabilitation, which is in final review.

Since the topic of O & M covers such a wide area, NASSCO’s **Operations and Maintenance Committee** is made up of smaller workgroups. The O & M Committee’s large diameter workgroup completed a specification on cleaning large diameter pipes, which is in final review. The newly-formed bypass pumping workgroup began writing a guideline on bypass pumping, and the Jetter Code of Practice workgroup continued its focus on expanding the Jetter Manual to include cleaning and extraction technologies.

One of the most important projects of NASSCO’s **Pipe Rehabilitation Committee** and its Cured-in-Place workgroup was oversight of the CIPP Emissions Safety Study. Phase one of the Study was completed by CUIRE which determined earlier reports to be non-conclusive. The second phase of the study, which includes site testing of small, medium and large diameter pipes by the TTC at Louisiana Tech University and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will be completed soon. With an objective to incorporate as many technologies as possible, this important Committee also began the development of a specification guideline for fiberglass-reinforced pipe and spiral-wound technologies.

(continued p. 10)
NASSCO’s Pressure Pipe Committee was created to establish standards to assess and rehabilitate force mains and water lines. Committee members came together to contribute their knowledge in the development of a three-hour technical track which was presented at UCT. Subjects included using risk to drive pipeline integrity programs, cleaning and preparation for water main lining, and how pressure pipeline rehabilitation test requirements bridge the technological gap.

This year the RehabZone Committee, in partnership with UCT, refreshed the annual event with a new brand and marketing materials. The Committee also worked with NASSCO staff to design a new website. Intended to promote the annual RehabZone event, the website was developed to also serve as a valuable resource on all trenchless technologies throughout the year. This year’s RehabZone at UCT included additional systems for the annual Cutter Challenge and a new bypass pump display.

NASSCO’s Software Committee works with all software vendors to establish and implement uniform programs that incorporate PACP, MACP and LACP. 2018 activities included evaluating the PACP certification process for improvements to make the process more robust. The Committee also included a data dictionary to accompany the PACP manual in order to reduce discrepancies. Various PACP certification levels were also considered, as well as modifications to the exchange database format to open PACP up to various platforms, including pendant software.

In addition to all of these accomplishments, NASSCO committee members also contributed their time and knowledge to the development of technical articles published throughout the year. We are grateful to the ongoing support of the leading industry trade publications. Through their partnership, NASSCO continues to set standards in the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure and assures the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies.

To learn more or to join a Nassco committee, please visit nassco.org/get-involved.

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**NASSCO SEEKING TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

NASSCO has been extremely fortunate to have Lynn Osborn serve as our Technical Director for more than four years. Not only does Lynn bring to the organization a wealth of industry knowledge, he is also highly objective and works with a positive spirit of cooperation, contributing greatly toward our members enjoying mutual success through the advancement of all trenchless technologies.

Lynn will soon be moving on to focus on his new role as President of UESI, and will resign his role as NASSCO’s Technical Director during the 2020 Annual Conference next April in Scottsdale, Arizona. We are looking to fill this position by late summer, 2019, allowing our new Technical Director to shadow Lynn while he winds up his commitment to NASSCO.

The Technical Director’s primary responsibility is to support NASSCO in its mission to set standards for the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure and to assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies. In doing so, the Technical Director will know, understand and represent all trenchless technologies as viable solutions for failing underground infrastructure. The Technical Director will accomplish this through industry advocacy, education and the development of resources. This is a part-time consulting position; compensation commensurate with experience, and may be remote.

Are you interested in this position, or do you know someone who is? If so, please visit nassco.org for a full job description and more information on how to apply.
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AVANTI INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATES 40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Avanti International is proud to announce that the company has reached a milestone, celebrating 40 years as an industry leader.

Founded in 1978, Avanti began with only one product, used primarily to seal leaking sewer lines. Company owner and grouting industry pioneer David Magill was the integral leader who helped in developing industry wide standards and practices. Over the decade that followed, the company added its first urethane product, and held its first grout school training program.

In the late 1980s through the 1990s, Avanti continued to expand its product line, adding the first hybrid acrylic. In addition, the company introduced new industry standards, including the Safe Operating Practices Program, the V-PAT Technique and the EGP Technique. Through the years, Avanti products have been used in several landmark projects including: the Toronto Transit Commission subway system leak remediation program, the City of Dearborn, Michigan combined sewer overflows (CSOs) curtain grouting project, United States Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and other Department of Energy sites. Most notably, Avanti’s hydrophilic products were used in the World Trade Center cleanup after 9/11.

Throughout the years, Avanti has maintained its commitment to providing education with grout school programs serving the municipal, industrial and geotechnical sectors.

