Inaugural Event at Leonard H. White Training Center

Team EJP representative Tookie Gregoire coordinated with Mark Gallant and John Solito of R.H. White to hold their annual winter training, the first at their new facility in Auburn, MA. The Leonard H. White Training Center was named for the second-generation leader of R.H. White, a 93-year-old construction services company. The dedication was fitting due to Leonard White's pioneering efforts in employee safety and training long before it became an industry requirement. The three-story structure has 14,000 square feet of training, conference and office space. “Last year we invested more than one million dollars in training programs for our employees, and we’re always looking for innovative ways to keep them engaged in the process while learning the latest techniques,” said President and CEO David H. White. “We were pleased to collaborate with Team EJP for a hands-on training session. Our ability to host these valuable training programs is why we built the Leonard H. White Training Center in 2015, and I am grateful that we can carry on the good work that my father began with extensive employee training and safety programs.”

Team EJP partnered with Mike Ganem of AFC Hydrants and Valves along with Guy Canto of Romac Industries for this multiple-day event. The trainees were water and gas crews who received training on Alpha Couplings, GripRing Restraints, Hydrants, Macro Couplings, Trenching and Tapping. The trainees also got an overview of the University of Prescott program from participant Jacob Stelline. From safety to new equipment, technology and programs, Team EJP is always available to make sure your team is ready for anything they may encounter on the jobsite. Coordinate your own training by contacting your Team EJP representative today.
My name is Austin Wehr, and I am a current University of Prescott student. The University of Prescott program is a great opportunity for a young person like me. After graduating from high school, I wasn’t sure what I wanted to do. The idea of spending lots of money at college trying to figure it out didn’t make sense. My father, Chris Wehr, who is a service technician for Team EJP, heard about the UP program and encouraged me to participate. Knowing that Team EJP was a great place to work and was willing to offer this opportunity, I knew I had to give it a shot.

After working through the interview process, I was offered an apprenticeship and began working toward my new career on May 13, 2015. So far, I have traveled a few times to the branches in Maine and Massachusetts, but my primary location has been Fort Wayne, Indiana. In this job you see and learn new things almost every day of the week, and it keeps you on your toes. Working in all the different jobs gives you a broad overview of what Team EJP and the waterworks industry have to offer. This experience will serve me well as I complete the two-year program and look forward to a full-time position with Team EJP which is guaranteed upon completion.

At this point, I am looking forward to two different options: either service work or inside sales. I really enjoy service work as I love being outside, working with the customers face to face. Inside sales still provides great customer interaction but is clearly more appealing during the winter months.

I have a long way to go before I am done with the program so I have not made any firm decisions. I will allow the next year to influence my choices and will keep an open mind in looking forward to my future career with Team EJP.
NEWWA 2016 Spring Conference – Worcester, MA

With unseasonably warm weather for March, NEWWA’s 2016 Spring Joint Conference in Worcester, MA, was well attended by over 3,000 industry professionals. The technical sessions had a broad appeal, from “Specifications – You Don’t Always Get What You Want” to “A Citywide Approach to Tackling a Century Old Distribution System.” All sessions had a high value in both content and relevancy to issues facing today’s waterworks professionals.

The show floor itself was packed with businesses and organizations supporting the waterworks industry with products, technology and ideas. Team EJP’s booth was joined by partners Argonics, A.Y. McDonald, JD 7, Trimble and Romac, and sister companies Red Hed, QWP and PPF. The buzz of excitement was high, especially when students from local technical colleges and high schools were in attendance. Team EJP presented its University of Prescott program to a number of students and is looking forward to adding new participants soon. NEWWA’s interest in including this emerging workforce shows that they, much like Team EJP, understand the importance of engaging the waterworks professionals of tomorrow.

York Water and Ted Berry Co. Make Line Replacement Look Easy

A regional leader in providing safe and dependable water service to its customers, York Water put a lot of thought into their water main replacement project this spring. Partnering Team EJP and VAS customer Ted Berry Co., they developed a plan that would allow as little down time as possible while providing a safe and efficient work site. The project required slip lining a large section of the water main that needed replacement. The decision was made to pre-dig all the service lines and cover the excavations with steel plates, creating quick access when they were ready to be transferred to the new main line. Ted Berry Co. fused the pipe the day before to allow all the slip lining to be done in one day. Through planning, working with quality products and experienced partners they ensured a professional job was done and those York Water customers can now count on their new mains’ service for years to come.
36th Annual Capital District Engineers Week

As a celebration of National Engineers Week, the Capital District Engineers held their annual E-Week event at the Albany, New York Marriott. The Capital District E-Week group is dedicated to raising public awareness of engineers’ positive contributions to their community’s quality of life, the importance of technical education and motivating youth to pursue engineering and related careers to provide a diverse and vigorous engineering workforce. This year’s event had over 800 in attendance and about 100 students for the Model Bridge Competition.

