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### Program Summary – 2021

#### Introduction:

**CEU Plan** is an instructional course developer and online training provider dedicated to teaching and inspiring operators of drinking water and wastewater treatment plants since 1999. Based in Tampa Bay, Florida, **CEU Plan**'s reach extends around the globe through the CEU Plan website, <u>www.ceuplan.com</u>, and our secured website for state administrators of operator certification programs, <u>www.ceuplan.org</u>.

The state admin site is available to provide administrators with a quick reference to any policy or procedure of **CEU Plan**, as well as illustrating the various components of the training organization. The website provides various policy statements and instructional procedures, tutorials available to students, instructors' credentials, and much more. Website: www.ceuplan.org

**CEU Plan** trains basic, entry-level individuals, medium-to-advanced levels involved in the distribution systems, drinking water operators and technicians, DW support staff, laboratory practices and technicians, collection systems and wastewater treatment operators and technicians, along with supervisors and management personnel of regional treatment operations.

**CEU Plan** is accredited by IACET and meets the ANSI/IACET Standards 1-2018 for continuing education training. In order to achieve the accreditation, **CEU Plan** completed a rigorous application process, including a review by an IACET site visitor, and successfully demonstrated adherence to the ANSI/IACET standard, addressing the design, development, administration, and evaluation of its programs.

**CEU** Plan

**Course and Program Development:** 

The expansion of course curriculum, the involvement of subject matter experts, improved program functionality, and cutting-edge technologies in the operator training community have made CEU Plan an acknowledged leader in our field. The Instructor Group consists of highly experienced, subject matter experts with a combined experience in excess of 1,750 years. The Course Library has grown to over 300 relevant courses, available at any time for continuing education, as well as certification training.

Our long-term planning and program development allows students to utilize mobile technology, such as smart phones, IPads, tablets, and other new technologies in their training environment. These new mobile apps are revolutionizing the way people get their news and information – and their training. Are you ready? Soon, we will be faced with wearables and other devices now on the horizon that will provide technical assistance and new learning platforms. Understanding and incorporating these mobile devices into the training program is vital to meeting the requirements of young professionals.

Assessments and tracking/monitoring of the students' progress is made easier through distance education. The students' progress can be measured and evaluated to assist in their skill set improvements. The use of Need-to-Know criteria and developing the lesson plans to better transfer process techniques and troubleshooting concepts are vital to today's operator. The ole' days of counting minutes to hours to obtain ceu's are over, replaced by learning outcomes and objectives, i.e., what did you learn from that training course?

CEU Plan appreciates the opportunity to renew our Training Provider status with you. As indicated above, we have many policies and procedures, along with standard documents (evaluation forms, certificate of completion, etc.) available to you at any time, per your request.





# Program Description

**CEU Plan** is comprised of leading experts within the water and wastewater treatment industry providing a comprehensive online training program. **CEU Plan** is one of the first accredited online training programs providing continuing education units (CEU's) to operators across the country via the Internet; approved by ANSI/IACET (American National Standards Institute and the International Association of Continuing Education and Training.

The mission of *CEU Plan* is to provide water and wastewater treatment plant operators and supporting staff with the latest in emerging technologies, procedures, methods, and/or concepts; in order to enrich their knowledge and experience within the workplace and obtain required CEU's for license re-certification.

Our program and courses are 100% web based providing the operator (student) with the opportunity to concentrate on their courses at their leisure and available time. Unlike many programs which require you to drive to a school with overnight stay, find a replacement while in training, or taking off time for a training seminar, *CEU Plan* provides a convenient and efficient means of advancing the student's understanding and knowledge of various topics. Our course categories continue to expand offering a broad range of subjects and topics allowing the student the opportunity to select courses of interest and areas to improve upon. *CEU Plan* has standardized on seventeen categories to better serve each and every operator which include:

- Operation and Control of a Treatment Plant
- Treatment Processes
- Health and Safety
- Employment and Community Right-to-Know
- Toxic and Hazardous Materials Handling
- Solids and Residuals
- Supervision and Management
- Basic Chemistry and Biology
- Mathematics of the Treatment Process
- Laboratory Sampling Procedures
- Equipment Maintenance and Repair
- Computer Application for Water/Wastewater
- Blueprint Reading
- Government Rules & Regulations
- Back Flow Prevention and Cross Connection
- New or Alternative Technologies
- Distribution and Collection Systems

**CEU Plan** is a Florida based organization designed to provide online training for water and wastewater treatment plant operators for their license renewal. **CEU Plan** received approval from ANSI/IACET, as an Approved Provider to provide continuing education training. In addition, we have been approved over forty-nine (49) States across the country. The program has been online since September 2001 with over forty-four thousand registrations, to date. We would like to take this opportunity to illustrate and provide details to many different areas of our online training program to you.

**Course Curriculum:** *CEU Plan* has over two fifty hundred (250) courses available for water and wastewater treatment plant operators from operation and process control, treatment processes, health and safety, mathematics of a treatment plant, government rules and regulations, new technologies, and many more. The key to our program is the flexibility the operator has to select and choose topics or courses of their interest or areas that need strengthening. During the past cycle, CEU Plan had a sizeable number of professionals enrolling and taking their courses online with a peak daily enrollment of students without any interruptions. Today, we are prepared for any major surge with a bandwidth capacity over 900 gigs at any one moment, back-up dedicated servers to handle any major situation, full time staff for technical support and troubleshooting, and a rapidly growing course catalog. Our courses are divided into one, two, three, four, and five-hour courses.

The national standard for distance education, as developed by ANSI-IACET - American National Standards Institute and International Association of Continuing Education and Training, is the basis of our course development. CEU Plan is a member of ABC, AWWA, and WEF for many years, the Program Administrator, William Edgar, previously serving as Chair and Vice Chair of the Disinfection Committee, former member of the Program Committee, and previously served as Chair and Vice Chair of the WEF Professional Development Committee. And lastly, Edgar has been on the State of Florida DEP Certification Board for two decades.

The creation and development of a continuing education program can vary from the association requirements, internet features and options, system automation, and functionality. It depends on what you want. Currently, every state and association have different unique features to their program which provides the system and database they are comfortable with. It is important, to note, staying abreast of the continual changes in the distance education field provides a comfort to address and implement these future requirements for your continuing education program. *saceu*, a division of CEU Plan, is involved in custom instructional design of courses to meet your requirements and specifications.

**Course Instructors:** is a subject matter expert (SME) in the field and has prepared each online course. Our course outlines illustrate their experience and knowledge pertaining to the course. *CEU Plan* has leading researchers, academics, retired operators and managers, and professionals within the fields of water and wastewater, engineering, and regulatory agencies to provide quality assurance in the course curriculum. The Instructor Group is comprised of leading SME experts in the water and wastewater field with a combined experience in excess of 1,750 years. This Instructor Group is a unique feature of the *saceu* custom development program.

**Course Cost:** online courses start at \$ 11.95 per one-hour course, to \$ 29.95 for advanced graphic and streaming video presentations. *CEU Plan* intends to provide quality courses at a reasonable cost. A processing fee is attached to each registration to handle the cost associated with certificates of completion and reporting to the state. Our LMS - course registration system can include your state standardized course numbering system or course title for tracking purposes.

**Student Page:** upon registration for online courses, the student will receive his or her own personal student page which outlines each course [sections, Q &A's, evaluation form, and printing of their certificate], status of each course, and total amount of CEU's earned.

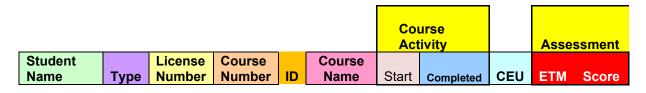
**Course Time:** each online course is divided into three sections for each one-hour course. Typically, each section is ten to fifteen minutes in classroom time with questions and answers pertaining to that section at the end of each section. Each section is comprised of a minimum of five single spaced pages of text, eight pages of graphics with text, or eight pages of graphics with streaming video clips inserted to provide for the fifteen-minute time element. After each section, the student will return to their student page, take the test questions; before going to the next section of their course. In each course, the overall minimum requirement of course contract time is based upon the ANSI/IACET standard, including the course material is twenty to twenty-one (20-21) pages of course material with graphics, along with a minimum of five (5) questions and answers per section (15 minimum/course) to equal an one hour course. All test questions are random selected for the student. In multi-hour courses, the sections and Q&As are the same pattern.

**Course Pass/Fail:** our system has the feature to require a passing percentage, should it be required. For example, should a 70% passing grade be required for completion of the student's training course; our system recognizes this requirement, whereby the student would not receive their course completion, unless an accumulative grade of 70% had been achieved. The completed course drops into the database, after the student achieves the percentage requirement. In review, the student must complete all course material, complete all questions and answers sections, achieve the accumulative passing grade (if required), prior to the evaluation form icon appearing on the student page.

**Course Evaluation:** upon completion of all course sections and Q&A's, the student will be required to fill-out an evaluation form which is e-mailed back to our office. In a short essay format, we require the student to list three things which they have learned from the course, followed by a 10–15-word description of how it was used at their job. This evaluation form is very important to us, to monitor and record comments of our students and their input to our instructors concerning their course.

**Certificate of Completion:** upon completion of the above (course sections, Q&A's, and the evaluation form), the student will receive his or her Certificate of Completion for that course via electronic mail. The certificate will illustrate your approved course seal, either the course title and/or your state course number. At the end of each reporting period, *CEU Plan* forwards a consolidated report to the State of the total CEU credits earned by each operator (student) for that period; should it be required.

**Database Reporting:** At the end of each reporting period, *CEU Plan* forwards a consolidated report to the State of the total CEU credits earned by each professional (student) for that period; should it be required. The database report includes the following:



Assessment: ETM (elapsed time/minutes) - actual time spent in the training course Score - accumulative scores of quizzes, average of all course sections

CEU Plan has the experience and in-place facilities to provide you with a LMS (Learning Management System) to meet current and future requirements. Our LMS has been tested and proven to withstand hurricanes, internet hackers, and power outages. It is a system which provides ease in operations and navigation and it is operator friendly.

**Learning Management System:** Our Learning Management System includes complete tracking and monitoring capabilities with reporting features including student name, license number, and course approval codes and credits, and generates reports on a monthly, quarterly, or other specific time interval. In addition, we are able to provide individual tracking on any student to include accumulative grade scores, verification of logins and time. We utilize a SQL database storage system and our site is totally secured with a SSL 128-bit encryption directly to our e-commerce. Our system requires a minimum Windows 7 operating system with standard Microsoft software for ease in transmitting data. No proprietary software or hardware is utilized, for maximum interface with other systems.

Our dedicated servers are located in one of the largest data centers in the country, with huge fiber commitments with the following carriers, totaling over 10 Gigabit of Ethernet Core, all switch-based internet network, backbone connections from Level 3, MCI, and Time Warner. The main datacenter is housed in a 30,000 square foot facility with over 15,000 square feet of hosting space available, located in Tampa, Florida.

**Datacenter:** the datacenter starts with multiple and diverse pipes into the Internet backbone. They have connections ranging over 47 Gbps in total bandwidth capacity, to UUNet, Qwest, Level 3, Global Crossing and MCI. To handle multi-homed connections, they employ routing through the CISCO edge routers to pick faster route for our Internet traffic. They have close relationships with networking leaders such as CISCO, Juniper and HP to provision our internal network with the latest and the most sophisticated networking gears. This allows our network to operate smoothly and with minimal translation interruptions. Their dual layered network design with multiple routers and switches with independent network paths ensures that there are no single points of failures.

The datacenter features redundant power and HVAC systems, multiple redundant fiber connections, advanced fire suppression capabilities, and VPM connections to other datacenters for secure internal connections. The Tampa Bay datacenter is part of a worldwide Global Datacenter with operations in Chicago, Austin, Tampa, and Vancouver; with continental operations in London, Seoul, and Sydney. The overall operation includes over 10,000 servers managed with a peak bandwidth usage of 47 Gbps and available bandwidth approximately 100 Mbps port, fully burstable.

The power supply to the Tampa Facility includes feeds from multiple substations with a four battery backup UPS, supplied by MGE which insure against temporary outages and sufficiently power for the entire operation. The backup generators are very important to an operation of this size with one 750 KW and one 400 KW diesel driven generators to protect the entire facility. The facility is a fully redundant with an automated and monitored transfer switching system.

The internal environment is monitored and controlled through a dedicated N+1 redundant cooling and ventilation system 24x7x365 to ensure that the temperature and humidity levels are kept at the optimal level. This system includes a 250 ton of cooling capacity with an N+1 redundancy Liebert equipment system. The fire suppression system is Intergen (successor to FM-200) in most datacenter facilities.

The Network Operations Center (NOC) is staffed 24 hours a day/seven days a week to monitor the facility, network, and server infrastructures. The NOC staff is certified experts in network and system administration. Network traffic never stops and neither does their work to safeguard our hosted systems. All critical system and network health and performance information is fed into our early warning system and any abnormalities are investigated and reacted to instantly.

The datacenter sit on top of the major Internet backbone networks. The fiber connections to the datacenter are routed through multiple communication conduits to ensure fail-over. The ultra-secure datacenter is built to withstand the toughest physical and virtual conditions. The datacenter is segregated into different logical and physical partitions to limit and control access to only those who need it and to minimize damage if, however unlikely, intrusion occurs. Access to the entire datacenter space is controlled through multiple security checkpoints, which include both security guards and keycard entries. Each segregated and tiered partition can only be accessed by passing through additional security checkpoints. Access to the datacenter space is strictly controlled and is limited to a select few. When entering the data center, all collocation customers are escorted and monitored by one of the NOC staff. The datacenter is constantly observed through a closed-circuit video monitoring system that records every movement made.

We would be pleased to answer any question or provide details of our totally automated system to track, monitor, and report students for our program. We have been involved in various conferences and demonstrations during the past five years to obtain and develop the unique operating system. Our programming staff has developed our own internal system to provide prompt response to any technical support, troubleshooting, or administrative requirement, when it is required. Our system has been tested and re-tested to provide for as foolproof system as possible, however we continue to work on perfecting the system to maintain and upgrade, as the industry changes.

Our **.org** site is our administrative site which has been designed for the state reviewer. It will provide them with access to our courses via a pdf format, where they can review any course online, course summary and many additional features in the future. We realize staffing has been cut-back and it is difficult to review all courses from us, as well as, others. We want to streamline our new course offerings providing them with quick access, blanket approval program for activating any of our new courses when they are available, and enhanced learning techniques for environmental professionals to retain the continuing education courses utilized on the job.

We would appreciate your consideration and approval of our program. Should you have any questions, want to audit any of our courses, or require additional information, we would be pleased to provide it to you. *CEU Plan* is committed to providing a quality program and developing online courses and topics for the environmental professional to choose from. We would appreciate your input and suggestions to our program, to serve you and your state association.