“I am very proud that the company is able to celebrate our success and longevity,” noted Angela Magill, Owner of Avanti and widow of company founder David Magill. President Britt N. Babcock, PE, remarked, “We are honored to be able to celebrate four decades of accomplishments for the company and the industry, and look forward to the next 40 years.”
PRESIDENT’S VISION FOR 2019/2020

BY JACOB TRAPANI, NASSCO PRESIDENT AND V.P. OF BLD SERVICES, LLC

While I’ve been involved as a member of the NASSCO Board for more than eight years, having the honor of being appointed President of this great organization brings with it a deeper level of responsibility and excitement for our future than ever before. As I think about my vision for the next 12 months, there are a number of initiatives that I believe we can focus on to help NASSCO grow to better serve members and, most importantly, our industry and communities, through education, technical resources and advocacy.

Luckily, my predecessor, Tim Vivian, worked hard to clear the path for continued progress and success, and I plan to continue to build on his many accomplishments. One of those areas is membership, which has already been better defined in terms of categories and structure. Growing membership is important, but that goal goes way beyond numbers. While NASSCO has more member companies than ever before, and has done a great job of achieving our goal to have 25% of our membership base come from the municipal sector, the real key to success is active participation.

Participation is made available to all NASSCO members through our many dynamic committees. Our staff has done a great job of adding structure to the way committees are set up to ensure that members are truly active, engaged and work gets done. An area for continued improvement this coming year is to make the committees even more accountable by requiring them to present quarterly progress reports to the Board for review and guidance. At our Annual Conference I had the privilege of presenting a brief video that shared just some of the many results of our committees in 2018, and the highlights are remarkable. For details on all of the 2018 accomplishments, please see the article on page 8. You can also view the video at nassco.org/get-involved.

I also look forward to engaging more with the members of our Board of Directors. As part of that endeavor to increase effectiveness, our counsel advised us to restate our bylaws, including keeping the number of Board Members to a minimum of seven. This year, we have eleven Board members (down from fourteen last year), and while the Board can grow as the association grows, an organization of our size will be more nimble and effective with a smaller board, as long as we continue to ensure that all voting membership groups are well represented.

Another area of focus over the next year is to continue building our relationships with other trade associations and institutions. This past year we re-established our relationship with WRc and 2019 will bring much closer collaboration between WRc and NASSCO to identify areas of mutual opportunity. We are also more closely aligned with associations such as NUCA. In fact, we invited Jim Stepahin, NUCA’s Director of Education and Training, to serve as moderator of The Exchange, NASSCO’s educational event at our Annual Conference last month. We are also participating in a Washington, D.C. NUCA fly-in this month, and will continue to identify opportunities to build upon our already established and growing relationships with NASTT, WEF, ASCE and others.

Succession planning is another critical area that I will be addressing this year. As strategic decisions are made we need to continually look to the future and consider the succession of our staff, board and committee members. One step that has already been taken is a new process whereby committee chairs and co-chairs are appointed by our Board of Directors. In order to hold one of those positions, an individual must have a proven history of active participation on a committee. Serving as an effective committee chair or co-chair is also where we will look first for qualified board members who understand NASSCO’s
mission and have proven to be impartial, reliable and well-qualified.

2019 will also bring to a conclusion Phase 2 of the CIPP emission safety study, currently underway with the Trenchless Technology Center (TTC) at Louisiana State University. With safety being NASSCO’s number one priority, we look forward to conclusive results by early September that will guide NASSCO and our industry to ensure our workers and communities are safe.

In short, my goal for the coming year is to continue finding ways to serve our members better through the development of standards, by creating industry awareness, and through education and training of our PACP®, LACP®, MACP® and ITCP® courses.

As NASSCO’s new President, I am privileged and honored to serve you and our industry, and invite you to communicate with our staff ways that we can serve you better in the coming months and years. I look forward to a productive year and appreciate your ongoing support.
EXCHANGING IDEAS
BY LYNN OSBORN, NASSCO’S TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

For the past several years NASSCO’s Technical Day has been a mainstay of the NASSCO Annual Conference, always occurring on the morning of the second day of the Conference. For the 2019 Conference we decided to evolve Technical Day into The Exchange, which occurred after the General Membership Meeting Thursday afternoon.

The Exchange is more about exchanging ideas on topics of interest to the NASSCO membership and less about delivering technical information. For example, based on a survey of the NASSCO membership, the number one issue that keeps us up at night is safety. As a result, the leading subject for The Exchange was safety.

Jimmy Stewart, Master of Ceremonies, opened The Exchange with introductions of guest municipal attendees, announcements, and objectives for the afternoon. First up was a Safety Panel Discussion with an all-star cast. NASSCO was fortunate to have Jim Stepahin, NUCA’s Director of Education and Training, as the moderator of the Safety Panel Discussion. Jim brought a lot of safety knowledge and experience to the discussion. Following Jim’s short presentation, he introduced the four panelists, with each giving a 10- to 15-minute presentation on a specific topic:

- Tom Hayes, Hydromax USA - Challenges with Increased Safety Requirements: A Contractor’s Perspective
- Ed Fitzgerald, Jack Doheny Companies - Confined Space Entry
- Fred Tingberg Jr., Lanzo Companies - Traffic Control, Bypass & Other Job Site Hazards
- Jerry Weimer, Jerry Weimer Consulting - Cross Bore Prevention and Detection

In addition, Dennis Pivin of Insituform briefly discussed a CIPP emissions test that is currently in the planning phase.

