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IAPMO Selected to Attend U.S. Government Water Infrastructure Business Development Mission to Singapore, Vietnam, and the Philippines

On July 14 - 22, IAPMO participated in the Water Infrastructure Business Development Mission to Singapore, Vietnam, and the Philippines to offer solutions to water issues and develop international business relationships.

Arun Kumar, Director General of the U.S. Commercial Service, and Joel Beauvais, EPA Deputy Administrator, Office of Water, will lead IAPMO and eight other companies to the trade mission's Singapore and Vietnam locations. Dain Hansen, IAPMO Senior Vice President of Government Relations, and Christopher Lindsay, Manager of IAPMO Government Relations, will represent IAPMO on the delegation.

"The ASEAN region is actively seeking solutions for its water and environmental management needs," Kumar said. "The mission participants are considered subject-matter experts and will collaborate using their expertise to begin developing widespread sustainable water solutions for the ASEAN region."

Over the past two years, IAPMO has aggressively increased its work in this region, assisting with code development and product testing and certification toward standardization of plumbing practices, products, and work force.

"On the heels of IAPMO's successful and continued work in Indonesia, our current work in the Philippines, and our past work in Vietnam, this trade delegation to the ASEAN region comes at the opportune time," Hansen said. "With the water crisis throughout Southeast Asia, we are thrilled to engage with key ministries and stakeholders while providing IAPMO's members and clients the path into such an

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE

important international market."

Singapore, Vietnam and the Philippines are part of the 10 member states in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which represents a region that received more than \$78 billion in merchandise exports from the United States in 2014. The Water Infrastructure Business Development Mission will address Singapore's water demand, Vietnam's wastewater treatment, and the impact of water on the Philippines' growing population.

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IAPMO Seeks UPC Standards Task Group Members

IAPMO is seeking and accepting applications for technical experts to participate on a Standards Task Group toward the development of the 2018 *Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC®)*.

The scope of the Standards Task Group is to review and develop recommendations, when appropriate: on items Nos. 001 and 002 of the *UPC* to determine the proper updating of the referenced standards; on items submitted to the *UPC* that include references to standards; and on items having multiple standards that are addressed in the section to determine how the standards should be identified depending on the scope of the standard. The recommendations of the Standards Task Group will be forwarded to the *UPC* Technical Committee for consideration.

Task group members will participate via conference call or web meeting and will provide recommendations for consideration by the *UPC* Technical Committee. Applicants are not required to be members of the *UPC* Technical Committee.

Individuals interested in participating on the Standards Task Group can find and submit an application at the following URL:

http://forms.iapmo.org/iapmo/committee/app_standards_task_group.asp

The deadline to submit an application is Aug. 15.

Published by IAPMO in 1945, the *UPC* is developed to govern the installation and inspection of plumbing systems as a means of promoting the public's health, safety, and welfare. Developed and subsequently republished at the conclusion of each three-year code cycle, the Uniform Codes are designed to provide consumers with plumbing, heating, mechanical, and solar systems while, at the same time, allowing latitude for innovation and new technologies.

Interested individuals may contact Enrique Gonzalez at (909) 230-5535 or by email at enrique.gonzalez@iapmo.org.

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Community Plumbing Challenge 2016 in South Africa Concludes on World Youth Skills Day



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The Community Plumbing Challenge 2016, which this year took place in Diepsloot, Johannesburg, South Africa, concluded Friday as the world celebrated World Youth Skills Day.

Organized by IAPMO in collaboration with the World Plumbing Council, the international event aims to contribute to improvements to public health in regions where communities are still threatened by a lack of basic sanitation and safe drinking water systems.

CPC2016 was hosted in Diepsloot by Water, Amenities, Sanitation Services Upgrade Programme (WASSUP) and Diepsloot Arts & Culture Network, in collaboration with Healthabitat Sanitation Studio, and facilitated in South Africa by Sticky Situations. Additional event partners included Autodesk Education Experiences and the Wot-If Trust.

During the week of July 9-15, four international student teams representing South Africa, Australia, India, and the United States worked together to design and install a series of new communal toilet facilities for the residents of Extension 1 Diepsloot, in collaboration with WASSUP Diepsloot, a dedicated volunteer and nonprofit organization.