I, William W. Edgar, certify and confirm that all information provided with this proposal, discussion of our courses and online training programming are accurate to the best of my knowledge and that a database will be established for recording and maintaining records of all courses taken and credits assigned to each and every water or wastewater professional. Should you have any questions or require additional information pertaining to our program or this proposal, please feel free to contact me directly at (352) 754-1259 or e-mail at: wwedgar@ceuplan.org

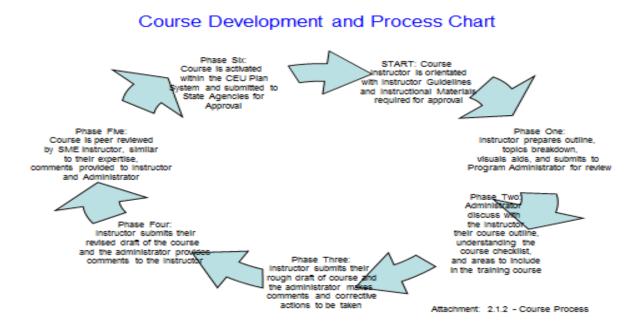
Sincerely,

William W. Edgar Program Administrator



## Instructional Course Design

CEU Plan utilizes the instructional course design worksheet developed by IACET. This worksheet is prepared for each course to show the relationship between identified needs, learning outcomes, types of instruction and assessment methods. The below Course Development and Process Chart illustrates the six phases of instructional course design.



Once the Instructor is oriented in the CEU Plan process for course development, the first tier of beta testing takes place. The Program Administrator and Instructor review the objectives of the training course, along with the Need-to-Know criteria included in the course. This phase includes discussing the visual aids with the topics breakdown, inserting pertinent "war stories" as well as actual experiences of the Instructor and following the course checklist for development. Between phases two and three, these aspects of the training course are refined and submitted for review by CEU Plan. Upon completion of these design phases, the course goes into phase four, where the Technical Director interfaces and begins to implement content into the Course Content Templates. This very important phase allows everyone involved to electronically review the course in a rough draft format and to assess areas for improvement. During this phase, a second beta test of the training course is conducted to include an assessment by an independent subject matter expert, who reviews the course content for accuracy, verifies fact checking and content completion time. At the conclusion of these instructional design phases, the course is reviewed by the Technical Director and Instructor for any minor typo or similar correction required. And lastly, the Program Administrator verifies the above review and performs a final audit of the training course - learning outcomes, course content, exam - questions and answers, and overall review of the final course checklist; prior to activation.

To provide a visual illustration of the Instructional Course Design Worksheet, third tier of beta testing, and student comments and feedback; we offer the following three one-hour courses.

- CEU Plan ID # 313 Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded? CEU Plan ID # 315 – Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervision
- CEU Plan ID # 319 Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water

In these samples, you will find the breakdown of the learning outcomes for each course section; you will observe the method used in the learning styles and assessment, and instructional materials used. The allotted time is broken down into the amount of time for the sectional content followed by the amount of time for assessment (one minute for each exam question). We do not time the essay portion of the student feedback; however, 5 to 10 minutes could be included for the assessment exercise. The cumulative time chart listed below the Design Document provides the results of the second tier of beta testing. This beta test is performed internally and must meet the CEU requirements of the course; prior to activation. The next item is the Student Feedback which is taken directly from the essay requirements of the course. These student comments are not judged on grammar or typos, but on the student's cognitive knowledge transfer and expression of the student's understanding of the training course and its content. This feedback is very important to CEU Plan and is utilized in the development and improvements of the training courses. And lastly, the Beta Test--Students is our third tier of testing. We randomly select students to make note of their progress in the courses, measuring the amount of time spent to complete the course, reviewing their assessment scores, and evaluating their essays and feedback. Typically, ten students are selected from the course completion roster for the third-tier beta test.



## **CEU Plan – Content & Instructional Course Design Worksheet**

## CEU Plan # 313 - Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded?

Activation - 10.07.2020 Instructor: Alan Bowers

amount of course hours: ONE

Unit/Lesson Name	Time Allotted	Content Description and/or Purpose	List Learning Outcomes	Method Used (Demonstrate Accommodation of Different Learning Styles	Assessment Method	Instructional Materials Used	Comments/ Notes
Section 1	content: 10.17 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 20 minutes	History of Lead in Drinking Water origin current Issues Health Matters	<ul> <li>explain the history of lead pipes</li> <li>describe the health risks associated with Lead Service Lines (LSL)</li> <li>indicate locations for human exposure to lead</li> </ul>	Text with Streaming Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to- Know criteria	Computed based exam Online monitor of student's progress measured in score Percent (70% min) pass/fail	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course content section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required text reading in their course enrollment confirmation – Auto response At the conclusion of the course section, instructions to proceed to the quiz will be indicated

Lesson Name	Time	Content Description	Learning Outcomes	Learning Styles	<b>Assessment</b>	Instructional Materials	<b>Comments</b>
Section 2	content: 13.12 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 23 minutes	Drinking Water Standards & Legislative Efforts related to Lead	<ul> <li>discuss the development of the USEPA Lead and Copper Rule</li> <li>indicate the timeline of regulatory updates to lead limitation limits</li> <li>describe the specific actions taken to implement Corrosion Control and removal of Lead pipes</li> </ul>	Text with Streaming Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to- Know criteria	Computed based exam Online monitor of student's progress measured in score Percent (70% min) pass/fail	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course content section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required assignments in the top header of the content section. At the conclusion of the course section, instructions to proceed to the quiz will be indicated
Section 3 Final Course Requirements	content: 19.47 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 29 Minutes	Corrosion and Corrosion Control Treatment and What Happened in Flint, MI	<ul> <li>explain the chemical reaction in LSLs</li> <li>compare the scale formation and potential solutions</li> <li>define the "Langelier Index" use for corrosion determination of LSLs</li> </ul>	Text with Streaming Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to- Know criteria	Final Exam Essay – listing 3 things learned and how they apply to their workplace Online monitor of student's progress measured in score Percent (70% min) pass/fail	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course material section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images Complete Evaluation form	Inform students of the required assignments in the header of the last section At the conclusion of this section, instructions to proceed to the final quiz will be indicated. Followed by the Evaluation form and essay requirement

#### Accumulative Time:

sec 1 =	20					
sec 2 =	23					
sec 3 =	29					

accumulative time total : 72 minutes = 1 hours = 0.1 CEU

\*\* standard beta allows one minute for each question and answer. The essay requirement listing three things that they have learned from the course with a 10-15 word description of each thing is a non-measured time element of the course; it is not included the beta testing.

#### **Student Feedback:**

• Interesting case study on Flint, Michigan. Major source of problem was cost savings, improper review of Detroit vs Flint water quality which lead to multiple problems with lead, THMs, corrosion, etc.

• 1. Never change source waters without jar testing 2. never falsify test results on lead samples 3. always make sure the water is stable and not corrosive. the story on flint Michigan was somewhat bad due to the people in charge dropped the ball and did not do their job. CEU plan does a great job at presenting valuable information

• The history of why lead was used in plumbing (pb) What happened in Flint, no corrosion control Laws that have been placed to help prevent lead contamination All was very interesting and relevant. Flint was a great case study in what not to do in preventing lead contamination.

• The use of ortho phosphate in corrosion control. How to use pH and the Langlier index for corrosion control. A better understanding of the Flint Michigan issue.

• 5 micrograms/deciliter is the blood action level blood levels have decreased in time through awareness, education, and legislation In 1986 there was a ban on Lead plumbing. Once again, we are just finishing up another round of lead and copper rule testing and the more knowledge we have the better.

• Orthophosphate is used in corrosion control. Legionella became an issue for Flint Mi. The acceptable range for LI is -0.3 to 0.3. I work in the drinking water industry at a drinking water treatment facility.

• being from a small water system were lucky we have replaced our mains and service lines in the 70s and we are still replacing lines today

• Lead is always a problem especially for acidic water it must be controlled for the safety of customers of which operators are also customers

• rules testing cause of issue learned more than i expected from this course thank you

### **Beta Testing - Students**

#### course # 313 - Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded

one-hour course

Beta Testing Update: 1-06-2021

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total - ETM	Avg/Sec	Beta Test Compariso	n
Section 1	20	22	38	20	20	34	21	20	25	22	170	21	2nd Tier	3rd Tier
Section 2	24	24	25	24	28	23	23	29	23	24	247	24	71	74
Section 3	52	37	42	29	29	29	30	29	33	122	179	29		
Total - ETM	96	83	105	73	77	86	74	78	81	168		74		

		completion
1 -	Robert Killen	Jan-21
2 -	Gary Thrift	Dec-20
3 -	Chris Scaggs	Dec-20
4 -	Miguel Perez	Dec-20
5 -	Danielle Fisher	Dec-20
6 -	George Stoddart	Dec-20
7 -	Brenda Boynton	Dec-20
8 -	Cory Teuscher	Dec-20
9 -	Erin Mooer	Dec-20
10 -	James Reinard	Dec-20

**Testing Notes:** 

• ETM = elapsed time in minutes, in order to minimize confusion;

all course studies are measured in minutes, whereas CEUs are presented in hours

- statistics indicated in red boxes are deleted in the test, as over the standard deviations
- these measurements are actual accumulations of student's study time in minutes/section
- column M Avg/Sec: is the average of measured study time minus the standard deviations (RED BOX)
- Beta Test Comparison: compares the original beta test 2nd tier performed after completion of the course production is completed and prior to IACET activation. The 3rd tier results are the student actual participation in the course studies. These two beta test statistics are compared, along with review of student essay response; in evaluating the course delivery to IACET Standards.



## **CEU Plan – Content & Instructional Course Design Worksheet**

#### Activation - 06.15.2020

**CEU Plan # 315 - Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors** 

Instructor: Tom Hofer amount of course hours: one

Unit/Lesson Name	Time Allotted	Content Description and/or Purpose	List Learning Outcomes	Method Used (Demonstrate Accommodation of Different Learning Styles	Assessment Method	Instructional Materials Used	Comments/ Notes
Section 1 315-01	content: 16.32 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 26 minutes	LEADERSHIP BASICS for Utility Supervisors	<ul> <li>define leadership as a concept</li> <li>distinguish between leadership and management of utility operators</li> <li>demonstrate examples of leadership in the utility operator workplace</li> </ul>	Streaming Based Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Video Clip illustrating content within this section	Computer Based Exam	Required view of streaming clip, via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course material section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required text reading in their course enrollment confirmation At the conclusion of the course section, instructions to proceed to the quiz will be indicated.

Lesson Name	Time	Content Description	Learning Outcomes	Learning Styles	Assessment	Instructional Materials	Comments
Section 2 315-02	content: 19.31 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 29 minutes	DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN THE WORKPLACE	<ul> <li>list the leadership attributes and describe how they are shown in the leader</li> <li>state the 3 general principles of leader- ship and how they relate between the leader and followers</li> <li>describe the role of the leader as a trainer in the workplace</li> </ul>	Streaming Based Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to-Know criteria	Computer Based Exam	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course material section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required assignments in the top header of the content section. At the conclusion of the course section, instructions to proceed to the quiz will be indicated.
Section 3 Final Course Requirements 315-03	content: 17.39 Minutes quiz: minutes 10 accumulative: 27 Minutes	CASE STUDIES AND LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES	<ul> <li>define and provide examples of insider threats in the workplace</li> <li>list the possible traits of a disaffected employee</li> <li>implement solutions to the leadership issues identified as practical leadership comments</li> <li>from the case studies, identify the leadership attributes on display or their lack</li> </ul>	Streaming Based Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Video Clip illustrating content within this section	Computer Based Exam Final Course Essay and Evaluation form	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take final quiz upon completion of course material section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required assignments in the top header of the content section. Complete the essay and evaluation form, prior to course being complete.

Accumulative Time:

sec 1 =	26				
sec 2 =	29				
sec 3 =	27				

#### accumulative time total: 82 minutes = 1 hours = 0.1 CEU

\*\* standard beta allows one minute for each question and answer. The essay requirement listing three things that they have learned from the course with a 10-15 word description of each thing is a non-measured time element of the course; it is not included the beta testing.

Assessment Analysis- Level 3 - CEU Plan Beta Testing was performed on January 6, 2021. Upon course activation, student feedback and comments has been reflected in the final beta testing results, along with accumulative average of student tracking and monitoring posted during the November - January 2021 test period. The Level 1 and Level 2 Beta Testing were completed and comply with the ANSI I IACET 1-2018 Standard, along with the internal review by CEU Plan.

#### Student Feedback:

• Was very good and covered a lot of information. Hard to absorb so much info in an hour course. Motivate-different styles to motivate for different settings and people. Seek to go 1st-as a leader you should be the 1st to do what you would ask of your people. Be solution-be part of the solution and not part of the problem. Be positive and set the example to be followed.

• 1. The difference between leadership and management. 2. The importance of leading by example. If you want people to be on time then you BE ON TIME. 3. Developing leadership skills for the workplace. The information in this course is priceless. Very well put together and will help in my future leadership challenges. This course was phenomenal! Well done Thomas Hofer! Good choice CEU Plan

• 1. leadership and management are 2 different things 2 a good leader leads by example and going first 3. disaffected employees are a killer to morale leaders need to be able to listen and gather facts before making moves. This was a good program with many benefits.

• Types of leadership and characteristics of a good leader. The importance of knowing those you are leading. It is always important to have good leadership skills even if you are not in a leadership position. Thought this was a great course. Enjoyed the movie clips and thought they illustrated the points very well.

• It is important to lead by example; at our programs all staff are involved and leaders participate in all aspects of the program. Communication is the highest priority; at our organization we have weekly meetings to keep everyone updated and

to keep everyone on the same page. The difference between leadership and management; I will focus more on leading vs managing. I like the convenience of your CEU plan. I really enjoyed Tom's presentation, it had very good videos.

• LEARNED COMMUNICATION IS VITAL, DEAL WITH PROBLEMS RIGHT AWAY, GET TO KNOW YOUR EMPLOYEES, ACT PROFESSIONAL

• 1.leading employees 2. dealing with bad apples 3. great motivational quotes I deal with many different personalities, and I like to think I deal with them all equally.

• leaders lead driven by self-esteem i feel this course was very good and you should keep doing it leading is used more with upper management but still good to know

• Leadership vs Management - I see different leadership styles with some mid-level positions and mostly management styles from higher positions in our organization, unfortunately top positions lack leadership skills. Leadership attributes - communication is a high priority as well as knowing the operation. This is used daily in my work place with my staff. Disaffected followers can be a problem and I will look for the signs with employees and will try engage them to make changes.

• What types of leadership there are. How to treat employees to get the best out of them. How to deal with employees that have issues with you. I will better know how to deal with employees going forward.

• 1. Leadership is developing personal qualities and motivational techniques to move people toward an intended goal. 2. The attribute of vision is putting the needs of the followers first and inspiring them to perform. 3. The main problem with shooting the messenger approach of leadership is people will be afraid to bring up problem issues when they do occur. Leadership effects all aspects of the utility's performance. The course works well with the other courses in the series.

• Empathize with people and ask how they are doing, not currently used at my job. know your followers and communicate to followers, set the example

### **Beta Testing - Students**

#### course # 315 - Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors - one hour

course

Beta Testing Update: 1-06-2021

													Beta Test	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total - ETM	Avg/Sec	Compariso	n
Section 1	149	31	54	34	37	19	42	49	32	27	180	30	2nd Tier	3rd Tier
Section 2	54	30	29	31	41	124	29	38	16	30	203	29	71	87
Section 3	28	30	55	29	30	26	28	28	28	27	254	28		
Total - ETM	231	91	138	94	108	169	99	115	76	84		87		

	completion
Andrew Fenske	Jan-21
Tony Lindemann	Dec-20
Frank Potter	Dec-20
Joseph Jackson	Dec-20
George Stoddart	Dec-20
John Kadowaki	Nov-20
William Younger	Nov-20
Roger Parr	Nov-20
Andrew Wrenn	Nov-20
Barry Dillon	Oct-20
	Tony Lindemann Frank Potter Joseph Jackson George Stoddart John Kadowaki William Younger Roger Parr Andrew Wrenn

**Testing Notes:** 

• ETM = elapsed time in minutes, in order to minimize confusion;

all course studies are measured in minutes, whereas CEUs are presented in hours

- statistics indicated in red boxes are deleted in the test, as over the standard deviations
- these measurements are actual accumulations of student's study time in minutes/section
- column M Avg/Sec: is the average of measured study time minus the standard deviations (RED BOX)
- Beta Test Comparison: compares the original beta test 2nd tier performed after completion of the course production is completed and prior to IACET activation. The 3rd tier results are the student actual participation in the course studies. These two beta test statistics are compared, along with review of student essay response; in evaluating the course delivery to IACET Standards.