Following the Safety Panel, there were three presentations, again on subjects of interest to NASSCO members:

- Gainesville Regional Utilities – Development of a GIS-Based Sewer Collection System Criticality Analysis; presented by Andy Roberts, GRU and Laurie Perkins, Wright-Pierce.
- West Palm Beach – Pressure Pipe Integrity Program; presented by Jay Kwag, West Palm Beach
- Trenchless Technology Center (TTC) – Industry Emissions Study – Phase 2; presented by John Matthews, Louisiana Tech University

Each of these presentations covered topics important to our industry, and many good questions were asked by the attendees.

Jimmy Stewart finished The Exchange by summarizing the afternoon. A post-event attendee satisfaction survey gave the event 4.5 out of 5 stars, and we look forward to using this positive feedback to make the event even better in future years. It was such a success, in fact, that we plan to reach out to our membership and others across the country with NASSCO’s Motor City Exchange scheduled for November 7, 2019 at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. You can learn more at www.nassco.org/events.
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MSW and NASSCO... proudly working together with America’s sewer, water and storm infrastructure professionals
Does anyone ever truly want to sit on the board of a homeowner’s association (HOA)? I know I sure never did, and, in fact, I avoided it at all costs. That is, until last month when I attended my community’s annual HOA meeting where my neighbors and I gathered in tiny chairs around two-foot high tables at the local elementary school. The setting was right for the child-like behavior that ensued. To witness firsthand the disharmony, confusion and polar-opposite points of view - not to mention the lack of courtesy and kindness over something as simple as mowing grass - was shocking.

As I pulled out my copy of the HOA’s bylaws during the meeting and began asking questions, I realized not a single person in the room could answer them, not even the President. When the time came to ask for volunteers to sit on the Board for the coming year, my brain was screaming “No way!” but, to my horror, out of the corner of my eye I saw my right hand lifted high in the air. Why? Because I knew that if I could help my neighbors understand our bylaws, much of this dissension would presumably go away.

Bylaws are the governing documents of an organization and define rules on how the internal affairs of an organization must be conducted to ultimately provide regulation and order. Because of their importance, bylaws should be written in such a way that there is no room for misinterpretation; the rules and regulations must be crystal clear.

Soon after I took over as NASSCO’s Executive Director, we hired a new law firm, Skarlatos Zonarich, to evaluate all our legal documents and signed agreements. The top recommendation by counsel when this extensive audit concluded was to re-write—or re-state—the NASSCO bylaws.

The primary purpose to revise this important document was, among other things, to:

1. ensure our bylaws are compliant with Pennsylvania law (the state in which NASSCO was incorporated);
2. better define our member categories (e.g., “Professional” is now “Consulting Engineer”); and
3. strengthen indemnification to better protect our members, our Board and our staff.

As a tiny rudder can shift the direction of an entire boat, so can a single word or phrase affect the meaning of a statement within an organization’s bylaws. As we worked with counsel over the past several months to re-state NASSCO’s bylaws, it was obvious that great care had to be taken to ensure the re-statement would protect our organization and members and pave the way for future opportunities and growth. Therefore, every word was carefully considered, and a draft was sent to all members via email on March 12.

The main agenda item at NASSCO’s general membership meeting on April 11 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida was NASSCO’s restated bylaws. The new bylaws were approved by a majority vote and they can be found on your “mynassco” page at nassco.org. It’s important that all members have access to this document and, while the bylaws make for pretty dry reading, I encourage you to read them and be confident that you understand them in full.

As for me, you guessed it. I’m our HOA’s newest member of the Board and I’m gearing up for my first meeting later this month. My first point of business? Re-state our bylaws.
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## TRAINING CALENDAR

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### MAY

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### PACP 1-DAY RECERTIFICATION

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<td>6/25-6/27</td>
<td>Northville, MI</td>
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As we all know, technology changes as the years go by. Welcome to 21st Century grouting technology that’s designed to control the grouting process. How can this remarkable system help you?