Teams worked tirelessly through a range of unique challenges specific to the local environment. Mostly working against the clock, against difficult conditions, the teams worked together with local partners on the ordering and sourcing of local materials, equipment, and tools to assist in the organization and planning of schedules to find collaborative solutions for the new communal toilet facilities.

By taking part in the challenge, the young skilled champions pushed themselves to the limit of their abilities and developed new skills and understanding, which will assist them in their respective professional careers as plumbers, architects, welders, and engineers.

"We believe the impact that CPC2016 leaves on the Diepsloot community will keep this project going for a longer period of time," said IAPMO International Project Leader Sean Kearney. "The forging of new partnerships makes small community actions much stronger and more long term."

Additional highlights of the CPC2016 included collaboration between local teams and global partners, a Science and Engineering Forum held with Johannesburg Water, and official visits from representatives of participating countries.

"It's the global, national and local collaborations that make CPC2016 work; none of this can be done alone," Kearney said.

U.S. Consul General Christopher Rowan attended the official launch event July 9 and was on hand for addresses from host partners including AutoDesk and Healthabitat. The Diepsloot Arts and Culture Network, which transformed the week's release about CPC2016 into poetry, song, dance, and theater, provided entertainment.

Rowan also met with IAPMO Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of Business Development Dave Viola; International Project Manager Grant Stewart; and Kearney, who gave him insight into this year's event and a personal guided tour of the workshop areas onsite. Rowan was then introduced to Team USA members and leaders, and spent time getting to know each of them. He also toured the designated Team USA site within Extension 1, Diepsloot, where its communal toilet facility designs were to be installed.

On Friday, Rowan arrived on site once again to support Team USA as it moved its two

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designs from the workshop hub to the actual site within Extension 1. He also spent time with local host team partners, who informed him of their roles in CPC2016, and he gained an understanding of the immense effort that had been levied by each team — and the local and international parties — during the week.

Stacey Walker, First Secretary Policy with the Australian High Commission, and Sarah Withers Dippenaar, Senior Research and Program Officer, represented the Australian government at CPC2016. Upon their arrival, they received a summary of the project, its aims, and events held during the lead-up to the day.

They were then introduced to Kearney and Stewart, as well as Australian Team Leader Greg Tink. Tink took them around the Australian team's workshop and introduced them to each of the team members. Walker and Dippenaar were exceptionally intrigued in what the project was about, how it was being supported, and what the individual team members' contributions to the project had been.

The officials traveled to the CPC2016 site in a local taxi, and walked around both the Australian and South African sites; this included a walk through the streets of Diepsloot. Dippenaar was invited into a small children's school to greet the children along the way. Both officials witnessed the installation of the South African new communal designs, and had the opportunity to speak with WPC Secretariat Stuart Henry while walking up the main street within Diepsloot Extension 1.

CPC2016 will conclude at the World Plumbing Conference, which will take place Sept. 15-16 in Cape Town, South Africa. The performance of the communal toilet designs will be showcased, based on the results of data logging and water metering of the new designs over the next two months.

For interviews and further information regarding the Community Plumbing Challenge 2016, please contact Alison Spratley +27 (0) 82 476 1213 or alison@brandvision.co.za

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New Construction Starts in June Drop 7 Percent

New construction starts in June decreased 7% from the previous month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$595.1 billion, according to Dodge Data & Analytics. The nonbuilding construction sector (public works and electric utilities) fell sharply after being lifted in May by the start of a \$3.8 billion oil pipeline in the upper Midwest and seven large power plant projects totaling \$4.3 billion. Residential building in June edged down with reduced activity reported for both single family and multifamily housing. At the same time, nonresidential building registered moderate growth in June after sliding back in April and May. Through the first six months of 2016, total construction starts on an unadjusted basis were \$318.1 billion, down 11% from the same period a year ago. The January-June period of 2015 included 13 exceptionally large projects valued each at \$1 billion or more, including a \$9.0 billion liquefied natural gas export terminal in Texas, an \$8.5 billion petrochemical plant in Louisiana, and two massive office towers in New York NY – the \$2.5 billion 30 Hudson Yards and the \$1.2 billion One Manhattan West. In contrast, the January-June period of 2016 included only four projects valued at \$1 billion or more. If these exceptionally large projects are excluded, total construction starts during the first half of 2016 would be down a slight 2% from last year.