International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training

## **CEU Plan – Content & Instructional Course Design Worksheet**

**CEU Plan # 319 - Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water** 

#### activated: 10.06.2020 Instructor: Lisa Daconta

amount of course hours: One

Unit/Lesson Name	Time Allotted	Content Description and/or Purpose	List Learning Outcomes	Method Used (Demonstrate Accommodation of Different Learning Styles	Assessment Method	Instructional Materials Used	Comments/ Notes
1 <sup>st</sup> Section	content: 11.36 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 21 minutes	Solutes, Solvents, Solutions, and Concentrations	<ul> <li>explain some chemical terms used in water treatment</li> <li>compare the different solution terms</li> <li>indicate the concentration of the liquid</li> </ul>	Text with Streaming Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to- Know criteria	Computed based exam Online monitor of student's progress measured in score Percent (70% min) pass/fail	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course content section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required text reading in their course enrollment confirmation – Auto response At the conclusion of the course section, instructions to proceed to the quiz will be indicated

Lesson Name	Time	Content Description	Learning Outcomes	Learning Styles	<b>Assessment</b>	Instructional Materials	<b>Comments</b>
Section 2	content: 13.36 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 23 minutes	Precipitation	<ul> <li>describe the chemical reaction when lead ions are present in the water where sodium hydroxide is ADD in the test tube</li> <li>what is a precipitate?</li> <li>explain the agent that entered the Flint MI water supply</li> </ul>	Text with Streaming Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to- Know criteria	Computed based exam Online monitor of student's progress measured in score Percent (70% min) pass/fail	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course content section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images	Inform students of the required assignments in the top header of the content section. At the conclusion of the course section, instructions to proceed to the quiz will be indicated
Section 3	content: 17.08 Minutes quiz: 10 minutes accumulative: 27 minutes	Oxidation and Corrosion Inhibitors	<ul> <li>compare some of the Lead levels between Newark, NJ and Flint, MI case studies</li> <li>explain the use of ortho-phosphate to the water supply</li> <li>indicate the difference between Lead and Copper</li> </ul>	Text with Streaming Online monitor of student's progress measured in elapsed time (in minutes) Reinforcement Techniques: utilize images and illustrations for double Reinforcement of Need-to- Know criteria	Final Exam Essay – listing 3 things learned and how they apply to their workplace Online monitor of student's progress measured in score Percent (70% min) pass/fail	Required view of streaming clip, listen to audio presentation via streaming – take quiz upon completion of course material section View table, Charts, and Photograph Images Complete Evaluation form	Inform students of the required assignments in the header of the last section At the conclusion of this section, instructions to proceed to the final quiz will be indicated. Followed by the Evaluation form and essay requirement

Accumulative Time:

sec 1 = 21 sec 2 = 23 sec 3 =

accumulative time total : 71 minutes = 1 hours = 0.1 CEU

27

#### standard beta allows one minute for each question and answer. The essay requirement listing three things that they have learned from the course with a 10 - 15-word description of each thing is a non-measured time element of the course; it is not included the beta testing.

Assessment Analysis- Level 3 - CEU Plan Beta Testing was performed on January 6, 2021. Upon course activation, student feedback and comments has been reflected in the final beta testing results, along with accumulative average of student tracking and monitoring posted during the November - January 2021 test period. The Level 1 and Level 2 Beta Testing were completed and comply with the ANSI I IACET 1-2018 Standard, along with the internal review by CEU Plan.

#### **Student Feedback:**

• 1. Corrosion inhibitors can remedy lead problems by causing lead to precipitate into a solid, and not pass into the drinking water supply 2. A solvent is a liquid, like water, that can dissolve a solute into a solution. (i.e. Cls tablets in a water tank) 3. Boiling water with lead actually compounds the problem (removing solvent and concentrating solute)

• Great review of chemistry terms- solvent, solute, solution, miscible, oxidizer, precipitate Great explanation on additional health concerns that occurred with Flint water I learned more about Newark lead water issue than I had known previously. I am a chemist, and work at a water treatment facility.

• 1 solvents and soluble make solutions 2 lead in the insoluble state can be removed from water 3 flint Michigan and Newark new jersey are prime examples of public servants failing the people and harming the industry

• I learned about solutions, concentration, and dilution I learned that the solute is what is being dissolved. I learned that the solvent is what does the dissolving. I leaned that concentration is the ratio of solute per amount of solution or solvent. We are constantly running metals samples, so it's a good refresher on definitions.

• The difference between solvents and solutions What miscible means Causes of lead to get into drinking water Fundamental chemistry of all of this course was very useful in helping prevent lead and sampling for lead in drinking water.

• What a solute is. What happened in Flint, Michigan? How an anti-corrosive agent works. Learning more about the Flint Michigan case/ Finding out about the Newark New Jersey case. Use of orthophosphates, boiling waters effect on lead in water.

• The courses are excellent refreshers in chemistry. I like the courses because they offer CEU credits online and away from the workplace where you can work at your own pace. Keep adding courses. I learned about solvents I learned about solutes I learned about solutions and concentration.

• I operate a small system for healthcare facility and we have to corrosion control. If not, we get a high copper result. I use caustic in our water to increase ph. I really like ceu plan since I don't have access to go places to take classes. Offer as many new classes as possible.

• what happened in flint...that Kool aid is a solute... orange water is probably iron in the water.

## **Beta Testing - Students**

course # 319 - Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water - one hour course

Beta Testing Update: 1-06-2021

													Beta Test	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total - ETM	Avg/Sec	Compariso	n
Section 1	21	21	22	21	21	31	21	23	47	44	150	21	2nd Tier	3rd Tier
Section 2	23	23	23	25	24	23	23	26	31	25	215	23	71	71
Section 3	27	27	52	27	35	27	27	28	39	29	192	27		
Total - ETM	71	71	97	73	80	81	71	77	117	98		71		

		completion
1 -	Robert Killen	Jan-21
2 -	Miguel Perez	Jan-21
3 -	Gary Thrift	Dec-20
4 -	Danielle Fisher	Dec-20
5 -	Peter Dostert	Dec-20
6 -	Dustin Parker	Dec-20
7 -	Dan Mahoney	Dec-20
8 -	Phil Chick	Dec-20
9 -	George Stoddart	Dec-20
10 -	Cory Teuscher	Dec-20

**Testing Notes:** 

- ETM = elapsed time in minutes, in order to minimize confusion;
  - all course studies are measured in minutes, whereas CEUs are presented in hours
- statistics indicated in red boxes are deleted in the test, as over the standard deviations
- these measurements are actual accumulations of student's study time in minutes/section
- column M Avg/Sec: is the average of measured study time minus the standard deviations (RED BOX)
- Beta Test Comparison: compares the original beta test 2nd tier performed after completion of the course production is completed and prior to IACET activation. The 3rd tier results are the student actual participation in the course studies. These two beta test statistics are compared, along with review of student essay response; in evaluating the course delivery to IACET Standards.

## Typical - Training Provider Specifications

An approved online training provider may be an organization or an individual, and shall be responsible for the following:

- exhibiting a high standards of professional conduct with respect to all students
- ensuring that qualified instructors or subject matter experts are used in the instructional design of the training course and are approved by the \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- obtaining approval before the training occurs and delivering the training as approved
- tracking, monitoring, recording, and reporting of successful training completion
- displaying a high level of relevant and current technical knowledge of subject matter
- illustrating students' learning styles and needs with the instructional course design

The training shall include and provide the student with learning objectives. Visual aids, graphics, and student activities must be included in the training course. Training should be designed to allow the instructor, training provider, or subject-matter expert to track and monitor the students' progress, review assessments to include feedback, and determine that the student has successfully completed the assignment. Learning assessments shall be measurable, observable, clearly stated, and focused on student performance. The training must include "hands-on" exercises, in accordance with the

Prior to the student's enrollment or sign up, provider must notify prospective participants of all requirements, including fees, successful completion requirements and the process for reporting their training. Approved online training organizations shall have procedures to verify student identity, contact time with the learning source, and successful completion. Providers are required to retain and ensure the accuracy of records, for a minimum of eight years to validate successful training completion for certification. Training shall be verifiable from the provider LMS records.

After the \_\_\_\_\_\_, has reviewed the training, it will send written notification of approval, denial, or deficiencies in the application materials or training. Written approvals may also include conditions. The training must meet all general requirements of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ standards and contain content addressing the knowledge and skills determined necessary to perform critical tasks associated with the treatment of water or wastewater. Training events must not be advertised as "approved" until written approval is received from \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Upon approval, any advertisements should clearly inform students of all requirements and costs to complete their training and to report training credits to \_\_\_\_\_\_. Training providers may be asked to update a course or manual to ensure that it complies with the latest rules and regulations of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Standard. \_\_\_\_\_\_ may request that approved training be re-submitted for review in response to changes in rules, policy, technology, or industry standards or in response to complaints. The online training provider will have an opportunity to revise the training to comply with current requirements or eliminate identified problems; however, failure to comply with a training recall may result in modifying or rescinding an existing approval.

Any quoted or reproduced material that is not an original creation of the training provider must be sourced and such reproduction or quotation must comply with the "fair use" provisions of federal copyright law. It is the responsibility of the training provider, to safeguard and secure all student records related to but not limited to: student contact information, e-mail address, contact phone number and/or social security number.

Instructors must be approved by the \_\_\_\_\_\_ and have adequate teaching experience to enable them to communicate clearly and effectively at all learning levels of the student and to perform consistently with the objectives of the training course and program. In the event that an instructor is determined unqualified and not \_\_\_\_\_ approved to teach a course, the training provider will lose approval for the course, unless a qualified instructor is employed as a replacement.

#### **Distance Education**

Distance learning occurs when the student is separated by place and time from instructors or other learning resources. Knowledge is acquired through various training formats, where the student controls the pace of the training, i.e. self-study. The approved online training provider shall meet all

\_\_\_\_\_ Standards related to the minimum contact time for certification training. Verification of training time, student identity, and successful completion of performance-based assessments are required for approval of distance learning.

#### Approval Criteria:

■ Online-based training requires the student to interact with the computer such as the keyboard, computer monitor, screen, and supplemental pdf activities. Distance training may only be submitted for review and approval from the following groups:

- governmental authorities, state and federal regulatory agencies;
- non-profit industry associations, nationally recognized industry associations;
- colleges listed by accrediting agencies and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education,
- individuals or organizations that demonstrate comparable expertise and knowledge of, and experience with, educational principles and effective instructional course design as determined by the IACET 1-2013 Standards; accredited IACET Training Provider.

#### The Online Training Provider must:

- comply with the general rules and regulations of the \_\_\_\_\_ Standards, the distance learning requirements listed above, and the delivery standards listed below:
  - achieve learning objectives and listed for each chapter or course section
  - incorporate the use of graphics, streaming clips, simulations, animations, scenarios and student activities, review questions, and assignments to assist the student with the needto-know criteria; develop - perform beta testing of all course content for \_\_\_\_\_ compliance;
  - provide students with reasonable access to the instructor or qualified experts who can answer their questions within reasonable time frame - one business day;
  - supply each student with course description summary and instructor profile, describe the availability and contact procedures for technical support for both course content and program policies;
  - periodically test students' comprehension of the training material throughout the course;
  - include tracking and monitoring of student's progress and assessments in written formats and hands-on exercises;
  - establish the date of completion of the training as the date the final performance assessment(s) are submitted, including any assignments or projects as part of the training, if the student has met the grading – pass-fail criteria. Provide student with certificate of completion for the training course;
  - submit a copy of each course-completion roster of the student's completion to \_\_\_\_\_, to include the provider name and number, student name and identification number, course name and number, CEU hours earned for the certification training, and completion date.

## Developing an Electronic Spreadsheet for Training Providers

For many years, I have researched and implemented reporting documents for continuing education credits. We are blessed today with some credits being utilized for the student (operator) certification training hours. Technology has allowed us to report and consolidate data in a streamlined process, to the extent that all vital data can be contained on one page. The important data, broken into vertical columns on a simple spreadsheet, allow for identification of vital personal data as well as subject matter of importance, presenting everything on one page and minimizing the whistles and bells that are better left to other reporting breakdowns.

The first and most important column is the name identification. Consolidating the name in one vertical column is standard, ordered by Last/First Name, since we have some Seniors and Juniors; thus placing the first name after the last has become the universal standard. In the second vertical column is the license type (DW, DS, WW, CS, etc.,) which is especially important when a long term objective is to separate accounting and compliance of training credit hours by license type. In some cases, a centralized ID numbering system is assigned for long term application or is utilized today, whether it is called Client ID, Operator ID, or License ID; this vertical column could be eliminated where unnecessary. The next column would be the unique license or identification number; this numeric would be available to cross reference against the Last/First Name, allowing for cross reference between the operator's name and his or her licenses. In the illustration below, you will see the layout of these vertical columns:

A B		С	D E		F	G	н і	J	K	
						Course	Activity		Δεερ	ssment
Student				CEU	Course				ASSC	Sameric
Name	Туре	License #	Course #	ID	Name	Start	Completed	CEU	ETM	Score

The next series of vertical columns should be arranged to display the course number, its reference number, the name of the course, the credits to be applied and the dates of completion. To better illustrate these columns, let's start with the column after the license identification number. This vertical column could be listed as "D," should you be utilizing the full column layout shown above. Course Number - Approved Course ID would be illustrated here, as an indicator of the course identification and its process. In the next column (E), this is an optional column for miscellaneous identification or training labeling - such as: PC - NPC (process control vs non process control), S (safety), OM (operation and maintenance), X (management or safety), or any of numerous arrangements to gauge and monitor training subject matter or topics, along with a long term option of gauging operators' training /skill sets. The next column is very important as a cross reference to the course code number. By listing the name of the course, that is, its title, one eliminates the blind

referencing of course numbers. It facilitates a verification step or cross reference by a student, an operator, the compliance staff or employer to validate involvement in the course. This brings us to two major aspects of course validation in tracking and monitoring – the number of contact hours, and the date of completion.

As illustrated under the Course Activity columns (G & H), you will find two vertical columns stating Start and Completion. The benefit for <u>accurate</u> reporting of the actual start date and actual completion dates will allow for evaluating the length of time the student was engaged with the training course. It is practical to assess the amount of time, length of the training and duration of interactivity, along with any unique assessment tools, in the record of training. Many database reports of today state a START date, but prefer you to insert the actual course completion date. This minor error needs to be addressed and corrected, to state: Completion Date, as it will provide numerous benefits and long term advantages. The next column would be the actual Completion Date. This provides a gauge of the duration of the training; did the student take one - two days, two weeks, four months, or four years? It is difficult for educators to issue credits for a training course when it takes two years to complete, or even six months -- what has the student learned? In addition, regulations are now being incorporated to state that training courses may not exceed four-to-six months in duration; no credits will be allowed for courses started and completed outside of that time frame. These columns allow for for compliance checks, should these regulations be enforced or planned for the future of your training program.

