

Asset management program underway for the ammonia/chlorine building



Key stakeholders developing the asset management program for the chlorine/ammonia building meet in the Haugen room in the plant. From left are Natilee Squires, Jim Bode, Che Fei Chen, Andy Knuth, Coni Cassity, Chad Wrightson, Kou Vang, Martha Burckhardt, Jeff Wagner, and Dennis Rosemark.

One of the strategic goals of the utility is the expansion and formalization of an asset management program that will guide the operations, management, and long-term planning of our physical assets.

Due to the scope and size of such an undertaking, the program will be developed in phases. Priority will be given to critical processes and immediate needs. The first phase of the new program has been the ammonia/chlorine building.

The overall goals of the asset management program for the ammonia/chlorine building were to:

- Ensure a safe work environment
- Document preventive and corrective maintenance of assets
- Demonstrate compliance to OSHA regulations

The key stakeholders in the development and execution of the asset management program for the ammonia/chlorine building crossed utility divisions, drawing on employees with different skill sets.

Jim Bode and Steve Gleason (retired assistant general manager) sponsored the project. Team members were Jeff Wagner, Chad Wrightson, Andy Knuth, Natilee Squires, Steve Evanson, Larry Larsen,

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Managers' Corner

Mobile is coming and we're going electronic

By Brad Eilts

The utility will be transitioning from paper-based work flows to an electronic process over the course of the next year.

Distribution supervisors will process Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) work orders using an app instead of paper work orders. Labor, materials from truck stock, and equipment will be directly entered into a CMMS work order electronically.

The utility and Saint Paul public works have an agreement with Process Solutions Assurance (PSA) to provide the app that will make mobile computing user friendly. Samsung tablets are being purchased to allow utility staff to use this app in the field.

This mobile app will also be configured to integrate with our Customer Information System (CIS). This will allow staff from dispatch and the meter shop to streamline work processes in the field.

The kickoff meeting for the mobile project was January 7. Process Solutions Assurance is configuring the app to meet our requirements and plans to start rolling out the app in February.

Keith Burket will be responsible for all testing and using the app in the field first. He is responsible for ensuring it is configured correctly and meets the requirements needed to complete service crew work orders electronically. After the app has been fully tested, all distribution supervisors will be trained to start using the app.

The next step will be to configure the app for the preventative maintenance program in distribution.

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Employee directories and 2020 calendars available

River Print calendars for 2020 and SPRWS employee directories were provided to all employees who attended the conference in December.

If you did not receive a calendar or employee directory and wish to have one, please contact Sandy Kimbrough in human resources.

Sandy's office is located on the second floor of the admin. bldg across from Hayley Heidelberg. Sandy can be reached at 266-6510 or at Sandy.Kimbrough@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

Utility seeks vehicle mechanic

The water utility seeks a vehicle technician for heavy trucks and equipment.

Primary duties will consist of small equipment repair including, but not limited to, small engine service and repair, pneumatic tools and equipment, gas saws, pumps, plate compactors, grounds maintenance equipment, trailers and equipment mounted on trailers.

Duties will also include light truck automotive service and repairs such as tires, brakes, mechanical, and electrical.

Specific requirements are listed at stpaul.gov/jobs under vehicle technician (heavy truck & equipment).

Must possess and maintain a valid Minnesota class D driver's license, or equivalent out-of-state driver's license. Within 12 months of employment candidates must obtain and maintain a valid class A CDL with no restrictions for air brakes. Applicants must apply online by 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 27.

For more information, contact Chrissy Hauge at 651-266-6512 or jobs@stpaul.gov.

Mobile is coming

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The hydrant inspection, large valve exercising, and uni-directional flushing crews will be converted from the current in-house app to the new mobile app after the programs get started in the spring.

Process Solutions Assurance will begin working with Saint Paul public works in June to implement mobile computing with their crews. In the fall, PSA will return to the utility to implement the CIS portion of the app. The entire project is scheduled to be completed by the end of November.

Wyatt Huberty hired at plant; Alt to work in plant for winter

Wyatt Huberty was recently hired as a treatment plant operator II.

He began work on Jan. 6 and reports to Chad Wrightson.



Wyatt Huberty



Aaron Alt

Wyatt previously worked at the utility as an intern in our water quality lab.

Please welcome Wyatt back to the utility.

Aaron Alt, water utility worker, is working in the treatment plant over the winter. He reports to Tom Blanchard. He began work in the plant on Jan. 6 and will return to distribution on March 6.

Asset management program underway in ammonia bldg.

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Andrew Magdziarz, Kou Vang, Jim Burchard, Tom Blanchard, Che Fei Chen, and Coni Cassity.

Dennis Rosemark and Martha Burckhardt of the Business Improvement Unit facilitated the project.

The key stakeholders completed the following milestones:

- Re-configuration of asset hierarchy
- Identification of all pertinent documents
- Configuration of preventive maintenance benchmarks
- Configuration of safety inspection benchmarks
- Indexation of pertinent documents

In addition, these employees designed:

- A business process for work orders
- Reports for PM/work order management
- Reports to demonstrate OSHA compliance

Next steps in the process are to:

- Link the pertinent SCADA screens to the assets in CMMS
- Configure inspections for emergency equipment
- Develop a procedure for the physical disposal of assets

The next phase will be electrical projects.