June's data lowered the Dodge Index to 126 (2000=100), compared to 135 in May. After strengthening in this year's first quarter, the Dodge Index fluctuated in the second quarter, rebounding in May after April's decline, followed by another decline in June. "The construction start statistics on a monthly basis continue to show an up-and-down

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pattern," stated Robert A. Murray, chief economist for Dodge Data & Analytics. "This has often been due to the presence or absence of very large projects for a given month, which most recently applies to the May and June behavior for public works and electric utilities."

Read the full report: <http://construction.com/about-us/press/New-Construction-Starts-in-June-Drop-7-Percent.asp>

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Germany, Italy, and Japan Top World Energy Efficiency Rankings;

US Moves Up to #8 Spot Behind Spain and China, Rising From #13 Ranking in 2014; 3rd International Scorecard Evaluates 23 Largest Energy-Consuming Countries on 35 Categories.

Germany continues to lead the world in energy efficiency, followed by Italy and Japan (tied for second place), France, and the United Kingdom (not reflecting energy-related government changes in 2016), according to the *2016 International Energy Efficiency Scorecard* published today by the nonprofit American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). New to the rankings this year are eight nations: Indonesia, Netherlands, Poland, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, and Turkey.

Now in its third edition, the ACEEE report (<http://aceee.org/portal/national-policy/international-scorecard>) finds that the United States rose in the international rankings from #13 in 2014 to #8 in 2016.

On a scale of 100 possible points in 35 categories, the nations were ranked by ACEEE as follows: Germany (1), Italy (2, tied), Japan (2, tied), France (4), UK (5), China (6), Spain (7), South Korea (8, tied), United States (8, tied), Canada (10), Netherlands (11), Poland (12), Taiwan (13), India (14), Turkey (15), Australia (16), Russia (17), Indonesia (18), Mexico (19), Thailand (20), South Africa (21), Brazil (22), Saudi Arabia (23).

Together these countries represent 75% of all the energy consumed on the planet and over 80% of the world's gross domestic product (GDP).

The US rank was boosted by high scores in a number of new metrics added to the report for 2016, as well as improvements in energy intensity, or energy use per dollar of GDP. The US also benefited from changes to the scoring methodology, which now allocates more weight to policy actions. The ACEEE report outlines a number of international best practices that the US could implement to improve its score.

ACEEE evaluated each country using 35 policy and performance metrics spread over four categories: buildings, industry, transportation, and overall national energy efficiency efforts. Germany scored the most points in the national efforts, buildings, and industry categories, while India tied with Italy and Japan for first place in transportation.

Read the full report: <http://aceee.org/press/2016/07/germany-italy-and-japan-top-world>

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IAPMO Conference Set to Soar in Albuquerque

IAPMO's 87th annual Education and Business Conference will convene Sept. 26 in picturesque Albuquerque, N.M. Over the years, the conference has evolved into a showcase highlighting the talents of IAPMO staff and volunteers. The IAPMO

Conference Planning and Special Projects Committee (CPSPC), in conjunction with IAPMO staff, have again been given the unenviable task of trying to surpass the events from last year's conference in Las Vegas. During the week, while members are tending to association business, the CPSPC will be providing companions of attendees opportunities to attend interesting and exciting events and outings, many with a local flare. From the annual Roscoe King Memorial Golf Tournament to the closing Installation of Officers Banquet, the IAPMO conference has become one of the yearly highpoints for inspectors, installers, design professionals, and manufacturers.

As in the past, this year's conference will feature educational opportunities for those wanting to stay abreast of the latest information related to the plumbing and mechanical trades. As an added bonus, all of the classes offered will have continuing education units (CEU) associated with them. Opening session will include a presentation by George McGraw, Founder and Executive Director of DIGDEEP. Mr. McGraw's organization helps communities build and manage their own water utilities. While many of DIGDEEP's projects are focused on providing clean water for third world countries, it is with pride that they claim to be the only global organization that provides those same services to communities in the United States. One of those communities happens to be right outside the Albuquerque area.

The IAPMO Plumbing and Mechanical Technical Committees have begun the process of reviewing numerous proposed code changes to the 2018 UPC and UMC. Their ballot results, which will soon be available via the Report on Proposals (ROP), will be presented to the IAPMO membership on Tuesday during the conference. During those UPC/UMC Consideration Sessions, our membership will have an opportunity to review, debate, and vote to create an Assembly Comment. Additionally, classes covering other code and industry related issues, as well as the ever-popular Plumbing and Mechanical Code Workshops, will round out a great week of education and training.