The next column (I) is the number of CEUs. The ANSI / IACET Standards (American National Standards Institute - International Association of Continuing Education Training) establish the tracking, monitoring and reporting of course completion credits in units of one hour.

One Hour = 0.1 Five Hours = 0.5 Ten Hours = 1.0

These illustrations are in the base-of-ten ratio, allowing us to convert to full hours the CEUs credited for a training course while retaining a numeric reporting system to account for all training.

The next two columns (J & K) are the Assessment columns. In many reports, this is a long term or future option to allow for better compliance and skill set evaluations--questions for your training program, such as:

- How much time is being spent in the training?
- Is the one hour truly being spent in training?
- Is the forty hour course actually accounted for?
- What assessments for pass/fail are in practice?

Through these questions, the future of training and student/operator training evaluations can be accounted for, in terms of the MINUTES spent in training, as illustrated in the vertical column (J) ETM (elapsed time/minutes). Through the use of minutes versus hours or fractions of hours, the cumulative

training time in minutes allows for ease in cross referencing, in that CEUs are credited in hours, but are tracked, monitored and reported in minutes, so NOT to confuse or mislead anyone.

The last column (K) of our illustration presents quiz scores under the Assessment heading. Some state regulations require a70% pass/fail minimum for training credit and other institutions may soon be changing to adopt this requirement, as well. This is true for correspondence and online training courses, and increasingly required of classroom/workshop training. This balanced and equal approach increases the quality of the training and skill set transfers to the workforce. Should 70% comprehension be found excessive for training credit, some set point for compliance and assessment should be established nonetheless, in the long term approach.

Comparing the last two columns (J &K) allows for both current and long term evaluation of the students' training, and establishes a benchmark for updates in the future. The eleven vertical columns above provide a basic model for establishing your simple electronic spreadsheet for training programs. It allows for future consideration of:

- Consolidating into a one page report
- Streamlining the connection of training taken and operator identification for credit
- Tracking and monitoring time spent
- Cross references to eliminate/minimize/correct operator identification issues
- Tracking and compliance of contact time assessments
- Options to ADD further vertical columns, all controlled by the single horizontal rows of the operator Last/First Name indicated in the first column (A).

It is my hope that this is helpful to you. Through many years of working with various formats and seeing the frustration and changes made in reporting, we have decided to publish this simple approach. Maintaining all data categories in one horizontal row is very important, and the breakdown of the vertical columns and their location and intersection allows for streamlining the events of reporting credits, database processing, and compliance within the regulations, to substantiate training requirements for license renewal. Once a system is perfected and in-place, online license renewal is a "piece of cake." These minor IT improvements in your Operator Certification program will stabilize staff time, as errors and troubles in the existing tracking and monitoring requirements of licensed operators training credits are costing a lot of staff time to address and resolve, especially with new entry level candidates.

In this brief development summary, I would like to illustrate a couple of reporting formats, for your information:



	License_Number	License_Type	Course_Number	Course_Title	Start_Date	CEU	License_Cycle
ſ	0002627	DW	00023071	XXX	5/31/2004	0.3	2005



#### TCH Activity Report

DCA Course Number : (*)
Course Title :
Course Location :
Course Dates: to
Course Sponsor's Name :
Phone Number :
AI ID : 108551: CEU Plan.com





DEP Distance Education Roster Report				
Sponsor: Sponsor Id:	CEU Plan 45			
Month:	September			
Year:	2016			
Completion	Course	Client	Client	
Date	ID	ID	Name	

Three of the above four formats are uploaded under a simple spreadsheet with the individual vertical columns illustrating the data required. Each horizontal row would include the data related to a single course taken by the operator who is listed under the name column. Ohio and Pennsylvania each require only four columns of reportable data, whereas Florida requires seven columns. In the Kentucky illustration, once the DCA Course Number is inserted, the course title and other rows are populated; the training provider then inserts the Agency ID number and credits to finalize the report, and it is posted.

This document is available to all, and the only disclaimer is that these states' formats and others may change or improve over time. We plan to update and report back to you in coming years, to help make your data management as simple and effective as possible. This white paper (document) may be used in *Train-the-Trainer* Programs, in order to inform, educate, and improve Operator Training for all.

William W. Edgar November 15, 2016

## **Preparing for Data Center Disaster:**

As Hurricane Isaac took aim at the Gulf Coast of Florida, last year, data centers up and down the seaboard, including ours in Tampa, Florida, dusted off their hurricane plans to prepare for the storm. Being accustomed to this type of natural threat, most of us were well prepared to handle whatever the storm could throw our way.

But, coastal centers aren't the only providers who need to be prepared for weather-related disasters. Wind, snow, ice and rain can wreak havoc on vital infrastructure in any part of the country, and these natural threats can prove particularly problematic in places where extreme weather is uncommon – such as the ice storm that crippled Atlanta in January 2011, or the severe flooding that struck the normally arid Phoenix, Ariz. area.

Preparing your data center and training your staff can take time, and when you've never experienced a natural disaster, it might feel like a low priority. But if there's one thing Mother Nature teaches us time and time again, it's that she's full of surprises.

Need to revisit your disaster preparedness strategy? Here are some good places to start:

- Verify backup generators have received preventative maintenance and are in full working order.
- Top off generator fuel levels to ensure sufficient running time, and plan a refueling schedule to prevent an unexpected shutdown.
- Develop emergency fuel contracts to obtain priority reserve gasoline, if required.
- Prepare window shields to protect the building from high winds.
- Communicate disaster plans with partners.
- Schedule staff to remain on site if necessary.
- Stockpile food, beverages and other supplies for staff that will be manning the data center and perhaps staying overnight – during the weather emergency.
- Inform clients about how their data will be protected in the instance of a natural disaster. Keep them in the know about updated policies and procedures during quiet times, and plan to provide them with reassuring updates via email or another mode of communication during the actual event.
- Arrange for additional telephone support in remote locations to reroute calls in the event an overflow is needed.
- Despite meteorologists' best efforts, weather remains largely unpredictable. Always err on the side of caution: Be prepared for storms to change course, stall out or speed up and what kind of implications these changes may have for your data center.
- Verify that redundant backups to off-site locations are complete.

















## online training for water & wastewater

Basic and fundamental training for certification and continuing education with measurable results Assessment and student progress reporting

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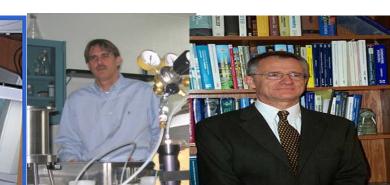
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## **Course listing by Category**

## **Drinking Water**

Disinfection

Analytical Chemistry Techniques
Arsenic
Asset Management
Backflow Prevention, Introduction to
Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water
Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products
Distribution System Monitoring
Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded?
Dye Tracing of the Path of Water
Enhanced Coagulation
Ground Water System Operations
Hydrologic Cycle and Aquifers, Introduction to
ION Exchange Resin Troubleshooting
Lead and Copper Rule
Nitrite/Nitrate Rule
Reverse Osmosis
Revised Total Coliform Rule
Water Loss
Water Storage, Reuse, & Recovery
Water Treatment Techniques (WTT): Course series
WTT: Filtration
WTT: Settling and Clarification
WTT: Distillation
WTT: Ion Exchange
WTT: Membrane Separation
Watersheds and Riversheds, Introduction to

Introduction to Chlorine
Components of Chlorine
Chlorinators
Chlorine Procedures
Chlorine Dioxide
Chloramination
Common Pitfalls in Chemical Feed
Dechlorination: Gas Application & Usage
Disinfection Alternatives
History of Ultraviolet Disinfection
Introduction to UV technologies
On-Site Sodium Hypochlorite Generation
Principles of Chlorination & Dechlorination
Procedures for UV Pilot Testing
UV Disinfection - Sizing a UV & Factors
affecting Operations



### Wastewater

Wastewater	
Activated Sludge: Complete Course	Trickling Filters
Activated Sludge I: Introduction and Overview	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control, Introduction to
Activated Sludge II: 2nd Clarifiers and RAS-WAS	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part one
Activated Sludge III: Oxygen Demand - Transfer – Uptake	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part two
Activated Sludge IV: Process Control & Troubleshooting	Wastewater Operational Tools
Activated Sludge V: Troubleshooting	Wastewater "Package" Treatment Plant
Backflow Prevention, Introduction to	Wastewater Sludge Treatment: Complete Course
Biological Nutrient Removal, Introduction in	Wastewater Treatment P & C - Headworks & Influent
Clarifier Operations	Wastewater Treatment P & C - Activated Sludge
<b>Collection System:</b> Getting to the Root of the Sewer Problem	Wastewater Treatment P & C - Sludge Age & Secondary Clarifie
Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products	Wastewater Treatment P & C - Filtration & Disinfection
Filamentious Bacteria & Process Control	Wastewater Treatment P & C - Solids Handling
FOG: Fats, Oils, and Grease	Wastewater Treatment Process Control Tools
Grit Removal	Water Reclamation, Introduction to
Hydrologic Cycle and Aquifers, Introduction to the	Water Storage, Reuse, & Recovery
Industrial Wastewater Sludge	Watersheds and Riversheds, Introduction to
Industrial Wastewater Treatment	Wetlands: Study of the Everglades
Jar Testing	World of FOG
Lift Station Repair	
<b>ORP - Wastewater Biological Nutrients Removal Process</b>	T T T
Primary Treatment	AND THE PARTY AND THE REAL PROPERTY AND THE OWNER AND AND THE PARTY AND
Pump Station Maintenance	
Reclaimed Water, Introduction to	
Septage Handling at the Treatment Plant	
Sludge Digestion and Solids Handling: Complete Course	
SDSH: Introduction to Solids Handling - Stabilization	
SDSH: Stabilizations	
SDSH: Sludge Conditioning & Dewatering	
SDSH: Sludge Digestion and Beneficial Use	

Laboratory Practices and Safety	Lead Sampling in School Buildings
Analytical Instruments used for Water & Wastewater	Respiratory Protection
Basic Chemistry & Laboratory Techniques	Ventilation
Basic Drinking Water Quality Tests	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part 1
Basic Microscopes for Water & Wastewater	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part 2
Drinking Water Bacteriological Procedures	
Jar Testing	Basic Chemistry & Biology
Laboratory Practices: Wastewater Techniques	Basic Chemistry - Complete Series
LP: Lab Terminology and Apparatus	Analytical Chemistry
LP: Basic Laboratory Terminology and Concepts	Atoms & Molecules
LP: Basic Wastewater Lab Procedures	Chemical Bonding
LP: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Chemical Nomenclature
LP: Solids	Nuclear Decay
LP: Solids - Analysis TSS, TDS, VSS, and More	Analytical Chemistry
LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Solubility
LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria Determination	States of Matter
LP: Nitrogen-Ammonia	Water Purification
Laboratory Practices: Basic Drinking Water Quality	Basic Microbiology, Part I
LP: Water Laboratory Quality Assurance	Basic Microbiology, Part 2
Laboratory Safety (LS) - Complete Course	Drinking Water Bacteriological Procedures
LS: Overview, Rules, & Regulations	Ebola - An emerging waterborne pathogen
LS: The Nucleus of a Lab Safety Program	Emerging Pathogens within Water and
LS: Guidelines-Chemical & Biosafety	Wastewater
LS: Electrical, Fire and Radiation Safety	Emerging Waterborne Pathogens
LS: Labware and Waste Disposal	Intro to Basic Microbiology & Parasites
Laser Hazards	Parasites, Part I – Helminths
Legionnaires Disease	Parasites, Part 2
	What is Cryptosporidium?

Collection and Distribution	
Air Valves	Pip
Backflow Prevention, Introduction to	Pip
CIPP Point Repair fo Sanitary Sewers	Pur
Collection Mathematics	Pur
Collection System: Getting to the Root of the Sewer Problem	PLO
Collection System: Sewer Line Root Control	SC
Concrete Pressure Pipe, Introduction to	Sar
Cross Connection, Introduction to	Stor
Cybersecurity for Operators	
Distribution Mathematics	
Distribution System Monitoring	
Dye Tracing the Path of Water	
Emergency Response Series – Introduction	
Field Testing a DCVA - Double Check Valve	Ba
Field Testing a RPZ - Reduced Pressure BPD	Ad
Field Testing a PVB - Pressure Vacuum Breaker - BPD	Со
Flow Meters 101	Dis
FOG: Fats, Oils, and Grease	Wa
Fundamental & Hydraulics of Backflow	Ac
Ground Water System Operations	Ac
GIS, Introduction to	Ma
I & I: inflow and Infiltration	Ma
Lift Station Repair	Ор
Mechanical Seals, Introduction to	Ор
Mechanical Seal Failures	Ор
Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets – an introduction	Но

Pipe Condition Assessment Technologies

Pipe, Valves, and Fittings – an introduction

Pumps – an introduction

Pump Station Maintenance

PLCs in Water and Wastewater, Introduction to

SCADA and HMIs, Introduction to

Sanitary Sewer Manhole & Wet Well Rehabilitation

Stormwater: New Orleans - History of Stormwater Pumping



#### **Mathematics**

Basic Mathematics
Advanced Mathematics
Collection Mathematics
Distribution Mathematics
Wastewater Formulas
Accounting 101
Accounting 102
Manager's Guide to Cost Control
Math for Water Plant & Distribution
Operator Math Made Easy – Area
Operator Math Made Easy – Volume
Operator Math Made Easy - Flow Rates
How to Solve the Word Problem

Maintenance Management
Advanced Leadership Skills for Utility Operators
Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors
Becoming a First Class Supervisor
Corrective Preventive Maintenance
Data Protection for Utility Operators
Developing & Implementing a Utility Security Plan
Ethics in the Utility Workplace
Information Security and Cybersecurity Issues
Information Security for Utility Managers
Information Security for Utility Professionals
Physical Infrastructure Security Planning
Privacy Act – Data Protection- GDPR Essentials
Public Admin I - Introduction to Public Administration
<b>Reasonable Security Measures to Protect your Plant</b>
Risk Assessment & Emergency Response Planning
Supervision & Management Relations for Operators
Treatment Plant Maintenance and Accident Prevention:
TPMAP: Ownership of Equipment
TPMAP: Equipment Failures and Hazards
TPMAP: Checklists Mean More than a Checkmark
TPMAP: Solutions Can be Healthy





#### **General and Workplace Safety**

**Back Disorders Bio-Augmentation Chemical Clothing/Respiratory Protection Corrosion Control in Water/Wastewater** Cybersecurity for Operators **Ergonomics** Fluoridation Hazardous Materials Effects to Human Health Health Concerns of Public Interest **Heat Stress** How to Read Blueprints **Indoor Air Quality** Introduction into the CDC Organization Laser Hazards Legionnaires Disease **Oxidation in Water/Wastewater Personal Sampling** Pipe, Valves, and Fittings **Respiratory Protection Sampling for Surface Contaminants Technical Equipment Toxic & Hazardous Material Handling Procedures** Ventilation



