

SERVICE PROVIDER CHALLENGE TO HIRE VETERANS

Since 2009, AWWA has taken an active role in trying to attract Veterans to the water industry.

This initiative is being led by the AWWA Workforce Strategies Committee and managed by the Veterans' Workforce Initiative Sub-Committee.

In 2009 and for several years following, not much hiring was going on, even though AWWA had begun to make its members realize that a workforce crisis was coming.

As documented in numerous publications and presentations, a huge number of water workers were nearing retirement age and would soon be leaving the workforce, taking with them not only themselves but the vast amounts of knowledge and experience they had acquired.

But, it was hard to attract Veterans when we didn't have many positions to offer.

Now, that has changed! For Veterans, that is good; for the water industry, not so much.

Those folks who delayed retirement because of the economy and those who are becoming eligible to retire are retiring. They are leaving utilities ... creating some unique challenges for both utilities and the companies serving utilities.

Our industry is vital to life. People need a safe and adequate supply of drinking water every day to survive. We must be successful in replacing the people who are leaving the industry, regardless of the reason.

We have identified Veterans as a really good fit for our industry. Many of the skills and traits that are acquired in the military are desirable for water sector employees.

This is where *you* come in.

The Workforce Strategies Committee is challenging each Service Provider to hire one Veteran between the end of ACE 2015 and our Annual Conference in Chicago in June 2016.



To learn more about hiring Veterans and the challenge, register for the free webinar on May 27 at 11 a.m. Mountain Time at www.awwa.org/conferences-education/distance-learning/webinars.aspx

WATER INDUSTRY LUNCHEON FEATURING LAURA LING

Please join us for the Water Industry Luncheon on Tuesday, June 9, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., at the Anaheim Convention Center. This is a great opportunity to network and entertain customers and, especially, hear an inspiring talk about Laura Ling's captivity in North Korea. To purchase a table for 10, please contact Jane Johnson at jjohnson@awwa.org. To purchase individual tickets, contact the AWWA customer service department at **800.926.7337**.

ACE15 ANAHEIM MAC MEETING—PLEASE JOIN US!

Please join us at the Manufacturers/Associates meeting on Tuesday, June 9, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Anaheim Marriott (adjacent to the convention center), in the Gold Key Room I & 11.

SOUTH AMERICA TRADE MISSION

If your company has an interest in learning more about the South America Trade Mission to Chile and Colombia November 15–21, 2015, contact Jane Johnson at jjohnson@awwa.org.

SPECIAL SESSIONS AT ACE

This year, the MAC has organized three special Professional sessions. These special sessions are composed of a combination of presentations and roundtable discussion. The presenters range from consultants, manufacturers, and those with municipal backgrounds to provide a well-rounded outlook on issues and challenges in our industry.

Two special sessions will be on Monday from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. They are entitled, "Working Smarter, Not Harder: Energy and OPEX Savings Through Process Control" and "Managing Distribution System Assets to Optimize Water Service."

Working Smarter, Not Harder: Energy and OPEX Savings Through Process Control will be held in the Anaheim Convention Center, Room 213C. Budget and resource constraints are forcing the water industry to do more with less. Learn how utilities are meeting this challenge by leveraging data and establishing minute-by-minute control to run their systems more effectively. This session promises to be a dynamic mix of real-world experience and new technology aimed at discussing new ways to conserve water and power. The speakers are a mix of industry professionals, consultants, and manufacturers to discuss methods of cutting process waste and reducing energy usage.

Managing Distribution Systems Assets to Optimize Water Service will be held in the Anaheim Convention Center, Room 201 A/B. This session will highlight the need for a comprehensive distribution system asset management program. These programs are key to optimizing performance and water quality. This session

explores a variety of innovative and established tools utilities use to optimize water quality, pressure management, and main-break performance.

The popular "**Innovation Initiative**" will be held on Tuesday, 9 a.m. until noon, in Anaheim Convention Center Room 202 A/B. It will be moderated by Randy Moore and Vanessa Leiby. This session will focus on the water/wastewater industries' present unique challenges and barriers to the adoption of new technologies and innovation. The "Innovation Initiative" was launched two years ago in an effort to see what might be done to help overcome those challenges. Committees were formed to develop and implement strategies to overcome the top five barriers to innovation, which were identified as

- **The risk averse nature of the water sector**
- **The low economic value placed on water**
- **The "or equal" bidding and procurement requirements**
- **The complicated regulatory requirements**
- **Trade restrictions/barriers**

This session will include an update from each of the five committees along with presentations from industry innovation leaders representing regulators, utility managers, and technology developers/innovators, followed by a lively panel discussion.

Spread the word with all your industry contacts who plan to attend ACE15 about these Sessions developed and sponsored by MAC.

AWWA STANDARDS COMMITTEES NEED NEW PRODUCERS (MANUFACTURERS) MEMBERS

The standards program is always in need of qualified volunteers to serve on AWWA's various standards committees. Many committees need members to replace those lost through attrition, and/or to balance the committee. In particular, committees developing Utility Management Standards are in need of Manufacturer/Producer participation to help balance the interest categories. Although these standards do not have direct details and requirements regarding the manufacture of products, it would be valuable to include the perspective of the Producer interest category in these important standards for the water industry.

The committees listed at right are particularly in need of new members in the Producer interest category. If you are interested in volunteering, please submit an online volunteer application and select "Volunteer" in the "Select a topic" blank.

Committee Name & Number	Staff Advisor
Business Practices for O&M (474)	Passarelli
Carbon Dioxide (162)	Posavec
Communications & Customer Relations (477)	Passarelli
Disinfectant Chemicals (213)	Posavec
Disinfection of Facilities (215)	Passarelli
Distribution Systems O&M (470)	Flancher
Emergency Preparedness Practices (475)	Flancher
Fiberglass Weirs, Troughs, & Baffles (216)	Flancher
Progressive Cavity Chemical Metering Pumps (273)	McCandless
Reclaimed Water Programs O&M (481)	Flancher
Risk & Resilience Management (550)	Flancher
Security Practices for O&M (476)	Flancher
Source Water Protection (472)	Flancher
Taste & Odor Control Chemicals (334)	Posavec
Utility Management Systems (478)	Passarelli
UV Disinfection (374)	McCandless
Wastewater Treatment Plant O&M (501)	Flancher
Wastewater - Pretreatment (503)	Flancher
Wastewater - Collection Systems (502)	Flancher
Wastewater - Biosolids (504)	Flancher
Water Treatment Plant O&M (471)	Flancher

To submit articles for the MACYAK please contact jjohnson@awwa.org