Team EJP and its vendor partners, JDR Enterprises and Tensar, were excited to be selected to participate in this year’s events, presentations were given on the following topics: “Using Geogrids in Roadways to Reduce Construction Costs” by Dave Lipomi, Tensar; “The Evolution of Jobsite Sediment Control Technology” by Pete Harrahan, Team EJP; “Insight in Sub-Surface Drainage” by Wilson Harvie, JDR Enterprises; “A Comparison of Pavement Interlayer Mats to Pavement Interlayer Grids” by Doug McClusky, Team EJP and Bill Maier, Tensar.

Participating in programs that support the engineering community is of the utmost importance to Team EJP. We look forward to providing new and exciting ideas for the 2017 Capital District Engineers Week being held February 16 and 17, 2017. Visit www.CapitalDistrictEWeek.org for more information.

New Concept Tools, New Look

Team EJP sister company New Concept Tools is happy to announce the launch of their new and improved website. The easy to use site is available now and allows customers to shop for the tools they need on their mobile devices as well as their computer. Customers can now order and pay for their NCT items online. Check out the new site now and see how easy it can be to find what you are looking for:
https://newconcepttools.com
9th Annual Coastal Erosion Control Workshop

For the last nine years Team EJP has hosted an annual Erosion Control Workshop in coastal states in the Northeast. This year’s event held in Rhode Island was co-hosted by The Coastal Resources Management Council and the University of Rhode Island’s Coastal Resources Center. With valuable real estate being threatened by rising sea levels on a daily basis, this year’s 85 attendees were keen to gain new insight on these relevant topics.

The keynote address was delivered by Grover Fugate, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council. Mr. Fugate provided an overview of his agency’s effort to protect Rhode Island’s fragile coastal regions. Pam Rubinoff of the University of Rhode Island’s Coastal Resources Center discussed planning efforts in the state to address storm water impacts along the state’s coastline. Team EJP’s Pete Hanrahan focused his presentation on the rising sea level and the steps needed to protect those coastal zones in the future. Mickey Marcus of New England Environmental, a consulting and contracting company from Amherst, Massachusetts, provided project overviews and the lessons learned in dealing with coastal erosion issues. James Boyd and Janet Freedman, both with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, also presented. Mr. Boyd reviewed his agency’s experimental coastal erosion control program, which encourages the use of alternative treatments for coastal soils. Ms. Freedman provided a demonstration of storm surge inundation tools that are now available.

Bryan Oakley, Ph. D., a faculty member at Eastern Connecticut State University, discussed mapping the evolving Rhode Island coastline.

The event allowed for key decision makers to hear new ideas and concepts needed to cope with a climatic shift that is becoming more significant every day.

Cataract Lake, Indiana Celebrates 50th Anniversary

This year’s Cataract Lake Water Corporation Membership Meeting was also a celebration of their 50th anniversary. Teresa Gilbrech, Cataract’s administrator, did extensive work in the months leading up to this exciting event. Teresa’s passion for the members they serve was shown by her careful and thoughtful planning. Plant Manager Jim Perry created a replica of the utilities water tower out of waterworks industry products for display, with the help of Assistant Plant Manager Dobie Baxter. It was a true team effort from the Cataract team to welcome members and celebrate together the long success they’ve had in serving their neighbors everyday.

Springfield Customer Appreciation Day

Warm spring weather set the stage for a successful customer appreciation day at the Springfield Team EJP location. Local municipal and contractor personnel all came together to enjoy a barbeque and learn about some new products and techniques. The event was supported by a number of vendors including ADS, American Pipe, American Valve & Hydrant, EJ Iron Works, Romac Industries, Wheeler-Rex and U.S. Saws. Check with your local division to see when they will be hosting their next customer appreciation day.
Team EJP Recognizes Bill Frantz

Bill Frantz retired on June 2, 2016 after over 35 years of service. Bill started with EJP on October 20, 1980, and has worked at the Montpelier, Vermont division for his entire career. Bill has served as an excellent role model to all employees who have been lucky enough to work with him during his tenure. Bill's work ethic, experience and personality will be missed, and the entire team at EJP wishes him the best in the next chapter of his life.

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FAR RIGHT: Bill checks out a retirement gift; his very own forklift (for home use only).