# A to Z course listing

Accounting 101
Accounting 102
Activated Sludge: Complete Course
Activated Sludge I: Introduction and Overview
Activated Sludge II: 2nd Clarifiers and RAS-WAS
Activated Sludge III: Oxygen Demand-Transfer-Uptake
Activated Sludge IV: Process Control & Troubleshooting
Activated Sludge V: Troubleshooting, Part 2
Advanced Leadership Skills for Utility Operators
Advanced Mathematics
Air Valves
Analytical Chemistry
Analytical Chemistry Techniques
Analytical Instruments used for Water & Wastewater
Arsenic
Asset Management
Atoms & Molecules
Backflow Prevention - Introduction to
Back Disorders
Basic Chemistry: Complete Course
Basic Chemistry & Laboratory Techniques
Basic Computers
Basic Drinking Water Quality Tests
Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors

Basic Mathematics
Basic Microbiology, Part I
Basic Microbiology, Part 2
Basic Microbiology & Parasites - Introduction to
Basic Microscopes for Water & Wastewater
Becoming a First Class Supervisor - Complete
BFCS: Transition from Craftsman to Supervisor
BFCS: Effective Supervisory Communication
BFCS: Leadership/Coaching
BFCS: Delegation/Motivation
Bio-Augmentation
Biological Nutrient Removal - Introduction in
Blueprints: How to Read Blueprints
CDC Organization - Introduction into the
Chemical Bonding
Chemical Clothing
Chemical Clothing/Respiratory - Complete
Chemical Nomenclature
Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water
Chloramination
Chloride Dioxide
Chlorinators
Chlorine - Introduction to
Chlorine Procedures

С	IPP Point Repair for Sanitary Sewers	Emergency Response Series – Introduction
С	larifier Operations	ERS: Generators
С	ollection Mathematics	Emerging Pathogens in Water & Wastewater
C	ollection System: Getting to the Root of the Sewer	Emerging Waterborne Pathogens
Р	roblem	Enhanced Coagulation
С	ollection System: Sewer Line Root Control	Ergonomics
C	ommon Pitfalls in Chemical Feed	Ethics in the Utility Workplace
C	omponents of Chlorine	Field Testing a Double Check Valve Assembly – BPD
C	oncrete Pressure Pipe - Introduction to	Field Testing a Reduced Pressure Principle – BPD
C	orrective Preventive Maintenance: Complete	Field Testing a Pressure and Spill Resistant Vacuum
С	PM: Functions, Failures - Mode & Effects	Breaker – BPD
С	PM: Building a PM Program	Filamentious Bacteria & Process Control
С	PM: Trackling Failures	Fire Hydrant Inspection, O & M, and Flushing
С	PM: Creating SOP's	Flow Meters 101
С	orrosion Control in Water/Wastewater	Fluoridation
С	orrosion Management	FOG: Fats, Oils, and Grease
С	ross Connection Control - Introduction to	Geology
С	ryptosporidium: What is Cryptosporidium?	GIS - Introduction to
С	ybersecurity for Operators – Basics	Grit Removal
D	ata Protection for Utility Operators	Ground Water System Operations
D	echlorination - Gas Application and Usage	Hazardous Materials Effects to Human Health
D	isinfection Alternatives	Health Concerns of Public Interest
D	isinfection By-Products: Summary of Rule	Heat Stress
D	istribution Mathematics	History of Ultraviolet Disinfection
D	istribution System Monitoring	
	rinking Water Bacteriological Procedures	
D	rinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded?	CEU Plan
D	ye Tracing the Path of Water	
E	bola - An emerging waterborne pathogen	

How to Solve a Word Problem	Laser Hazards
Hydrologic Cycle & Aquifers - Introduction to the	Lead and Copper Rule
Indoor Air	Lead Sampling in Public Schools
Industrial Wastewater Treatment	Legionnaires Disease
I & I: Inflow and Infiltration	Lift Station Repair
Information Security for Utility Professionals	Lime/Soda Ash Softening for Water Plant Operators
Information Security for Utility Managers	Manager's Guide to Cost Control
Information Security and Cybersecurity Issues	Math for Water Plant and Distribution
Ion Exchange Resin Troubleshooting	Mechanical Seals - Introduction to
Jar Testing	Mechanical Seal Failures
Laboratory Practices: Wastewater Techniques	Minimizing Sewer Back-Up Liabilities
LP: Lab Terminology and Apparatus	Nitrite/Nitrate Rule
LP: Basic Wastewater Lab Procedures	Nuclear Decay
LP: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) - text base	Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets
LP: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) - streaming	Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets - an introduction
LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria Determination	On-Site Sodium Hypochlorite Generation
LP: Solids	Operator Math Made Easy – Area
LP: Solids - Analysis TSS, TDS, VSS, and More	Operator Math Made Easy – Volume
LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Operator Math Made Easy - Flow Rates
LP: Nitrogen-Ammonia	ORP - Wastewater Biological Nutrients Removal Process
Laboratory Practices: Basic Drinking Water Quality Tests	Oxidation in Water/Wastewater
LP: Water Laboratory Quality Assurance	Parasites, Part I – Helminths
Laboratory Safety - Complete Course	Parasites, Part 2
Laboratory Safety: Overview, Rules, & Regulations	Paying for Lead Service Line Replacement
Laboratory Safety: The Nucleus of a Lab Safety Program	Personal Sampling
Laboratory Safety: Guidelines-Chemical & Biosafety	Pipe, Valve, and Fittings
Laboratory Safety: Electrical, Fire and Radiation Safety	Pipe, Valves & Fittings - an introduction
Laboratory Safety: Labware and Waste Disposal	Pipe Condition Assessment Technologies

PLCs in Municipal Water and Wastewater, Introduction to	Technical Equipment
Primary Treatment	Thermal Controls
Principles of Chlorination & Dechlorination	Toxic & Hazardous Material Handling Procedures
Privacy Act - Data Protection - GDPR Essentials	Treatment Plant Maintenance and Accident
Procedures for UV Pilot Testing	Prevention-CC
Public Admin I	TPMAP: Ownership of Equipment
Pumps - an introduction	TPMAP: Equipment Failures and Hazards
Pump Station Maintenance	TPMAP: Checklists Mean More than a Checkmark
Reasonable Security Measures to Protect your Plant	TPMAP: Solutions Can be Healthy
Respiratory Protection	Trickling Filters
Reverse Osmosis	UV Disinfection - Sizing a UV & Factors affecting
Revised Total Coliform Rule	Operations
Risk Assessment & Emergency Response Planning	UV Technology - Introduction to
Robotics	Ventilation
Sampling for Surface	Wastewater Formulas
Sanitary Sewer Manhole & Wet Well Rehabilitation	Wastewater Lagoons and Ponds
SCADA and HMIs, Introduction to	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part 1
Septage Handling at the Treatment Plant	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part 2
Sewer Liability - Minimizing Sewer-Back-Up	Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control -Intro
Sludge Digestion and Solids Handling: Complete Course	Wastewater Operational Tools
SDSH: Introduction to Solids Handling and Stabilization	Wastewater "Package" Treatment Plant
SDSH: Stabilizations	Wastewater Sludge Treatment Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control – 1
SDSH: Sludge Conditioning & Dewatering	Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 1 Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 2
SDSH: Sludge Digestion and Beneficial Use	Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 2 Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 3
Solubility	Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 3 Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 4
States of Matter	Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 4 Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control - 5
Stormwater: New Orleans - History of Stormwater Pumping	Wastewater Treatment Process Control Tools
upervision & Management Relations for Operators	wastewater freatment rocess control roots

Water Loss

Water Purification

Water Reclamation, Introduction to

Water Storage, Reuse, & Recovery

Water Treatment Techniques - Complete Course

WTT: Filtration

WTT: Settling and Clarification

WTT: Distillation

WTT: Ion Exchange

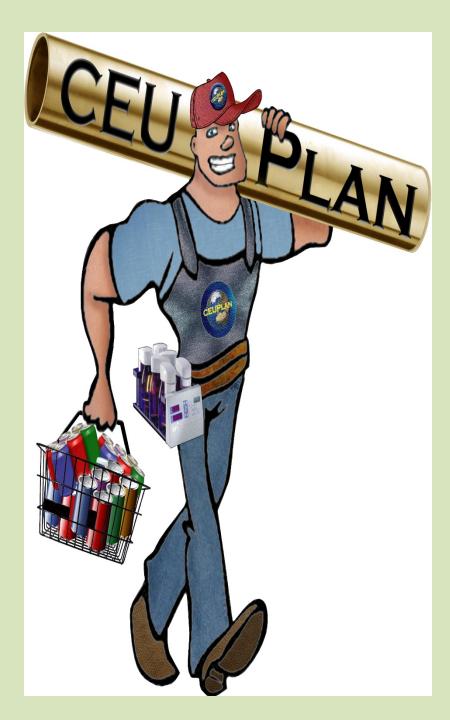
WTT: Membrane Separation

Watersheds & Riversheds - Introduction to

Wetlands: Study of the Everglades

World of FOG





# *Course listing by ID tag number*

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	✓		Page 1
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	instructor
6	DW/WW		1		Introduction to Chlorine	Meyer
7	DW/WW		1		Components of Chlorine	Meyer
8	DW/WW		1		Chlorinators	Meyer
9	DW/WW		1		Chlorine Procedures	Meyer
10	DW/WW		1		Chlorine Dioxide	Meyer
11	WW only		2		Wastewater Sludge Treatment: Complete Course	Turovskiy
12	DW/WW		2		Emerging Pathogens within DW/WW	Huffman
13	DW/WW		3		Principles of Chlorination & Dechlorination	Harrington
14	DW/WW		3		Dechlorination - Gas Application and Usage	Meyer
19	DW/WW		4		On-Site Sodium Hypochlorite Generator Conversion	Casson
20	DW/WW		1		Oxidation in Water/Wastewater	Miller
21	DW/WW		1		Bio-Augmentation	Miller
22	DW/WW		1		Geology	Miller
23	DW/WW		1		Introduction to UV technologies	Huffman
24	WW only		1		Activated Sludge I: Introduction and Overview	Johnson
25	WW only		1		Activated Sludge II: 2nd Clarifiers and RAS-WAS	Johnson
26	WW only		1		Activated Sludge III: Oxygen Demand - Transfer - Uptake	Johnson
27	DW only		1		Enhanced Coagulation	Pugh
28	DW/WW		4		Hazardous Materials Effects to Human Health	Farouk
29	DW/WW		3		Emerging Waterborne Pathogens	Huffman
30	DW/WW		1		What is Cryptosporidium?	Huffman
31	DW/WW		1		Health Concerns of Public Interest	CDC
32	DW/WW		1		Introduction into the CDC Organization	CDC
33	DW/WW		1		Laboratory Safety: Overview, Rules, & Regulations	Kaluzniak
34	DW/WW		1		Laboratory Safety: The Nucleus of a Lab Safety Program	Kaluzniak
35	WW only		4		Sludge Digestion and Solids Handling	Kaluzniak
36	WW only		1		Introduction to Solids Handling and Stabilization	Kaluzniak
37	WW only		1		Stabilizations	Kaluzniak

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	✓		Page 2
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	Instructor
38	WW only		1		Sludge Conditioning & Dewatering	Kaluzniak
39	WW only		1		Sludge Digestion and Beneficial Use	Kaluzniak
40	DW/WW		1		Basic Chemistry - Complete Series	Pugh
41	DW/WW		1		Atoms & Molecules	Pugh
42	DW/WW		1		Nuclear Decay	Pugh
43	DW/WW		1		States of Matter	Pugh
44	DW/WW		1		Chemical Bonding	Pugh
45	DW/WW		1		Chemical Nonmenclature	Pugh
46	DW/WW		2		Solubility	Pugh
47	DW/WW		1		Analytical Chemistry	Pugh
48	DW/WW		2		Water Purification	Pugh
49	DW/WW		1		Accounting 101	Edgar
50	DW/WW		1		Accounting 102	Edgar
51	DW/WW		1		Basic Mathematics	Switzer
52	DW/WW		2		Advanced Mathematics	Switzer
53	DW/WW		1		Pipe, Valves, and Fittings	Edgar
54	WW only		1		Lift Station Repair	Edgar
55	DW/WW		8		Corrective Preventive Maintenance: Complete Course	Valiquette
56	DW/WW		2		CPM: Functions, Failures - Modes & Effects	Valiquette
57	DW/WW		2		CPM: Building a PM Program	Valiquette
58	DW/WW		2		CPM: Trackling Failures	Valiquette
60	DW/WW		2		Basic Computers	Labetti
61	DW/WW		1		Blueprints I	Hamar
62	DW/WW		1		Personal Sampling	OSHA
63	DW/WW		1		Sampling for Surface Contaminants	OSHA
64	DW/WW		1		Technical Equipment	OSHA
65	DW/WW		1		Indoor Air Quality	OSHA
66	DW/WW		1		Ventilation	OSHA
67	DW/WW		1		Heat Stress	OSHA
68	DW/WW		1		Laser Hazards	OSHA
69	DW/WW		1		Legionnaires Disease	OSHA
70	DW/WW		1		Back Disorders	OSHA

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	✓		Page 3
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	Instructor
71	DW/WW		3		Chemical Clothing/Respiratory	OSHA
74	DW/WW		2		Respiratory Protection	OSHA
75	WW only		1		Primary Treatment	Switzer
76	WW only		1		Trickling Filters	Switzer
80	DW/WW		1		Your Responsibilities with the Regulatory Agency	Switzer
81	DW only		1		Terrorism Vulnerability Assessmet in Community Water System	Casson
82	DW/WW		2		Disinfection By-Products:Summary of Rule	Pugh
84	DW/WW		1		Trenchless Technologies: An Introduction	Thomas
91	DW/WW		2		CPM: Creating SOP's	Valiquette
92	DW/WW		1		Trenchless Technologies: Pipeline & Structure Rehabilitation	Thomas
93	DW/WW		2		Trenchless Technologies: Complete Course	Thomas
95	DW/WW		2		HIV in Wastewater: Presence and Risk	Casson
96	DW only		10		Water Treatment Techniques - Complete Course	Pugh
97	DW only		2		WTT: Filtration	Pugh
98	DW only		2		WTT: Settling and Clarification	Pugh
99	DW only		2		WTT: Distillation	Pugh
100	DW only		2		WTT: Ion Exchange	Pugh
101	DW only		2		WTT: Membrane Separation	Pugh
102	WW only		1		ORP - Wastewater Biological Nutrients Removal Process	Switzer
103	WW only		2		Wastewater Formulas	Switzer
104	WW only		2		Collection Mathematics	Switzer
105	DW only		2		Distribution Mathematics	Switzer
106	WW only	retired	1		Use of an Excel Spreadsheet in a Wastewater Treatment Plant	Cherry
107	WW only		1		Wastewater Operational Tools	J. Meyer
108	WW only		2		Introduction in Biological Nutrient Removal	Oleszkiewicz
109	DW/WW		4		Toxic & Hazardous Material Handling Procedures	El-Shamy
110	DW/WW		1		Basic Microbiology	Kentala
111	DW/WW		1		Parasites, Part I - Helminths	Kentala
112	WW only		1		Activated Sludge IV: Process Control & Troubleshooting	Johnson
113	DW/WW		1		Laboratory Safety: Guidelines-Chemical&Biosafety	Kaluzniak
114	WW only		1		Package - Wastewater Treatment Plant	Edgar
115	DW/WW		1		Procedure for UV Pilot Testing	Edgar

