

American Society of Sanitary Engineering  
**Cross Connection Control Technical Committee Meeting**

**Radisson Hotel Cleveland, OH**  
**Friday, April 29, 2011**

**Item #1- Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Sean Cleary, Chairman, at approximately 8:30 AM. Introductions were made.

Members present: Sean Cleary, IAPMO, ASSE Region Director, Chair; James Bickford, International President, City of Pompano Beach FL; Paul Bladdick, LPB Co, Inc.; Robert Cross, Houston Area Plumbing JAC; Joseph Kajak, Palm Beach County FL; William Keene, Pipe U Local #630; Matthew King III, Northern Pennsylvania Chapter; Matthew Marciniak, IAPMO and Local #75; Patrick Murray, Backflow Inspections, Repair & Plumbing, Inc.; Kenneth Schneider, Sprinkler Fitters Local 268 JATC; Carl Schroeder, Michigan Chapter; Donald Summers, Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #562 Training Center; Ralph Yanora, PA Water Specialties Company; Marianne Waickman, ASSE Professional Qualifications Coordinator.

Guest Present: John Ballon, Valmatic Valve; Larry Coleman, UA Local #597; Jim Finley, ASSE/ PHCC; Scott Hamilton, Local #75; Jim Kendzel, ASPE; Sara Marxen, ASSE Don Reichartz, ASSE Region 2 Director; Celeste Serrano, ASSE

**Item #2 – Adoption of the Meeting Agenda**

(Motion #1)

Motion by Bladdick to accept the agenda as written. Motion was seconded by Keene and passed unanimously.

**Item #3 – Approval of the November 10, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

(Motion #2)

Motion by Schroeder to accept the minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Summers and passed unanimously.

**Item #4- Update of the Cross Connection Program- Marianne Waickman/ Celeste Serrano**

The CCC program continues to grow. Waickman has focused attention on working with schools on resolving any issues related to the certification program as well as processing applications for schools, instructors and proctors. She also worked on promoting the program particularly in Denver, Kansas City, California, New York and Michigan. Serrano has been involved in the processing of exams, both in paper form and on-line. She also handles preparing all of the

certificates and cards. Serrano made a presentation and reported that from the time period of April 1, 2010- April 1, 2011 there were 407 classes held totaling 3,215 individuals certified during that time. There was also discussion about the online exams. The committee directed staff to compile information for the next meeting that includes:

- Cost differences to ASSE between on-line exams and paper exams
- Possibility of offering the incentive of free retests to schools that do on-line testing
- Breakdown of the failure rate for each certification
- Separate breakdown of how many failed written vs. practical exam

#### **Item #5 – Anti-trust Statement**

Waickman read the anti-trust statement as requested by the ASSE Board of Directors.

#### **Item #6 – On-line exams/Firefox**

Summers reported that he did a sample on-line exam using the Firefox browser and he had no problems.

#### **Item #7 – 5140 Class**

Cleary read a report from Asay concerning the first 5140 class that was given in December, 2010. There was concern about the written exam being too difficult despite the fact that everyone passed. There was also discussion about discharge from the main drain. Cleary to forward the report to the entire committee. Cleary requested that this be carried over as an agenda item at the next meeting.

#### **Item #8 – Valmatic 1063 device**

Ballun gave a very informative presentation on the Air Valve and Vent Inflow Preventer (ASSE 1063). He explained how the valve worked and under what situations it would be installed. He also explained that there is a need for a published field test procedure for testing these devices and a need for individuals to be trained and certified to test the devices. Ballun distributed draft procedures for testing the device.

(Motion #3)

Motion by Bickford to look into adding the 1063 test procedures to the Series 5000. Motion was seconded by Keene and passed unanimously

Additional information will be obtained from Ballun concerning the verification of the test procedure. The test procedure could be added to Appendix E of the Series 5000 as soon as the next printing. The Committee made the recommendation that when the working group is formed for the next revision of the Series 5000 that the 1063 test procedure be reviewed for possible addition to the requirements for the 5110 certification.

#### **Item # 9- 1056 Test Procedure**

The amended 3 valve and 5 valve test procedures for a Spill Resistant Vacuum Breaker were distributed to the Committee for their review. There were no comments. The amended procedure will be put into the next revision of the Series 5000 Standard.

#### **Item # 10- 1 Year Field Test**

There was discussion on expanding the 1 YR FT program. The 1YR FT is not used in Nevada and New York. The committee would like to ask the Board of Directors to speak with the attorney to discuss action that should be taken in order get it accepted in those jurisdictions.

#### **Item # 11- Follow-up on action items on promoting ASSE Programs**

Committee worked on a spread sheet that compares the requirements from the different backflow tester certification agencies.

Cleary suggested to the members of the committee that if anyone needs brochures created for specific events ASSE can create them. Schroeder and Cleary directed Ben Ryan to create a Cross Connection Control Program tri-fold comparing the various CCC certifications offered by different agencies.

#### **Item # 12- Instructor Qualification**

There was review and discussion about the instructor and proctor applications.

(Motion #4)

Motion by Bladdick to remove question #5 from the instructor application and create a separate application form for each certification type as well as changing the guidelines to match. Motion was seconded by Summers and passed unanimously.

Amended to direct staff to create editable pdf applications that are available through the website. Motion passed unanimously.

(Motion # 5)

Motion by Marciniak to tie the instructor and proctor application to their school, update it every 5 years and send a letter to the schools notifying them of this change. Motion was seconded by Schneider and passed unanimously.

Cleary asked Cross to review the proctor application form for any other needed changes or modifications.

#### **Item # 13- Demonstration of proposed online backflow prevention course using the wet lab simulator**

There was a presentation by Bac<<flowSim of a virtual wet lab simulator. Ron Hyatt and Francisco Rodriguez represented Bac<<flowSim. The simulator can be used in 3 different modes: instructional, practice and test. They would like permission to use the ASSE test procedures in their software as a training tool. Hyatt stated that he would share the demo program with Cleary. The Committee will review further before making a recommendation to the Board.

(Motion #6)

Motion by Keene to have ASSE contact the United Association about putting together a pilot program for the virtual simulator. Motion was seconded by Summers and passed unanimously.

**Item #14- IAPMO/UA Backflow Manual- Cleary**

Cleary distributed a new IAPMO/UA backflow manual to each member of committee for review.

**Item # 15- Break- out groups for test questions**

Tabled

**Item # 16- Old Business**

(Motion #7)

Motion by Bladdick to amend the Backflow Program Administrator name to Specialist/ Program Administrator. Motion was seconded by Keene passed unanimously.

(Motion #8)

Motion by Marciniak to add a listing of all ASSE certification types on the website. The motion was seconded by Summers and passed unanimously.

**Item #17- New Business**

Cleary directed staff to prepare a letter to be sent to all ASSE approved schools reiterating the prerequisite requirements for taking the certification classes.

Cleary appointed a sub-committee to discuss the proctor guidelines for the practical exam. Sub-Committee consists of: Carl Schroder, Sean Cleary and Robert Cross.

(Motion #9)

Motion by Schroder to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Yanora and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM.