

# PEPtalk



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## The City of Worcester Has New Specs

America's drinking water infrastructure faces significant challenges. Many systems are aging and in need of replacement. Costs of materials and labor have risen significantly and population growth places added stress on existing systems. As a result, drinking water providers are seeking cost-effective solutions to increase efficiency and provide longer life cycles.

Seeking better performance and longer life for its water piping systems, the City of Worcester provides 24 million gallons per day for both in-city use and for adjacent towns and water districts. The City of Worcester recently rewrote its specification for ductile iron pipe, requiring zinc coating for all new ductile iron pipe installations and polyethylene wrapping for these piping systems in areas where it is needed.

The seed was planted for this change when City of Worcester representatives attended a Team EJP KnowH<sub>2</sub>ow<sup>®</sup> Seminar event in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, in February of 2016. At that event, AMERICAN Cast Iron Pipe Sales Representative, DeWayne Taylor, discussed the advantages of zinc coating and its recent introduction to the marketplace in the United States.

In February of this year, Mr. Taylor and Team EJP's David Hirsch, Manager of our Shrewsbury, Massachusetts division, made a presentation to the City of Worcester, focusing on the performance advantages provided by the zinc coating process.

As a result, the new specification was written, taking effect on March 1, 2017. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hirsch worked closely with now-retired Worcester City Engineer, Mike Ferguson,



and Assistant Director of Water Operations, Michael Daigneault, throughout the process. Mr. Ferguson continues to work for the city on a consulting basis.

This project highlights many of Team EJP's core values. Commitment to education, strong vendor partnerships, and providing the best possible solutions all remain at the center of the company's philosophy.

Worcester's new ductile iron pipe specification speaks highly of the city's commitment to providing the most cost-effective solutions possible to its citizens.

# University of Prescott Student Profile



My name is Cody Toor, and I am now entering my 14th month in the two-year University of Prescott program.

After one semester of college, I was unsure of the path I was taking and questioning if I should pursue a new one. Following a conversation with an EJP customer and close family friend who had heard about the UP Program, I knew I had my answer. After a few interviews, I was accepted into the program.

Traveling throughout the Northeast while expanding my knowledge of the waterworks industry has been a great experience. I've met many new people along the way. Working hands on with our service department and office personnel has provided me with many of

the resources needed to excel in this industry. I also get to work closely with customers over the phone and in the field.

I would highly recommend this program to any individual who enjoys traveling, likes to get their hands dirty, and enjoys working hard in general. The University of Prescott program is a great opportunity for young people to get involved in an industry with an aging workforce that needs highly trained individuals, like those who graduate from the program, to head up the new generation of water, wastewater, and stormwater professionals.

Although I am unsure of what permanent position I will hold upon graduation in March of 2018, I do know that I am looking forward to what the future holds for me at Team EJP!

## Overcoming Obstacles to Provide Quality Assurance

EJP has teamed up once again with Albanese D&S, Inc. to continue construction of Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's Northern Intermediate High Pipeline. This is the third phase of this redundancy project that AD&S and EJP have collaborated on.

The Northern Intermediate High Pipeline will provide water system redundancy to MWRA's Northern Immediate High service area, which serves the fully supplied communities of Reading and Stoneham and the partially supplied communities of Wakefield, Wilmington, Winchester and Woburn. MWRA supplies water to the Northern Intermediate High service communities through a single transmission main: Section 89. Because there is currently no fully redundant pipeline for Section 89, it cannot be taken out of service for inspection and repairs. The potential loss of Section 89 would result in a rapid loss of service in Reading, Stoneham and Woburn, as well as possible water restrictions in Wakefield, Wilmington and Winchester.

MWRA is installing a total of 36,000 linear feet of new water main varying in diameter from 12-inch to 48-inch (Sections 110 and 112) and appurtenances such as valves, which will provide water system redundancy and allow MWRA to take Section 89 out of service for inspection and rehabilitation.

EJP is supplying significant quantities of AMERICAN Ductile Iron Pipe to the NIH Pipeline in diameters from 6-inch through 48-inch, including over 7,300LF of 48-inch Flex Ring! There is also a significant Fabricated Piping Scope varying in diameter from 4-inches to 48-inches being made at QWP, which will be painted according to a specific color-coding system.

EJP would like to thank Albanese D&S for its continued business and the opportunity to work together once again to make a difficult project look easy.



