IWSH Teams Up with DigDeep for Navajo Nation Community Plumbing Challenge

The Navajo Water Project, an initiative of the nonprofit organization DigDeep that was among the 2018 recipients of the U.S. Water Prize, will be the focus of IWSH's 2018 international Community Plumbing Challenge from Oct. 22 to 26. The initiative's goal is to help ensure that every American has clean, running water forever. The Navajo Water Project is hosted by the St. Bonaventure Indian Mission and School in Thoreau, a small town in Northwestern New Mexico.

This Navajo Nation CPC will provide households in the Baca-Prewitt area of the reservation with access to water and improved sanitation. A multi-disciplined team of skilled tradespeople will execute plumbing and construction projects to improve living conditions in approximately 10 households nominated by DigDeep.

Inside homes, a range of bathroom and kitchen renovations will be carried out, including the installation of new basins, taps, toilets, water tanks, water pumps, and hot- and cold-water pipework. Meanwhile, efforts outdoors will address the installation of, and connection to, new wastewater systems.

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""While we invest millions in water projects abroad, most Americans don't know that millions of people right here in the United States still don't have clean, running water,"
said George McGraw, founder and executive director of DigDeep. "In 2016, I was invited to give a keynote presentation at IAPMO's annual Education and Business Conference, hosted that year in Albuquerque, during which I explained DigDeep's position as the only global water organization working here in the United States. So now, less than two years later, we are very excited to host this latest edition of the international Community Plumbing Challenge to further impact the ongoing Navajo Water Project."

Residents and vocational students will also be involved in the upcoming program, and the project will showcase how plumbing practices, products, specialized tools and expertise can be applied to positively impact public health in their community.

"As demonstrated in previous international editions, the CPC creates a unique opportunity for plumbing professionals to gain experience and to learn new skills by working directly with talented tradespeople and industry experts," said Dan Daniels, Chair of the IWSH board of trustees. "We encourage our industry partners and stakeholders across the water, sanitation and hygiene sector to consider nominating their best and brightest talents to join this upcoming project, which has all the ingredients to be an experience of a lifetime for personal and professional development."

IWSH is actively recruiting team members, sponsors, and partners for October's Navajo Nation CPC. If you wish to be a sponsor, please click here. If you would like to participate in the Navajo Nation CPC, please click here. For more information about the event, visit the project website at www.commplumbing.org or email info@iwsh.org.

National Standard Plumbing Code™ (NSPC) Committee Requests Proposed Changes for 2021 NSPC

In order to facilitate the development of an updated National Standard Plumbing Code–Illustrated (NSPC), the IAPMO NSPC Committee is requesting proposed changes to the 2018 NSPC. All proposed changes are due by March 1, 2019. If approved, these changes will appear in the 2021 National Standard Plumbing Code–Illustrated.

All proposed changes must be submitted in electronic form to nspc@iapmo.org. If a standard is referenced, a copy of that standard must accompany the proposed code change that is submitted to the committee.

The National Standard Plumbing Code uses an annual review process and publishes the complete code every three years. Click for a copy of the code change form with instructions or more information on the National Standard Plumbing Code–Illustrated.

For more information, please contact the IAPMO NSPC staff at nspc@iapmo.org.

PT. IAPMO Group Indonesia, APPIN Hold Event to Promote Importance of Good Sanitation and Plumbing Systems

PT. IAPMO Group Indonesia, in partnership with Indonesian plumbing association APPIN, last month held an event to increase awareness of the importance of good sanitation and plumbing systems, especially for buildings with large capacities that are used by the general public such as hotels, malls, airports and restaurants.
IAPMO also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing for the inspection of the health aspects of buildings and residential housing in relation to the issuance of building occupancy permits. Additionally, IAPMO Man was introduced as IAPMO's mascot at the beginning of the event. APPIN, an association with members comprising companies in the plumbing industry, was inaugurated during the event.

Read more: www.iapmonline.org/Documents/archive/20180709_WPD_Indonesia.aspx

IAPMO's Chaney, Hansen Participate in SCCP Workshop on Water and Sanitation Systems in India

IAPMO CEO GP Russ Chaney, in his role as Chairman of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Board of Directors, and IAPMO Senior Vice President of Government Affairs Dain Hansen last month participated in the launch of Phase II of the U.S.-India Standards and Conformance Cooperation Project (SCCP) at the "Workshop on Water and Sanitation Systems in India: Leveraging standards for infrastructure improvement" in New Delhi, India.