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	✓		Page 4
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	Instructor
116	WW only		1		Activated Sludge V: Troubleshooting Part 2	Johnson
118	WW only		5		Activated Sludge - Complete Course	Johnson
120	DW/WW		1		UV Disinfection - Sizing of UV System using Bioassay	Whitby
122	DW/WW		1		History of Ultraviolet Disinfection	Whitby
123	DW only		1		Lead and Copper Rule	Pugh
124	DW only		1		Arsenic	Pugh
125	DW only		1		Revised Total Coliform Rule	Pugh
126	DW only	<mark>development</mark>			Chromium	Pugh
127	DW/WW		4		Becoming a First Class Supervisor - Complete Course	Valiquette
128	DW/WW		1		BFCS: Transition from Craftsman to Supervisor	Valiquette
129	DW/WW		1		BFCS: Effective Supervisory Communication	Valiquette
130	DW/WW		1		BFCS: Leadership/Coaching	Valiquette
131	DW/WW		1		BCFS: Delegation/Motivation	Valiquette
132	DW/WW		4		Treatment Plant Maintenance and Accident Prevention	Valiquette
133	DW/WW		1		TPMAP: Ownership of Equipment	Valiquette
134	DW/WW		1		TPMAP: Equipment Failures and Hazards	Valiquette
135	DW/WW		1		TMPAP: Checklists Mean More than a Checkmark	Valiquette
136	DW/WW		1		TMPAP: SolutionsCan be Healthy	Valiquette
137	DW/WW		2		Parasites, Part 2	Kentala
138	DW/WW		6		Introduction to Basic Microbiology and Parasites	Kentala
139	DW/WW		2		Basic Microbiology, Part 2	Kentala
141	WW only		1		Filamentious Bacteria Identification & Process Control	Glymph
142	WW only		1		Introduction to Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control	Glymph
143	WW only		3		Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part one	Glymph
144	DW/WW		1		Introduction to Backflow Prevention	Holeva
145	DW only		1		Introduction to the Hydrologic Cycle and Aquifers	Pugh/Karst
146	DW/WW		1		Water Shortage, Reuse, and Resource Management	Johnson
147	DW only		1		Introduction to Watersheds and Riversheds	Pugh/Karst
148	DW/WW		1		Dye Tracing of the Path of Water	Pugh
149	DW/WW		2		Wetlands: Study of the Everglades	Kaluzniak
150	DW/WW		1		Introduction to Reclaimed Water	Kaluzniak

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	ü		Page 5
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	Instructor
153	WW only		2		Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control - part two	Glymph
156	DW/WW		3		Analytical Chemistry Techniques	Pugh
157	DW/WW		1		Ion Exchange Resin Troubleshooting	Pugh
159	DW/WW		1		Nitrite/Nitrate Rule	Pugh
162	DW/WW		1		Reverse Osmosis	Pugh
166	WW only		1		Septage Handling at the Treatment Plant	Legg
167	DW/WW		1		Corrosion Control	Miller
168	WW only		4		FOG: Fats, Oils, and Grease	El-Shamy
169	DW/WW		1		Laboratory Safety: Electrical, Fire and Radiation Safety	Kaluzniak
170	DW/WW		1		Laboratory Safety: Labware and Waste Disposal	Kaluzniak
171	DW/WW		5		Laboratory Safety: Complete Course	Kaluzniak
172	DW/WW		1		Emergency Response	Kaluzniak
173	WW only		4		Collection System: Sewer Line Root Control	Justin
174	WW only		1		Collection System: Getting to the Root of the Sewer Problem	Monck
175	WW only		1		Industrial Wastewater Sludge	Turovskiy
193	WW only	deleted	5		Submersible Sewage Pumping System - Complete Course	SWPA
194	WW only	deleted	1		SSPS: Introduction & Design Considerations	SWPA
195	WW only	deleted	1		SSPS: Selection of Submersible Pumps	SWPA
196	WW only	deleted	1		SSPS: Description of Pumps	SWPA
197	WW only	deleted	1		SSPS: Controls	SWPA
198	WW only	deleted	1		SSPS: Controls, Start-Up, & Operation	SWPA
199	DW/WW		1		LP: Lab Terminology and Apparatus	Doss
200	DW/WW		1		LP: Basic Wastewater Lab Procedures	Doss
201	DW/WW		1		LP: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Doss
202	DW/WW		1		LP: Solids	Doss
203	DW/WW		1		LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria	Doss
204	DW/WW		1		LP: Nitrogen-Ammonia	Doss
205	DW/WW		2		LP: Basic Drinking Water Quality Test	Doss
206	DW/WW		1		LP: Drinking Water Bacteriological Procedures	Doss
207	DW/WW		1		Basic Chemistry & Laboratory Techniques	Doss
208	DW/WW		1		LP: Water Laboratory Quality Assurance	Doss
209	DW only	development			LP: Drinking Water Techniques - Complete Series	Doss

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	~		Page 6
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	Instructor
210	WW only		6		Laboratory Practices (LP): Wastewater Techniques - Complete	Doss
211	DW/WW		1		Public Admin I - Introduction into Public Administration	Smith
213	DW/WW		5		Supervision & Management Relations for Operators	Allman
214	DW/WW		3		Introduction to Supervision for Operators	Allman
215	DW/WW		2		Introduction to Management Relations for Operators	Allman
216	DW/WW		2		Manager's Guide to Cost Control	Bode
219	DW/WW		1		New Orleans - History of Stormwater Pumping	Corp.
222	WW only		6		Industrial Wastewater Treatment - streaming series	Bowers
223	DW/WW		2		Air Valves	Leverette
224	WW only		1		Minimizing Sewer Back-Up Liabilities	Leverette
225	DW/DS only		1		Math for Water Plant and Distribution	Habraken
226	DW only		1		Lime/Soda Ash Softening for Water Plant Operators	Habraken
227	DW/WW		1		Flow Meters 101	Leverette
228	WW only		1		Pump Station Maintenance	McKay
229	DW/WW		2		Water Loss Control	Leverette
230	DW/WW		1		Introduction to Concrete Pressure Pipe	Deremiah
231	DW/WW		2		Asset Management	Leverette
232	DW/WW		1		Fire Hydrant Inspection, Maintenance, & Flushing	Leverette
233	WW only		1		Grit Removal	Sinkhorn
234	WW only		1		CIPP Point Repair for Sanitary Sewers	Leverette
235	DW/WW		1		ERS: Generators	Kaluzniak
240	DW/WW		1		Testing a DCVA - Double Check Valve Assembly BPD	Holeva
241	DW/WW		3		Testing a RPZ - Reduced Pressure Principle BPD	Holeva
242	DW/WW		2		Testing a PVB - Pressure Vacuum Breaker BPD	Holeva
244	DW/DS only		4		Ground Water System Operations	Harrington
245	DW/WW		4		Common Pitfalls of Chemical Feed	Harrington
246	DW/WW		4		Corrosion Management	Harrington
247	DW/WW		2		Thermal Controls	Harrington
248	DW/WW		2		Basic Microscopes for Water and Wastewater Operators	Harrington
249	DW/WW		2		Analytical Instruments used for Water & Wastewater	Harrington
250	WW only		2		Clarifier Operation	Martin
251	DW/WW		2		Reasonable Security Measures to Protect your Plant	Martin

CEU	Course	Course	CEU		Page 7
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.	Course Title	Instructor
252	WW only		1	World of FOG	Martin
253	DW/WW		1	Cybersecurity for Operators	Martin
254	WW only		2	Wastewater Treatment Process Control Tools	Martin
255	DW/WW		1	Introduction to Mechanical Seals	Stockslager
256	DW/WW		1	Mechanical Seal Failures	Stockslager
258	DW/WW		1	Introduction to Cross Connection	Holeva
259	DW/WW		1	Fundamental & Hydraulics of Backflow	Holeva
264	WW only		1	LP: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)	Doss
265	WW only		1	LP: Solids Analysis TSS, TDS, VSS, and more	Doss
266	WW only		1	LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria Determination	Doss
270	DW/WW		2	LP: Basic Laboratory Terminology and Concepts	Doss
274	DW/WW		1	Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets - part one	Varalla
275	DW/WW		1	Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets - an introduction	Edgar
276	DW/WW		1	Introduction to GIS	Brown
280	DW/WW		1	Ebola - An emerging waterborne pathogen	Huffman
281	DW/WW		1	Jar Testing	Harrington
282	DW/WW		4	Disinfection Alternatives	Harrington
283	DW/WW		2	Chloramination	Harrington
284	DW/WW		1	Distribution System Monitoring	Harrington
287	DW/WW		2	Introduction to PLCs in Municipal Water and Wastewater	Heald
288	DW/WW		3	Introduction to SCADA and HMIs	Heald
290	WW only		2	Wastewater Ponds and Lagoons	Curtin
291	DW/WW		1	Operator Math Made Easy - Area	Krauth
292	DW/WW		1	Operator Math Made Easy - Volume	Krauth
293	DW/WW		1	Operator Math Made Easy - Flow Rates	Krauth
294	DW/WW		2	How to Solve a Word Problem	Elliot
295	WW only		1	Wastewater Treatment P & C - part 1 - Headworks & Influent	Martin
296	WW only		1	Wastewater Treatment P & C - part 2 - Flow Distribution & Activated Sludge	Martin
297	WW only		1	Wastewater Treatment P & C - part 3 - Sludge Age & Secondary Clarifier	Martin
298	WW only		1	Wastewater Treatment P & C - part 4 - Filtration & Disinfection	Martin
299	WW only		1	Wastewater Treatment P & C - part 5 - Biosolids	Martin
300	DW/WW		4	Pipe, Valves & Fittings - an introduction	Edgar

CEU	Course	Course	CEU	✓		Page 8
ID #	Category	Number	Hrs.		Course Title	Instructor
301	DW/WW		1		Privacy Act - Data Protection	Hofer
302	DW/WW		1		Cybersecurity - Information Security for Utility Professionals	Hofer
303	DW/WW		1		Cybersecurity - Information Security for Utility Managers	Hofer
304	WW/CS only		1		I & I: Inflow and Infiltration	Leverette
305	DW/WW		1		Information Security & Cybersecurity Issues	Hofer
306	DW/WW		1		Pipeline Condition Assessment Technologies	Leverette
307	DW/WW		1		Data Protection for Utility Operators	Hofer
308	DW/WW		1		Risk Assessment and Emergency Response Planning for Utility Professionals	Hofer
309	WW/CS only		2		Sanitary Sewer Manhole & Wet Well Rehabilitation	Leverette
311	DW/WW		1		Paying for Lead Service Lines Replacement	Barnes
312	DW/WW		3		Pumps - an introduction	Edgar
313	DW/DS only		1		Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded?	Bowers
314	DW/DS only		1		Lead Sampling in School Buildings	Doss
315	DW/WW		1		Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors	Hofer
316	DW/WW		1		Advanced Leadership Skills for Utility Operators	Hofer
317	DW/WW		1		Developing & Implementing a Utility Security Plan	Hofer
318	DW/WW		1		Physical Infrastructure Security Planning	Hofer
319	DW/WW		1		Chemistry of Lead Contamination	Daconta
320	DW/WW		1		Ethics in the Utility Workplace	Hofer





# **Cybersecurity & Terrorist** issues facing Operators

cyber security

P

is a continual expanding series of training

1 C B C B

Information Security for Utility Professionals is the first one hour course in a series of courses based on Information Security issues focused on waste/water treatment facilities. The instructor, Tom Hofer, has spent his career involved in security and indication of threats presented to the United States Government via the CIA - FBI - Homeland Security. Tom shares his experience in military security with case studies to inform you of actual conditions and known activities. The course is broken into three sections within this one hour course with the following detail description:

- Section 01 This section provides an overview of the important cyber issues; the costs of criminal cyber-attacks and focuses on the specific problems confronting the utility operator in keeping information safe in the workplace.
- Section 02 This section describes the nature of external threats to information security, focusing on the attack methods used by hackers, concluding with two recent case studies involving cybercriminals and attacks on governmental organizations. The three main defense mechanisms against cyber-attack: defense-detection-deterrence are stressed and examples given.
- Section 03 This section deals with the insider threat and the damage such attacks can cause. The
  role of the disaffected or disgruntled employee is explained along with indicators to detect this
  behavior in the workplace, Training and awareness are emphasized as key factors in stopping
  attackers; emphasizing the detection and neutralization of phishing schemes. Several case studies
  will illustrate these points.



#### Information Security for Utility Managers

*Information Security for Utility Managers* is the second one hour course in a series of courses based on Information Security issues focused on waste/water treatment facilities. This one hour course is divided into three sections, with the following detailed description:

- Section 01 an overview of the course includes details about the vulnerabilities and threats that you face as the manager of a utility operation. Tom divides the threats into two categories: outsider threats and insider threats. In the first section, we will discuss the nature of the threats you face and the methods that the attackers use to damage, destroy or control your system.
- Section 02 we will show you how to evaluate the risks you face in a logical and orderly manner. Understand how you will counter those threats through training of your people and awareness of the nature of the threats. Since the events of September 11, we know that all of our infrastructure organizations are vulnerable to attack. We know that our country has enemies who are dedicated to destroying our way of life. They are working day and night to penetrate our infrastructure organizations and bring down our infrastructure.
- Section 03 In the final section of the course, Tom will discuss in detail how to raise security awareness in your employees and training methods you can use as well as give you some examples of management techniques that he used to convince people to do dangerous jobs. In comparison your job is much simpler but the task is the same. Unmotivated employees are a potential vulnerability and it makes your job harder if your people are not dedicated to the mission and do not share the company's goals. Understanding human nature and treating our people with respect is not simply a moral idea reserved for Sunday church sermons, but it also pays off in increased productivity and keeps our organization safe and secure.

Information Security for Utility Professionals & Managers series

CEU Plan is pleased to announce a new course series in cybersecurity and threats to us. The instructor has spent many years in security and monitoring, to provide an in-depth view of identifying and addressing penetration into our automated control Systems – SCADA, along with fundamental precautions to include in your checklist.

## New Release include Data Protection and Privacy, cybercrime related to utilities, and security measures

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# **Operator Math made Easy** with **Paul Krauth**

A treatment plant operator is expected to be able to solve a number of mathematical equations to determine that the plant is running correctly and efficiently, to order chemicals and supplies, or as a prerequisite to a licensing exam. Math is not generally a popular subject. The "Power Circle" or "Blair Witch" method is a shortcut that can be used to solve almost *any* equation. This short course shows how these methods can be used to find areas. Several downloadable formula sheets using these techniques are included in the course, along with a downloadable worksheet for calculation practice of the section quizzes.



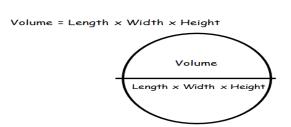
**Operator Math Made Easy** is a three part series, including: Area, Volume and Flow Rates. These basic and fundamental procedures are illustrated by Paul in terms of pipe and tanks, so you will understand how much water is in a tank or flowing through a pipeline, and be able to calculate area - volume of various tanks within your treatment facility. Yes, it may be boring, but it is very important to master the basics, in order to determine dosage and feed rates, re-order chemicals, and double check the engineer -- to make sure your tankage is sized to maintain the correct amount of storage.