# United Way Cornerstone Profile: E.J. Prescott, Inc.

Team EJP has partnered with United Way of Kennebec Valley (UWKV) for more than 30 years. The company has pledged to contribute a total of \$69,455 in 2017, establishing EJP as one of United Way's 12 Cornerstone Partners.

EJP is also a founding partner of Day of Caring, United Way's annual event that connects student volunteers from 17 local schools with work projects throughout Kennebec Valley. In 2017, 4,790 student volunteers participated in Day of Caring, and through 18 years in existence, the Day of Caring has seen more than 59,000 student participants complete over 3,150 projects.

In addition, EJP funds numerous scholarships to support scholars in achieving their higher education goals.

"As a family-owned business, Everett J. Prescott is proud to be a part of the United Way family and looks forward to helping to continue bringing programs that enrich our local communities," said Peter Prescott, Chief Executive Officer of EJP.



## At TEAM EJP, We Support Our Furry Friends' "Waterworks" Needs as Well

Peter Prescott has a passion for racing, and he also happens to appreciate dogs and all of the joy that they bring to our lives. On a recent visit to the New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Peter noticed the Pet Pit Stop located in the driver/owner lot of the track. Originally created so NASCAR drivers' dogs would have a place to frolic on race weekends, NHMS opened the doggie-designated area to all guests' furry friends who stay on the infield of the track.

Inspired by his very own "Revenge" statue located at the entrance of Team EJP's home office in Gardiner, ME, Peter came up with a very clever idea. Why not donate a Team EJP themed fire hydrant to support the dogs' "waterworks" needs as well? So on May 26, Robbi Lockhart of Team EJP delivered the custom hydrant to the Pet Pit Stop. We hope that all dogs who visit appreciate the gesture as much as we appreciate them!





# Sappi Fine Paper – PPF ROV Underwater Camera Inspection



In April, Matt Leland from the Sappi paper mill in Skowhegan, Maine, contacted Plastic Pipe Fabrication (PPF) requesting information regarding underwater camera inspections. In the past, the mill has hired a diver to perform the inspections, but was now looking for a safer alternative.

As part of Sappi's water intake maintenance program, PPF partnered with Cianbro Corporation to perform an underwater camera inspection of the travelling screen and inlet structure. Cianbro planned to remove the 15' x 30' screen using a heavy-lift crane and wanted to ensure that the screen could be reinstalled into the channel after repairs were made. To perform inspections, the Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV) Camera was deployed by Reggie Cooley and Alex Holzinger from PPF. The inspections consist of videoing both in and around the screen channels to look for debris and obstructions. Some hindrances were found, but not enough to prohibit the maintenance and repairs of the screen. During the assessment, PPF also inspected the screen's bottom sprocket, which is prone to wear and debris accumulation. The entire ROV inspection process was recorded

and saved on a thumb drive for Sappi and Cianbro, who were very impressed by the clarity of the inspection videos. They were also very pleased to avoid the risks associated with using a diver.

The Remote Operated Vehicle Camera can be used for many other inspections as well, such as clear wells, potable water tanks, ship hulls, intake structures, dams and most other underwater places that are not safe or cost effective for a diver.

## Team EJP is Up For a Challenge

EJ Prescott was recently contacted by Adams & Ruxton Construction Co. of West Springfield, Massachusetts, to provide the products necessary for a challenging access road for the City of Chicopee Electric Light Department. A stone surface access road was to be constructed on a slope ranging from 15 to 20% in grade on a very tight schedule.

The engineering firm of Tighe & Bond Consulting Engineers recommended the use of Presto Geoweb® Cellular Confinement System for load support and confinement of the stone used to construct the 12' wide road.

After project evaluation, it was determined that the GW20V (small cell size) geocell with a cell height of 6" held in by Atra clips was appropriate for this application. Other items included were a 3 cell by 6 cell staking pattern required to anchor the geocell on the specified grades and a 4-ounce Skaps non-woven geotextile fabric to prevent the stone from migrating to the underlying soils.

As a complimentary service, Presto Geosystems will provide a design solution for the use of any of their Geoweb products. Submit your Request for a Project Evaluation via their website: [www.prestogeo.com](http://www.prestogeo.com) or contact any of the EJP Team for assistance.