During opening remarks, Chaney expressed pride and gratitude about ANSI's decade-long engagement with Indian partners the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) that has led to productive public/private collaboration on such priority sectors as building and construction, automobiles, biometric identification, and the subjects of the workshop, water and sanitation.

"ANSI is also grateful for the renewed support and funding provided by the U.S. Trade and Development Agency," Chaney said. "USTDA last fall approved the grant funding for the SCCP Phase II, making possible continued industry-to-industry collaboration and exchange on the important sectors of clean energy, smart and sustainable cities, and water and sanitation."

Read more: www.iapmonline.org/Documents/archive/20180702_Chaney_SCCP_Workshop.aspx

IAPMO Seeks Plumbing Standards Committee Members for Development of National Standards for the U.S. and Canada

IAPMO is seeking volunteers with technical background in plumbing and mechanical systems, such as jurisdictional authorities, testing lab and educational facility representatives, and manufacturing experts, to participate on the Plumbing Standards Committee (PSC).

For more than 30 years, IAPMO has developed American National Standards, initially as the Secretariat for the ANSI Z124 Technical Committee, and since 2005 as an American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-accredited standards development organization. On May 10, IAPMO received accreditation through the Standards
Council of Canada (SCC) for development of National Standards of Canada, thus accepting responsibility for the development of CAN/IAPMO designated standards.

The PSC members will be responsible for developing new and maintaining existing IAPMO/ANSI American National Standards and CAN/IAPMO National Standards of Canada. The PSC will operate in accordance with IAPMO's accredited procedures for standards development:


Founded in 1926, IAPMO seeks to be a worldwide leader in the plumbing and mechanical industry through protecting health and safety. IAPMO develops industry standards with a focus on plumbing products, solar heating systems and components, mechanical products (including heating, ventilation, cooling and refrigeration system products) and products used in the recreational vehicle and the manufactured housing industry.

The deadline to apply is Aug. 3. Those interested in participating may apply here.

Interested parties may contact Kyle Thompson at (909) 230-5534 or by email at kyle.thompson@iapmo.org.

IAPMO Group Acquires Aquadiagnostics Laboratory

The IAPMO Group is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Aquadiagnostics Water Research and Technology Center Limited, an independently accredited testing laboratory in Bengaluru, India, previously owned and operated by Eureka Forbes Limited, a leading provider of water purification products and allied services to residential and industrial sectors across Asia and Europe. Aquadiagnostics will become part of The IAPMO Group, specifically with IAPMO India.

The addition of Aquadiagnostics gives IAPMO India the ability to immediately provide services to key clients that manufacture water filtration products and produce packaged drinking water, while also verifying potable water supply within India. The new laboratory joins The IAPMO Group's other internationally accredited labs – Ontario, California; Guangzhou, China; Jakarta, Indonesia; and Melbourne, Australia.

Read more: www.iapmonline.org/Documents/archive/20180625_Aquadiagnostics_Laboratory.aspx

GAO: Lead Testing of School Drinking Water Would Benefit from Improved Federal Guidance

Alarming study finds only 43 percent of school districts tested for lead in school drinking water & of those, 37 percent found elevated lead levels

Six House and Senate Democrats have released a disturbing new report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) that found only 43 percent of school districts nationwide tested for lead in their schools' drinking water in 2016 and 2017, and of those that tested, 37 percent found elevated lead levels. GAO found that 41 percent of school districts did not test for lead, while 16 percent did not know.
The GAO conducted this report after receiving several separate requests on the issue from Energy and Commerce Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ), Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY), Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL), Senate HELP Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA), and Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI). Based on those requests, the GAO reviewed state and school district practices for lead testing and remediation efforts to protect children from exposure to lead in school drinking water.

"The findings in this report are disturbing and unacceptable," the Democrats said in joint statement. "No child should be put at risk for toxic lead exposure simply by drinking water at school."

"This report should serve as a wake-up call to the Trump Administration that it must take immediate action to address lead in drinking water," the six Democrats continued. "The Administration should finalize a stronger Lead and Copper Rule and issue protective guidance requiring lead testing for all public schools. As Members of Congress, we are committed to ensuring that states and localities have the funding and resources necessary to remediate lead in their schools and throughout their drinking water systems if it is discovered."

As a result of its findings, GAO is making seven recommendations to address lead in school drinking water, including that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) update its guidance on how schools should determine lead levels requiring action. GAO also recommended EPA and the Department of Education collaborate to disseminate guidance and encouraging testing for lead in schools. EPA and the Department of Education have agreed with GAO's recommendations.