This is a self-study online course, allowing you adequate time to understand these basic formulas and calculation requirements. Take-your-time; no one is looking over your shoulder, so relax and absorb all of Paul's humorous examples and easy-to-grasp methods. If you have problems, repeat the course section as many times as you like! Should you have trouble understanding the formulas or calculations, go over them again, until they becomes clear. The bottom line is your proficient understanding of these formulas and calculations, in preparation for a certification exam; this course is designed as a true simulation of material presented in most certification exams. You have unlimited exposure to each course section, with the opportunity to re-read and review, up until you "Record the Results." ..... DO NOT click the "Record Results" button until you are comfortable with your understanding of that course section.

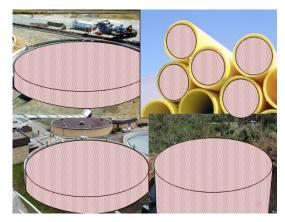
#### By the end of this training course, you will have the ability to:

- Demonstrate and calculate the surface area of a tank
- Illustrate the "Power Circle" method for calculating area
- Estimate the base and height areas of a tank
- Define the basics for calculating volume
- Calculate the volume of a circular tank
- Describe the volume measurements of a cylinder
- Illustrate the flow measurements through an open channel
- Describe the common conversion used in flow rate equations
- Explain the conversion of cubic feet formula









## Wastewater Treatment Process Control

with Russ Martin and Toni Glymph-Martin



Step-by-step through a treatment plant and a smooth operator approach to process control .... a complete series of training in process control and using your Microscope to check your performance ......



Explore the World of Wastewater with Russ Martin, as he walks throughout a Midwestern Wastewater Treatment Plant from the headworks to the effluent discharge. The virtual tour with Russ includes his plant inspection and discussion -- from the influent screens and head works, across to the aeration zones, and following through the process to settling, filtration, disinfection, and finally, effluent discharge.



In this unique ten hour course package, you will observe video footage of the waste water treatment plant where Russ will discuss the working components of the process, show illustrations, and provide plant observations that may be helpful to you at your plant. As Russ explains, to make you -- "a smooth operator" -from the course's process components, we will enter the World of FOG: a neat discourse on fats, oils, and grease issues in a small tourist community without any pre-treatment requirements, where all of the grease and oil from the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest chicken restaurants goes right into the sewer system. You'll learn how the operator deals with it on a daily basis. Next, we will observe Clarifier Operations in a two hour discussion of clarifier applications, operations, troubleshooting, and process control.





At the conclusion of this course, Russ continues by reviewing various operating techniques and process control tools available for wastewater treatment. This ten hour series concludes with a brief and basic review of Cybersecurity for Operators. As he began his retirement a few years ago, Russ was working at the USEPA - Chicago Regional Office and was involved in monitoring aspects for small and large facilities -- his hands-on approaches have been utilized in treatment plants for many years.



#### This 10 hour course package series includes:

- Wastewater Treatment Performance & Control part 1 Headworks & Influent
- Wastewater Treatment P & C part 2 Flow Distribution & Activated Sludge
- Wastewater Treatment P & C part 3 Sludge Age & Secondary Clarifier
- Wastewater Treatment P & C part 4 Filtration & Disinfection
- World of FOG
- Clarifier Operation
- Wastewater Treatment Process Control Tools
- Cybersecurity for Operators

In this course package, there is a wealth of knowledge and experience available to apply to the operation of your treatment plant and many helpful suggestions for you..... Please take your time and enjoy this beautiful arrangement of courses as you prepare to renew your license or refresh your operating techniques. It also makes a great entry level introduction. Feel free to repeat any lesson plan or course section, watch an extra time or more, to reinforce the techniques; no rush, as his series of courses has been specially developed to help you progress in your field.









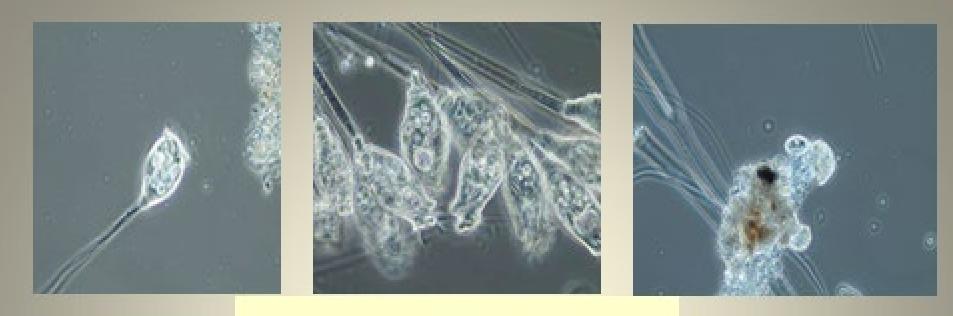


Highly experienced instructors with proven techniques and procedures to make your life easier in the lab and dealing with your process control Learn from the Experts

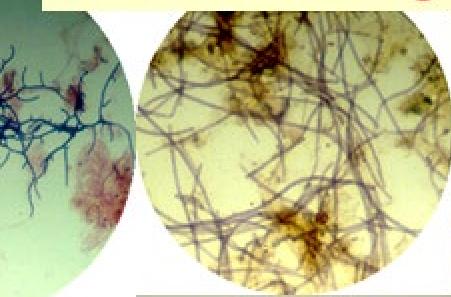
Laboratory Practices for Wastewater is a ten (10) hour course package presented by some renown experts in this field. Dr. Deb Huffman is known for her involvement in the Cryptosporidium Studies in the Milwaukee Outbreak and her advanced research in water reuse applications; Toni Glymph-Martin offers insight from her international presentations on wastewater microbiology and process control and Margaret Doss shares her background in the development in laboratory procedures and certification need-to-know criteria. These three subject-matter experts in the Laboratory Practices field provide an unique exposure to "bugs", pathogen indication, sampling and chain-of-custody procedures, providing reliable data and results in your wastewater lab.

By popular demand, we have combined a series of their courses into a package designed to provide you with an overview for identifying and sampling pathogens for process control, exam prep, review of current laboratory techniques, as well as an excellent guide in developing or updating your Lab Procedures and Policies.

Should you need a study guide or exam prep, this unique online course package allows you to view the various courses and REPEAT any course section - as many times as you wish, until you are comfortable with the techniques, terminology, procedures, and microorganism indications needed.... to pass the exam.... Each course section has a ten question summary to test your knowledge of the content and topics, similar to a computer-based licensing exam, leaving you more relaxed and fully prepared for the real deal and exam.



# Name that Bug?





# **Emerging Pathogens within water and wastewater** *by Deb Huffman,* PhD.

In this two hour course, a discussion of emerging pathogens and their impact to human health is presented in this streaming format course. In the conclusion, a side by side imagery of various microorganism are illustrated and discussed. Some other topics include:

- indicate effects to human health associated with waterborne diseases
- explain waterborne outbreaks
- illustrate the pathogenic aspects of E Coli
- describe the various detection methods and future concerns

Dr. Deb Huffman received her Ph.D. in Public Health from the University of South Florida in 1994 specializing in Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety. She remained at USF as a faculty Research Associate with the focus of her research on the development of novel methods for the detection and inactivation of waterborne pathogens. She has participated in numerous local, state and national research projects involving the study of water and wastewater treatment, distribution and health effects from known as well as emerging microorganisms. Her research has resulted in a number of peer reviewed journal publications, book chapters and interviews with major news outlets including Dateline NBC and Tampa Bay Fox13. She retired from the University in 2010 to join Claro Scientific LLC as their Principal Research Scientist while retaining a Courtesy Faculty appointment at the USF College of Public Health.





• Want to learn about the Aquifers?

O Interested in what our water supplies look like below?

O Let's look at theHydrological Cycle!O Imagine finding a

couple of tires, down inside an Aquifer.....

All living things depend on the natural cycle of water. It is the essence that gives us life. One of the greatest mysteries of our planet is the magical cycle of rain water pours down from the skies nourishing parched vegetation, evaporation drives water skyward, springs convey great volumes of water to earth's magnificent rivers, and mankind is intertwined in this complex and endless renewal of water. Perhaps the most amazing wonder about this great cycle is water's secret journey underground, where it can travel for hundreds of years before revealing itself on the surface again. Vast reserves of clean water are held within the rock in the earth's aquifers.

Introduction to the Hydrologic Cycle and Aquifers



# Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control for Operators

Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control: Bacteria, Protozoa, and Metazoa is an excellent review of microorganisms found in activated sludge and Identified using the microscope.



Toni Glymph-Martin, instructor of this course, has over

40 years of experience in identification of bacteria, protozoa, metazoa, ciliates, and many more organisms present in today's wastewater systems.

This two or three hour course (part one – part two) is a taped version of her presentation at an annual operator conference. The video clips illustrate these microorganisms in high definition allowing the student to better understand their characteristics, movement, and interface with these organisms; as they swim through wastewater samples. The instructor will discuss each one and provide a better understanding of their function in the treatment system and how to identify them using your microscope; ..... this is better than an instructor, who reads the book without the experience. Plan to view the course sections twice, to get a better understanding.

Process Control is an important aspect of wastewater treatment. Toni will provide troubleshooting solutions to various treatment process issues such as bulking and foaming, improper floc formation, as well as adjustments needed for process control. The course is an easy overview of the role of organisms found in a wastewater treatment plant.





- Globe
- Gate
- Plug
- Check
- Needle
- Ball
- Butterfly



**Pipe, Valve, & Fittings - An Introduction** is a four (4) hour course for all water and wastewater treatment operators, distribution and collection staff, and anyone interested in piping systems. In a brief historical review, we will investigate where piping systems began and how they have improved, progressing to the world of plastics in the piping systems of today. We will explore the development of valve assemblies used in water and wastewater, in addition to the fittings utilized in breakaways for valves and joint connections throughout the piping system.

The materials of construction for pipe and fittings, along with the ratings and standards that regulate them, are illustrated in the ASME Standards Reference, ABC Need-to-Know criteria, and industry benchmarks. Understanding the codes and markings on pipe and schedule of pipe and fittings, as well as the sizing of gaskets is important for new installations, preventive maintenance and repair of all types of pipe systems. Knowledge of welding methods is also essential for efficient operation. We discuss the proper procedure for solvent welding or gluing a PVC connection. In the last half of the series, we discuss valves and their applications in water and wastewater. We offer some cut-away or sectional views that expose the internal components and working parts, so they can be identified in the emergency repair that you may encounter one day. As the old saying goes, it is best to know how it was put together by the factory, before you try to repair it yourself. In addition, some helpful tips and interactive exercises are included in the final sections of the course, providing some nice resources for troubleshooting and repairs.





#### By the end of this training course, you will have the ability to:

- describe the various types of piping systems and materials
- compare the difference between thermoplastic and thermoset piping systems
- indicate the difference between globe and gate valves
- compare the various types of isolating valves
- explain the standards for piping systems
- discuss problems in your pipelines associated with hypochlorite chlorine usage
- illustrate the importance for testing equipment and piping, prior to start-up and training
- discuss the importance of color codes and signage for piping systems

## Water Loss Control by Joey Leverette

This course will introduce you to the vast topic of Water Loss Control include why controlling water loss is such an important focus for all water utilities. The course will provide detailed references to the different type of losses, real and apparent, that utilities should be closely monitoring as part of their daily operations.





The information contained in the course will give the student a better understanding of how to formulate a plan to reduce water loss and provide information on leak detection programs and equipment.

### **Cross Connection Control Program**

Who should take this training! This training is for public water system operators, waste water operators, plumbers, code officials, fire sprinkler installers, government environmental officials, consumers of water, building or facility owners or any individuals who would like to be educated or have more knowledge of cross-connections control and the hazards that they present.

Some of the topics covered by the instructor in this first course will be:

- Cross-Connection Definitions
- The Essential Factors of a Cross-Connection
- The Causes of Backflow
- Cross-Connection case studies

- Why Cross-Connections need to be controlled
- The Resultant Forces
- Why Cross-connections exists

**"Introduction to Cross-connection Control**" is the first of a four part cross-connection control training series that is offered by CEU Plan. Instructor James Holeva defines cross-connection, explains why cross-connections need to be controlled, reviews the essential factors of cross-connections, how resultant forces affect cross-connection incidences, what causes backflow, why cross-connections exists, and, by the review of case-studies, how cross-connection incidences can cause harm.



#### By the end of this training course, you will have the ability to:

- explain what is a cross-connection
- identify the impacts that cross-connections have to the public health
- indicate the causes of backflow and why cross-connections exists
- discuss the hazardous resulting from cross-connections
- illustrate the Essential Factors of a Cross-Connection
- · describe why Cross-Connections need to be controlled





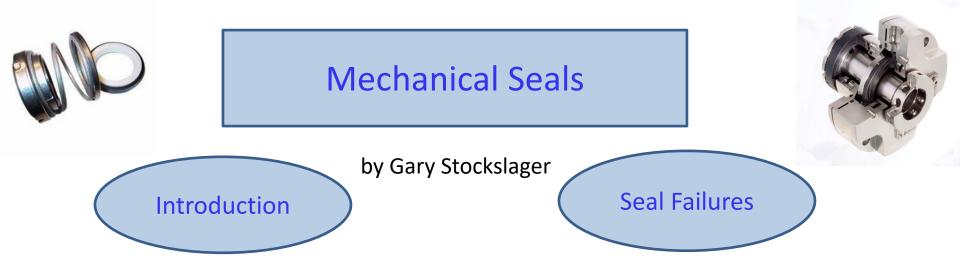
## Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets an introduction

**"Nuts, Bolts, and Gaskets - an introduction** is a fast-paced one hour course providing everyone in the water and wastewater treatment industry with an insight into which grade bolt should be used in connecting pipes, fittings, and equipment. Learn the proper type of fastener required for corrosion-resistant service, along with structural and tensile strengths required to maintain a tight and secure fitting.

Process Equipment need to be secured to foundations and platforms in the proper matter. It is vital for equipment (pumps) to be aligned, leveled, and anchored properly for the continued service requirements that it endures. This course provides the breakdown of fasteners - bolts and nuts, to include manufacturing procedures, tensile strength test and standards, threads per inch for compatible connections, the difference in fastener standards, and materials of construction.

The Gaskets section covers the various types of gaskets, flanged type, materials of construction, and fabrication aspects of gasket material. A review of gasket standards will illustrate some of the options available for renovations of process equipment connections.

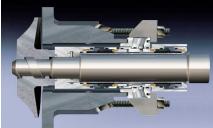
And finally, the course provides a historical timetable of nuts and bolts to orient you with the progress and troubleshooting aspects of the past. Many misconceptions of fasteners and lack of proper type exist; this course will discuss these basic standards and specifications providing you with the knowledge to apply the proper fastener to meet the application and installation requirements for your process equipment and piping systems.

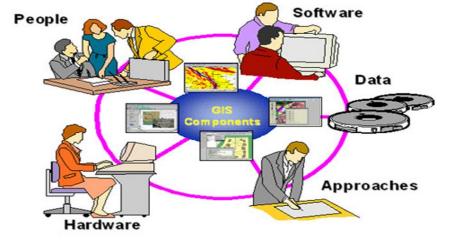


This course is designed to give the student a reasonably understanding of what Mechanical Seals are, what makes them function along with some of the issues/problems/concerns associated with them. It explains the features and benefits of using a Mechanical Seal vs. Packing. The course explains the lapping process and why it is necessary to maintain face flatness. It shows and explains how and why a Mechanical Seal functions and why the Seal Interface is important to the life of a seal and why it is important to keep the seals cool, clean and lubricated. The course gives a brief discussion about the Balance Ratios and how they are calculated for a Balanced and Un-Balanced Seal. The course will explain in detail the various components of a Mechanical Seal and the function of each component. It touches briefly on the various Classifications and Arrangement possibilities of a seal and how they differ. It explains some of the auxiliary equipment used with Mechanical Seals such as "Seal Support Systems" or piping plans. And it touches on a few of the more common failure analysis. Overall, the course is designed to give the student a better understanding concerning Mechanical Seals so they can obtain longer service life and less problems from their Mechanical Seals and thus keep our environment clean and safe from contaminants. This is a two part course: Introduction, followed by Mechanical Seal Failures.