This year's conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency, located in downtown Albuquerque and within walking distance to great shopping and eateries. If shopping doesn't interest you, world-class golf courses are within a short drive, or for the nature lovers, visit the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park, the Albuquerque BioPark, La Luz Nature Trail, or the Sandia Peak Mountains. And don't forget the annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, which starts on Friday, Oct. 1, the day after our conference closes. The Fiesta consists of a week of fun and activities for the entire family and is well worth an extended stay!

Whether you're a "first-timer" or a seasoned veteran, the IAPMO Education and Business Conference has proven to be an excellent educational value, as well an outstanding opportunity to network with the industry's most influential leaders. And, of course, it's a great time to catch up with old friends and make some new ones. See you in Albuquerque!

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Michigan Attorney General Charges Six More in Flint Water Crisis

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette last week announced the third legal action of his Flint Water Investigation, filing 18 criminal charges against four current and two former employees from two state departments. The charges are a result of actions taken by officials at the Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services that contributed to the Flint water poisoning crisis by withholding vital information from the public about ongoing lead poisoning and allowing the continued distribution of corrosive water from the Flint Water Treatment Plant.

Schuette was joined at the announcement by Genesee County Prosecutor David

Leyton, Flint Water Investigation Special Prosecutor Todd Flood, and Chief Investigator Andy Arena.

A Total of Nine Defendants So Far

As of today, in total, Schuette has filed criminal charges against nine current and former state and local officials since the start of the investigation, which has included interviews with nearly 180 witnesses.

The first round of criminal charges from Schuette's Flint Water Investigation were filed on April 20, 2016 against two Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) employees and one City of Flint employee. Schuette's second legal action took place on June 22, 2016, when he filed a civil suit against water infrastructure firms Veolia and Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam for their roles in the Flint water poisoning crisis.

Schuette's investigation remains ongoing and the charges filed today do not preclude additional charges at a later date.

The Third Legal Action of the Investigation Results in 18 New Charges

In the third legal action of the investigation, today a total of 18 criminal charges (12 felonies and 6 misdemeanors) were filed in Genesee County's 67th District Court in Flint against six individuals, three from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and three from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Read the full release: http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,4534,7-164-46849_47203-390055--,00.html

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Industry Calendar

87th Annual Education and Business Conference
September 25-29, 2016
Albuquerque, NM
www.iapmo.org

WaterSmart Innovations Conference and Exposition
October 5-7, 2016
Las Vegas, NV
watersmartinnovations.com

2016 ASPE Convention and Exposition
October 28 - November 2, 2016
Phoenix, AZ
<http://events.ntpshow.com/ASPE2016/>

ASSE International Annual Meeting
November 8-11, 2016
Las Vegas, NV
www.asse-plumbing.org/AM16/

Upcoming Seminars

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September 12-16, 2016	Phoenix, AZ	2016 ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
September 16, 2016	Phoenix, AZ	Cross Connection Control Recertification - 8 hr Course and Exam
November 14-18, 2016	Phoenix, AZ	2016 ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
November 14, 2016	Phoenix, AZ	Cross Connection Control Recertification - 8 hr Course and Exam
CALIFORNIA SEMINARS		
September 19-23, 2016	Ontario, CA	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
October 23-28, 2016	Ontario, CA	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
COLORADO SEMINARS		
August 15-19, 2016	Grand Junction, CO	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
August 24-16, 2016	Arvada, CO	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
September 8-9, 2016	Pueblo West, CO	Cross Connection Control Recertification - 12 hr course and Exam
September 26-30, 2016	Denver, CO	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
LOUISIANA SEMINARS		
October 10-14, 2016	Ruston, LA	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
MASSACHUSETTS SEMINARS		
Session 8 Training now available - click here for the schedule!		
MAINE SEMINARS		
August 30, 2016	York, Maine	Cross Connection Control Recertification - 8 hr course and Exam
MINNESOTA SEMINARS		
2015 Minnesota Plumbing Code DWV Provisions		
August 22-26, 2016	Anoka, MN	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
PENNSYLVANIA SEMINARS		
August 3, 2016	York, Maine	Cross Connection Control Recertification - 8 hr course and Exam
September 19-23, 2016	Scranton, PA	ASSE 5110 Backflow Tester 40 Hour Class and Exam
SOUTH DAKOTA SEMINARS		
Click Here to Find a Class		
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