GAO's report is available HERE.

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U.S. EPA Updates WaterSense® Specification for Showerheads

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published Version 1.1 of its WaterSense® showerhead specification, reflecting recent revisions in applicable standards and enabling rain shower manufacturers to obtain the label for their suitably efficient products.

The specification has been revised to directly reference ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1 where these standards underwent minor revisions concerning testing procedures and marking requirements. The new showerhead specification further updates the spray force test protocol to accommodate rain showers, which were not previously included, and clarifies product packaging requirements for WaterSense-labeled showerheads, according to EPA.

"We are pleased EPA has issued this revision and look forward to assisting rain shower manufacturers in obtaining WaterSense certification for this popular, but not previously eligible line of showerheads," said Jin Luo, Executive Vice President with IAPMO R&T.

Currently labeled showerheads are unaffected by this revision; it merely seeks to ensure that future showerheads certified as meeting the WaterSense requirements continue to meet EPA's criteria for efficiency and performance.

The new specification replaces Version 1.0, which EPA released in March 2010, and can be viewed in its entirety at https://www.epa.gov/watersense/showerheads#tab-3.

IAPMO R&T has been a licensed provider of WaterSense certification since 2007, certifying the first high-efficiency toilet (HET) to the standard in April of that year. To
date, IAPMO R&T has certified thousands of lavatory faucet, toilet, urinal, showerhead and weather-based irrigation controller models to the WaterSense specifications. Products bearing the WaterSense label must not only save water, but also perform as well or better than conventional models on the market.

Manufacturers wishing to have their showerheads identified as complying with the WaterSense specification must have them certified as such by a qualified third-party certification body such as IAPMO R&T, which is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) as a provider of certification services to WaterSense specifications.

IAPMO R&T is happy to assist any manufacturer wishing to better understand the new specification and learn how to achieve compliance. For more information or assistance, call (909) 472-4100, email WaterSense@iapmort.org or WaterSense.asia@iapmort.org, or direct your Web browser to http://www.iapmort.org/Pages/WaterSense.aspx.

China IAPMO R&T Lab Gains ANAB Accreditation for ISO/IEC 17025:2005

IAPMO is pleased to announce that the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) has determined the China IAPMO R&T Lab meets the requirements of international standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005, demonstrating technical competence in the field of testing.

ANAB recognition is accepted by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), and the InterAmerican Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) as a signatory of multilateral recognition arrangements that facilitate acceptance of test and calibration data internationally.

The China IAPMO R&T Lab joins IAPMO's R&T Lab, Electrical Gas Solar (EGS), and Institute of Building Technology (IBT) in possessing ANAB accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025:2005.

"Manufacturers who are participating in this global market want to show that their products have been tested by an internationally recognized third-party laboratory," said Jeff Huang, General Manager of the China R&T Lab. "This not only gives them peace of mind when it comes to product quality, but also greater acceptance by local jurisdictions."

The China IAPMO R&T Lab is a division of The IAPMO Group of companies, which also operates labs in Ontario, California, and Bekasi, Jawa Barat, Indonesia.

For more information on the China IAPMO R&T Lab's services, contact Jeff Huang at 86-20-82260960 or jeff.huang@iapmortl.org.

June Construction Starts Jump 11 Percent

New construction starts in June climbed 11% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $896.3 billion, according to Dodge Data & Analytics. The increase marked the second double-digit gain in a row, following the 15% hike that was reported for May. Boosting activity in June was a sharp 57% advance for nonresidential building, which benefitted from the start of two massive manufacturing plant projects and two massive office building projects. The two large manufacturing projects were a $6.5 billion uranium processing facility in Oak Ridge TN and a $1.7 billion petrochemical plant in Port Arthur TX, while the two large office projects were the $1.8 billion Spiral office tower
in New York NY and a $665 million office tower in Chicago IL. Residential building in June grew 4%, helped by growth for multifamily housing. The nonbuilding construction sector (public works and electric utilities) retreated 28% in June, pulling back after the sharp 37% increase reported in May that reflected the start of several large natural gas pipelines and rail-related projects. Through the first six months of 2018, total construction starts on an unadjusted basis were $395.7 billion, up 1% from the same period a year ago. If the volatile electric utility/gas plant category is excluded, total construction starts during the first six months of 2018 would be up 3% relative to last year.

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