- Easy Grout is software-driven. NO MORE mechanical, analog, dials, switches, or buttons!
- The software is easy to learn! Be trained and working in (1) hour.
- Point-and-click operation with auto pass-or-fail.
- Save time and money! Increase productivity while using LESS GROUT.
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NASSCO’s mission is to set industry standards for the assessment, maintenance and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure and to assure the continued acceptance and growth of trenchless technologies. One way we support our mission is by giving back to the industry through scholarships for higher learning and NASSCO training programs. This year, we had more applications than ever before which made the selection process more difficult, but much more rewarding. After reviewing the 11 scholarship applications that were submitted, the NASSCO Board of Directors unanimously voted to award two Jeffrey Ralston Scholarships and three Jack Doheny Training Scholarships. To date this fiscal year, we’ve awarded over $23,000 in scholarships. Congratulations to the recent recipients!

Jeffrey Ralston Scholarship Recipients:
- Amin Darabnoush Tehrani
- Zahra Kohankar Kouchesfehani

Jack Doheny Training Scholarship Recipients:
- Devin Anne Booth
- Hongfang Lu
- Stephani Arredondo

While NASSCO scholarships help our future industry leaders as they pursue their degrees or seek to increase their knowledge, each year at NASSCO’s Annual Conference we also recognize one of our trainers who has demonstrated his or her dedication to the industry and to NASSCO. This year, our Trainer of the Year is Jerry Weimer, owner of Jerry Weimer Consulting. Not only does Jerry exemplify the qualities of a great PACP® Trainer, he is also committed to setting standards through active participation and leadership on several NASSCO committees. Jerry, formerly employed by the City of Cincinnati, is also often our “go-to” expert when we need to understand a municipal perspective. Congratulations, Jerry!

Last but not least, we are also looking to past accomplishments and continued greatness. Two of our longtime members and friends, Lynn Osborn (LEO Consulting Services and NASSCO’s Technical Director) and Robert Carpenter (Gulf Publishing Company) were inducted into The Select Society of Sanitary Sewer Sleuths. Each year, past recipients of this honor must unanimously agree on the inductee(s) for the year and will heavily roast the recipient(s) before they perform the induction ritual. The ritual goes like this: While looking down and waving their arms overhead as if trying to stop the progress of a jet machine entering a manhole through a sewer line, the inductee must repeat the following statement five times - “I am a member of the Select Society of Sanitary Sewer Sleuths”. Needless to say, it can be quite funny to watch. Congratulations to both Lynn and Robert on being inducted into this exclusive society, it’s well-deserved.

Again, hats off and a big shout out to all of our special award winners! If you are interested in learning more about available scholarships, please go to nassco.org/scholarships.

"Your financial generosity has allowed me to be one step closer to my goal and has inspired me to help other students by giving back to the community. I am truly humbled by the 2019 Jeffrey Ralston Memorial Scholarship by NASSCO and once again thank you for enabling this opportunity and all your support to students. I hope one day I can help the students to achieve their goals like you did for me."
- Zahra Kohankar

"Jerry, formerly employed by the City of Cincinnati, is also often our “go-to” expert when we need to understand a municipal perspective. Congratulations, Jerry!"
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has deemed that as much as 60% of groundwater infiltration arrives through sanitary sewer manholes. For over 50 years, chemical grouting has been one of the most reliable techniques used to stop ground water infiltration into sewer collection systems.

There are three basic methods for sealing manholes. The first, and most basic method is commonly called oakum/soakum and is used to seal leaking cast concrete joints and pipe entry points, and manholes with missing or broken bricks. This method utilizes a water reactive urethane chemical and jute rope called oakum, which is mixed together to form a permanent seal. This practice is most commonly used around pipe interfaces or when gaps in the structure are present and exhibiting groundwater infiltration.

A second method utilizes a low viscosity permeation (1-2cps) acrylate or acrylamide chemical and is injected from within the manhole into the soil outside. Due to the highly corrosive nature of these chemicals, this technique requires a stainless steel plural component pump that injects the grout under pressure through the manhole into the surrounding soil. The permeation grout does not expand, but it does saturate the soil immediately outside of the manhole (with a desired gel-time) that permanently stabilizes the soil and creates a barrier against ground water entering the manhole.

The third method utilizes a water-reactive hydrophobic urethane foam grout. This method requires a single-component pump to inject the grout. When mixed with water, the grout expands under pressure, chasing water through the cracks and subsequently filling the cracks and voids while adhering to the soils outside the manhole. This hydrophobic chemical binds with the soil to offer greater tensile strengths than chemical gel grouts, thus creating what is commonly know as “grout columns”.

As mentioned, when as much as 60% of groundwater inflow and infiltration entering through vertical collection structures, the rehabilitation of aging infrastructure has never been so important. Although chemical grouting can be used as a stand-alone practice, more municipalities are combining this procedure with the lining or coating of collection structures, as these methods require a dry substrate for the application of proposed coating. With the multitude of proactive technologies in the trenchless industry, chemical grouting is widely gaining recognition as the only trenchless technique to remediate inflow and infiltration: At the source.

Would you like to share your technical knowledge with NASSCO members? Submit your article to dawn@nassco.org.
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