## NYRWA 38th Annual Technical Training Workshop & Exhibition

During the week of May 22nd, the New York Rural Water Association held its 38th Annual Technical Training Workshop & Exhibition in Niagara Falls, NY. The three-day event attracted approximately 500 attendees including operators, exhibitors, speakers, special guests, board members and staff. As an exhibitor, Team EJP's Hydrant Contest drew a crowd with a \$100 prize at stake. The contestant who could dismantle and rebuild a B-84-B hydrant in the least amount of time would take home the cash. Out of 10 participants, Dan Klass of Hartland posted the best time with an impressive 3 minutes and 28 seconds. Congratulations, Dan!



# 42" AMERICAN Ductile Iron Pipe Installation in Erie County, NY

Robin Palmer and Peter DiBenedetto of Team EJP Blasdell recently visited Sturgeon Point, an Erie County, NY Water Authority plant that was adapting old pre-stressed concrete cylinder pipe to AMERICAN Ductile Iron Pipe. In August of 2016, Team EJP had won the material bid and Sergi Construction, out of East Aurora, NY, won the install contract to replace the 42" PCCP with 42" AMERICAN Ductile Iron Pipe. Replacing the large diameter transmission lines presented difficulties in such tight quarters along the 48" PCCP line, but Sergi Construction was up to the task and completed the job with ease!



## Presto Georunner® Attends the Harvard Graduate School of Education

Presto Geosystems Georunner® and EJ Prescott have attended the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGS) for four straight years because HGS uses Georunner turf protection mats as ground protection during graduation ceremonies. Team EJP worked closely with Ms. Carolyn Croisier, Director of Events – Operations, to provide the mats and to meet their strict time schedule.

The ease of installation of the 2' by 4' mats, along with the ability to reuse the product, makes it the obvious choice over less durable ground protection systems. The open cell configuration provides support and drainage, as well as allowing sunlight to pass through to the underlying grass. Additionally, the flexibility of the mats allows them to conform to the contours of the ground while maintaining support and protection. The Georunners were installed under areas where event tents were located and would see heavy foot traffic. The mats were removed right after graduation and the turf looks great!



## Let's All Think Safety: Transporting Loads

Think about it. Getting behind the wheel of any vehicle comes with a "load" of responsibility. When transporting loads, the drivers are not only accountable for their actions behind the wheel, but also the equipment they're moving. According to AAA, every state has laws in place that make it illegal for items to fall from your vehicle and most state penalties result in fines ranging from \$10 to \$5,000. There are 16 states who list jail as a possible punishment for those whose failure to properly secure their load results in an accident.

Failing to maintain a safe fleet could have devastating consequences for all parties involved. For the safety of your employees and all who share the road, please take simple precautions to prevent anything from falling from your vehicles. Conduct regular preventive maintenance: Take care of foreseeable issues before they become problems. Inspect vehicles on schedule and be sure to repair any items that are discovered. CDL vehicles require daily pre-trip and post-trip inspections. This includes load securement!

When securing vehicle loads, make sure cargo is firmly secured on or within a vehicle by structures of adequate strength like dunnage or dunnage bags, shoring bars, tie downs or a combination of these tools.

Proper load securement, regular vehicle and equipment maintenance and attentive driving are the best ways for your organization to steer clear of trouble on the road.



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## Linda Towle Retires after 20 Years at Team EJP

Linda joined Team EJP on April 7, 1997, as the staff accountant. She quickly earned the respect and admiration of everyone around her and was soon promoted to Controller. Linda is reliably upbeat and professional, and she keeps accurate track of a mind-boggling array of numbers.

When asked about her favorite memories of working for Team EJP, Linda talked about the benefits of working for a family-owned business, where she has lots of direct contact with the owners. She stressed that it's great to be known as a real person, not just a "cog in the machine."

Linda feels that the biggest change during her time at EJP was the move to the new building 12 years ago. Moving out of a residential building and into a 53,000 square foot office/warehouse complex was "really nice!"

Linda's last day will be June 30. Her timing is perfect to enjoy a summer at their family camp by the lake.

Linda's successor, Stephen Cooper, is already on board, and has been working with her for the last month to absorb as much of her knowledge as possible.

Team EJP thanks Linda for her 20 years of dedication and outstanding service and wishes her the very best in her retirement.



*Linda has been guiding Steve through our software for the past four weeks.*

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