



# Trenchless Technology Center *Newsletter*

M A R C H 2 0 1 5

## TTC Research Expands into International Oil and Gas Pipeline Renewal Market

In January, Trenchless Technology Center (TTC) signed a contract to enter into a cooperative research agreement with the University of Geosciences (CUG) in Wuhan, China. This contract is a major milestone as it signifies that TTC, after focusing for many years primarily on the wastewater and water sector, is now expanding into the oil and gas sector. CUG has a strong working relationship with the China gas industry. The main objective of this contract is to determine systems best suited to meet the urgent needs in the China gas market and identify global best-in-class gas pipeline renewal systems. TTC will conduct independent, third-party testing to validate the technical solution claims, and will assist in developing a model for moving the selected solutions into the China user community.

One of the lead principal investigators on this project is Ms. Wu, an associate professor at the Southwest Petroleum University in Chengdu, China. She has 10 years of gas distribution pipeline experience and 10 years of teaching and academic research experience at the university. Currently Ms. Wu is serving as a visiting scholar at TTC. Other research team members on this project include Dr. Shaurav Alam, Ms. Jadranka Simicevic, and Dr. Iseley who is a co-principal investigator. Mr. George Ragula from PSE&G will serve on the on the advisory board for this project. He is well known for his leadership role in moving innovative technical solutions to the oils and gas pipeline sector. The board is open for additional volunteers.

Ms. Wu and Dr. Iseley also made a brief trip to China in January, to assist Dr. Kong, the president of the Wuhan Pipe Tong Trenchless Technology Co., in presenting technical solutions for a large raw water line.

This contract provides an opportunity for the TTC to partner in the proposal for formation of the International Underground Space Engineering Technology Center (IUSETC) in the Wuhan Future City, China, where Dr. Ma would serve as the director and Dr. Iseley as the honorary director of IUSETC.

### Auger Boring and Pipe Jacking School

TTC is developing Auger Boring and Pipe Jacking School for educating engineers, project managers, superintendents, foremen and equipment operators on the application of these trenchless methods. This will be a four-day, hands-on course involving classroom, laboratory and field sessions. The first course will be conducted in Ruston, Louisiana, at the TTC National Trenchless Technology Research Facility and the adjacent field testing site, during the week of July 13, 2015. The course will thereafter be offered annually or biennially.

Mr. Chris Morgan, TTC lab manager, will serve as the director of this school. Morgan obtained extensive field experience working in the oil fields before joining TTC over five years ago. He will be supported by Mr. Saleh Behbahani, a Ph.D. candidate working under Dr. Iseley. Behbahani has BSCE and MSCE degrees in mining engineering. The Industry Advisory Board (IAB) for the school comprises



Wu and Iseley visit to China.



Wuhan Future City is a science and technology innovation center in Hubei Province, China.



Field testing site at Louisiana Tech South Campus.

several distinguished experts in this area: Leo Barbera, president of Horizontal Holes Inc. and the founder of American Augers Inc. ; Vic Weston, President of TriState Road Boring and chairman of the Louisiana Construction Education Trust Fund (CETF); Dan Liotti, President of Midwest Mole Inc.; Frank Canon, Baroid Industrial Drilling Products; and Mike Varone, American Augers Inc.

## CTAM Courses Update

TTC and BAM-I continue working on the development of the Certification of Training in Asset Management (CTAM) Program. When finished, the program will comprise four online courses. The first two courses, CTAM 100 - The Fundamentals of Asset Management and CTAM 200 - Developing an Asset Management Plan, have already been finished and completed by a large number of users enrolled in the program. The other two courses, CTAM 300 - Implementing an Asset Management Program and CTAM 400 - Funding an Asset Management Program, will be completed in April. Completion of all four courses will lead to certification as an Associate Water Asset Manager (AWAM) through a certification board established by BAM-I. After four years of experience in areas related to water asset management, individuals may apply for certification as Professional Water Asset Managers (PWAM). Over 400 individuals have already enrolled in the CTAM from 14 countries.

In addition to online courses, face-to-face training of all four modules will be available for scheduling per request. In June, the training will be provided to key staff members of the North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure (DWI) who will thus be some of the first individuals to receive the AWAM certification. Other North Carolina associations which will be present at the June training include the North Carolina League of Municipalities, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and the North Carolina Chapter of the Rural Water Association. Other agencies which may be present are the North Carolina Chapters of ASCE, AWWA and WEF. TTC is very pleased to be leading this initiative. TTC answers to the BAM-I Board of Directors.

## TTC Welcomes New IAB Members, Joe Barsoom Elected Honorary Member

The TTC welcomed the addition of five new members to the Industry Advisory Board over the past several months: Daniel Magill, President of Avanti International Inc.; Kaleel Rahaim, Business Manager Remediation Polymers at Interplastic Corp.; Dennis P. Sullivan, Vice President of National Water Main Cleaning Co.; Dan Liotti, President of Midwest Mole Inc.; and Sims Rhyne, President of Spectrashield Liner Systems. Other changes included Eugene Zaltsman, Senior Applications Engineer of Insituform Technologies, replacing Lynn Osborn who retired in January, and Peck Boswell, Chief Executive Officer of BRH-Garver Construction, replacing David Ellett who has left the company.



**Joe Barsoom, IAB Honorary Member.**

The IAB voted in December to make Joe Barsoom a lifetime honorary member of the Board for his many years of dedicated service in the IAB. Barsoom joined the IAB as a municipal representative soon after its founding in 1989. Joe was elected as chairman of the board in early 1990s and he continued to fill this role until 2013. He has continuously provided support in TTC projects and activities, including identifying and recruiting new IAB members. Over the years, Barsoom was helping raise funds for the TTC, most notably donations for the National Trenchless Technology Research Facility, which was built in late 2007. He has also been instrumental in developing the Municipal Forum program.

## TTC Municipal Forums

The 2015 Spring Municipal Users' Forum Program is scheduled to kick off with the forum in Boston, Massachusetts on April 30, followed by the forums in Bloomington, Minnesota (May 14), Shreveport, Louisiana (May 21), Seattle, Washington (May 26), and San Antonio, Texas (May 28). TTC is still working on scheduling several other forums in May and early June.

The forums are designed as one-day programs with low participation cost (\$55 for municipal participants). Participants can earn CE units for attending (a \$15/certificate fee applies). Online registration for the forums has been done through Eventbrite site, link available at [www.ttc.latech.edu](http://www.ttc.latech.edu).

## Industry Advisory Board

Bill Moore AOC Resins	Sean Benton City of Monroe, LA	Dennis P. Sullivan National Water Main Cleaning Co.
Daniel Magill Avanti International, Inc.	Dino Ng City of New York - DDC	James H. Forbes, Jr. Pipeline Analysis, LLC
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## Trenchless Technology Center *Newsletter*

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