### By the end of this training course, you will have the ability to:

- describe the differences between packing and mechanical seal applications
- identify and discuss the primary and mating rings of a mechanical seal
- investigate worn components of your drive units
- identify the general causes on abrasive surface of a mechanical seal



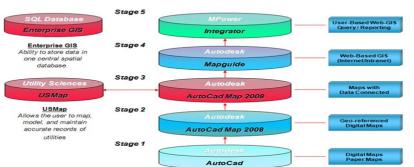


The other courses in this series will detail the various stages of GIS development. These step-by-step will provide procedures and tips in improving your system, as well as, important aspects to consider in engineering your GIS program from the start.

### The GIS course series include:

- □ GIS Readiness Performing a Self-Assessment
- Mapping Your System
- □ Maintaining Your Maps/Geodatabase
- □ along with this Introduction

### The Five Stages of GIS



**"Introduction to GIS**" is the first of a four part series offered by CEU Plan covering Geographic Information Systems. Instructor Jason Brown is an expert of GIS technology and interface. He explains GIS, shows what information is incorporated in GIS, and explains how it benefits its users.

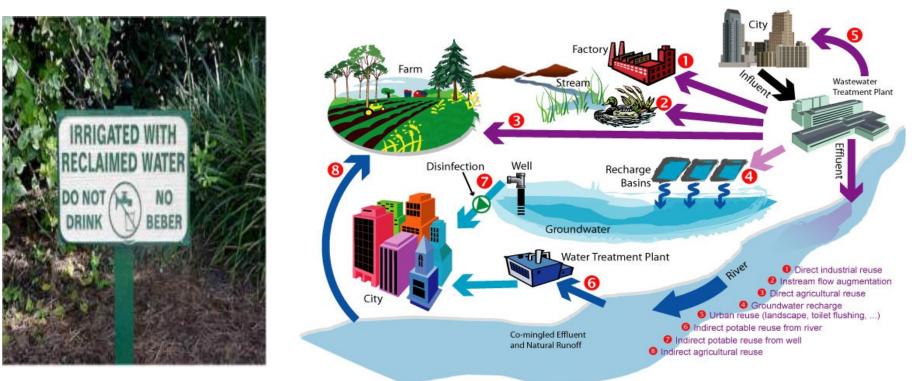
n the second and third course sections, Jason is joined by Ben Glerum, a GIS technician at Ferris State University. They provide some case studies of some GIS systems and illustrates some of the need-to-know criteria related to establishing a digital mapping program.



# Introduction to Water Reclamation

by Donna Kaluzniak

This one hour course is a basic introduction to Water Reuse which includes examples and case studies from around the United States – Arizona, California, Florida, Texas, and many other applications. With the current droughts and wildfires associated with Western USA, Water Reclamation, as a beneficial resources of a wastewater plant is vitally important.



### Thanks to CEU Plan ..... my continuing education training provider



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- Basics in
- Chemistry
- Laboratory Safety
- Laboratory Practices
- Mathematics
- Microbiology
- Parasites
- · Pipe, Valves, & Fittings
- Public Administration
- Sewage Pumping Stations
   submersible -

## CEU () Plan

## Introduction to

- Activated Sludge
- Analytical Instruments
- Backflow Prevention
- Biological Nutrient Removal
- CDC Organization
- Chlorine
- Solids Handling & Stabilization
- Trenchless Technologies
- Ultraviolet Technology
- Wastewater Microbiology and Process Control
- Water Treatment Techniques
   Microbiology and Process Control



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# **Course Packages available for you!**

CEU Plan has developed a number of course packages to provide you with *Hot Topics* and *popular* related training courses at a discounted price, for you to study and use in renewing your operator's license. These course packages are available in many states, however, please understand that state agencies and Course Review Boards must approve the course for certification in their state. We will not mislead anyone to enroll in a course that is not accredited in their state.

Variety of process Control – Hot Topics – Emerging Pathogens – Cyber related courses available 24/7/365

## www.ceuplan.com



Vulnerabilities – Review and Update Ideas for 2021

*Vulnerabilities – Review and Update Ideas for 2021* is a fast-paced course series of seven hours of thought provoking ideas to incorporate into your Vulnerability Assessment – Risk Resiliency Plan.

During the past year, we have seen and faced security threats, data breaches, attacks on our infrastructure; thinking to ourselves - how do we deal with these? How do managers and leaders of public utilities address and combat these disruptions? Is your Security Plan up-to-date? Does it take into account these new threats? And lastly, have we reviewed our Vulnerability Assessment Plan to include these new and evolving challenges impacting on our water and wastewater treatment systems?

In this series of Hot Topics and Challenges-of-Today, we are pleased to submit the following sequence of training providing some interesting ideas in evaluating your current VA Plan. We offer suggestions to answer the emerging threats against your operating systems:

- Risk Assessment and Emergency Response Planning for Utility Professionals
- Physical Infrastructure Security Planning
- Developing & Implementing a Utility Security Plan
- Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors
- Cybersecurity Information Security for Utility Professionals
- Advanced Leadership Skills for Utility Operators
- Ethics in the Utility Workplace

These seven (7) one-hour courses have been developed with plant operators and managers in mind. Mastering fundamental skills in protecting and preserving our operating systems is vital, obtaining quality security and leaderships skills is more important, today, than every before.

Tom Hofer, the instructor for this course series, has over forty (40) years of experience with Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency; in undertaking and training these basic training courses for men and women across the globe.



It is our goal to provide ideas and concepts to assist you in updating your vulnerability protocols, to assist in the evaluation of internal and external threats surrounding your system, and to indicate some leadership skills to consider in keeping your management team current with the latest trends in vulnerability assessment, leadership and protecting your critical systems. We are not stating this is the only way, but rather we offer you useful concepts and ideas to improve and enhance the quality, safety and security of your operations.

Available in the following states:

AL, AR, AZ, CA, FL, HI, MA, MN, MT, MS, NE, NJ, NM

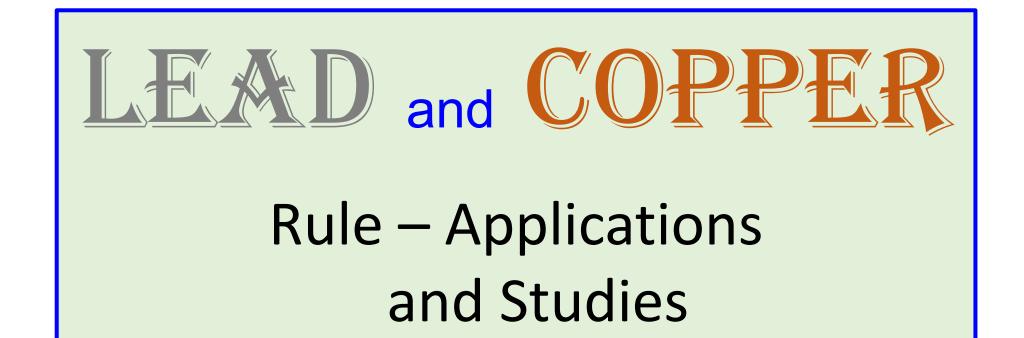
NY, NC, OH, SC, SD, UT, VA, WA, WY, and Canada



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The following course submittal data illustrates each course with description, learning outcomes, beta testing, assessment methods and course breakdowns, along with instructors experience and knowledge in the subject matter. Each course is indexed within this pdf summary.

- CEU ID # Course Title
- 308 Risk Assessment and Emergency Response Planning for Utility Professionals
- 318 Physical Infrastructure Security Planning
- 317 Developing & Implementing a Utility Security Plan
- 315 Basic Leadership Skills for Utility Supervisors
- 302 Cybersecurity Information Security for Utility Professionals
- 316 Advanced Leadership Skills for Utility Operators
- 320 Ethics in the Utility Workplace





Lead and Copper – Rule • Application • Studies is a combination of five – one hour courses, discussing these principals – including what caused these issues and how to solve them, understanding the history of lead pipe usage, the evaluation of lead and copper concentrations, public health aspects and how to sample for lead in public schools, along with illustration of the chain-of-custody forms that distribution and maintenance crews are faced with undertaking. This fast paced, five-hour course series is a Hot Topic and should be considered for all distribution and drinking water staff, to understand and recognize the aspects of lead service lines and replacement.

The course package series includes the following courses:

- Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded?
- Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water
- Lead and Copper Rule
- Lead Sampling in School Buildings
- Paying for Lead Service Lines Replacement

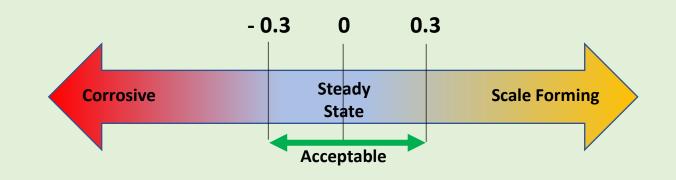


# Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded?

The Romans began using lead pipes to transport water beginning on or before 200 BC and continuing to 250



Interpretation of the Langelier Index



Drinking Water: Leaded or Unleaded? Is a one-hour course based around the history of Lead and how it was used in the early days for water transmission. The course provides a timetable of the historical limitations put on Lead and finally the elimination of the Lead Service Lines. Alan Bowers, PhD. from Vanderbilt University describes the chemical reactions in the Flint, MI water supply case and provides some insights of the contamination with some potential solutions conducted.

## **Chemistry of Lead Contamination in Drinking Water**



# Lead and Copper Rule – a text discussion

Aboi



Environmental Topics La

### Laws & Regulations

**Related Topics:** Drinking Water Contaminants – Standards and I

# Lead and Copper Rule L

## **Overview**

Lead exposure occurs through many pathways, including soil, dust, phase-outs of lead in gasoline and paint – the U.S. has made major r the past several decades. Although the LCR has resulted in substant strengthen its public health protections and clarify its implementati

## **Revisions Being Considered**



- Review of the historical rule and revisions
- Sampling Procedure
- **Treatment Technique**

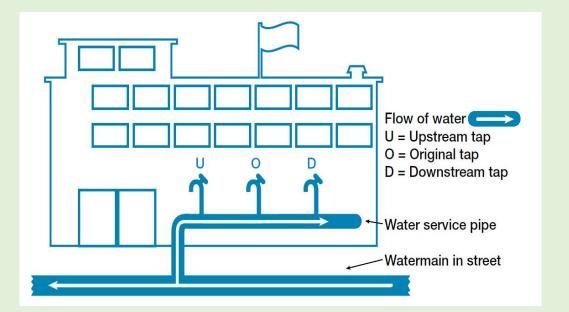


# Paying for Lead Service Line Replacement

# By the end of this training course, you will have the ability to:

- examine the health risk posed by lead service lines and why utilities are choosing to replace them
- identify the steps necessary to create and manage a lead service line replacement program
- explain the ownership of lead service lines and how that can impact the financing of the lead service line replacement program
- discuss the potential legal barriers to using utility funds to improve private property

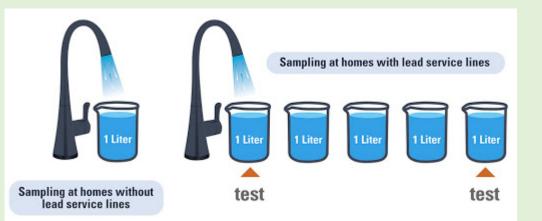
# Lead Sampling in School Buildings



## Testing procedure

- Sampling protocol
- Chain-of-Custody





Pat-Chem Laboratories CHAIN 1824 1st Street San Fernando, CA 91340					OF CUSTODY RECORD Phone (818) 639-5300 Fax (818) 639-5306				Environmental Sample Sample I.D.#:					
Customer:				Project :										
Address:				Sampled by: Report Attention:				P.O. #:						
								Phone #:						
Sample Description	on	Campled	Time Sampled	a of bottes	R	eq	uired Tests	Sample	Type	Matrix	Botte	Preserve	Field Data (pH / Temperature) pH: Field Lab	
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Received by							bottles agrees with COC? Y	with COC? Yes No Matrix HN - HNO,			HN - HNO,			
National Decision				oles intact? Yes No			8	Q - Wate 0 -Sol / S	audge	HP-H,PO, OH-NiOH				
ferevel by							ples properly preserved? Y ples in holding time? 1	ntern? You Ma Bottle !			OT - Other lottle Type		ST - Sodium Thiosulfate AA - Ascorbic Acid	
Reimquithed by						Samples in holding time? Yes No P. Flass AA - / <u>Compliance Monitor</u> G- Amber Glass AI - A' Initial Flow Coli - bacteria				AI - AICI,				

Lead and Copper – Rule • Application • Studies series is approved in the below states and should your state not be included, please check with your state agency for approvals, or let us know. We want to make sure you have the chance to view these awesome courses and training, when you want and have the time ...... All five courses equal 0.5 CEUs with each course = 0.1 CEUs. Upon enrollment in the course package, all courses will be activated on your student page allowing you to start immediately, or when you have time.

During your studies, should you like a section of the course or want to repeat the same lesson to obtain a better understand of the lesson; simply re-play any section you would like. It is a feature; we offer that conferences and classroom are not able to do; providing an on-demand option for you when you want to replay. Once all studies and quizzes have been completed, you may go to your My Transcripts section of your student page and obtain your certificate of completion illustrating your name and state license number, along with the unique course codes required of your state agencies. And lastly, CEU Plan will forward a course completion roster to your state agency according to their requirements, electronic upload or copy to their office. Check it Out! We're sure you will enjoy them.

Available in the following states: AL, AR, AZ, CA, FL, HI, MA, MN, MT, MS, NE, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OH, RI, SC, SD, UT, VA, WA, WY, and Canada

# **Collection and Distribution**



two course package series available for you:

- Collection Issues of 2021
- Distribution Issues facing 2021



# Collection Issues of 2021

Posadoc

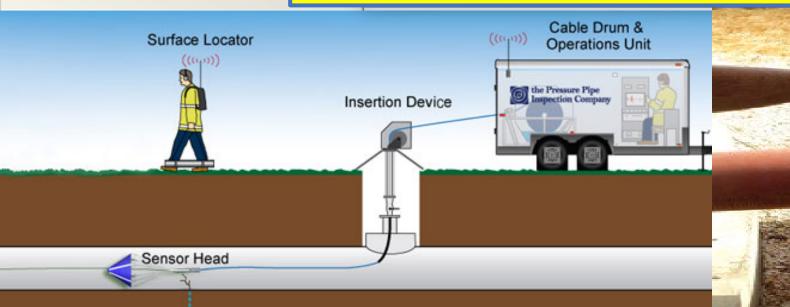
**Collection Issues of 2021** is a five (5) hour course package consisting of some current and popular issues addressing collection and O & M specialist. These streaming video courses illustrate various techniques used by collection and distribution teams on their infrastructures and maintenance program. Save time by learning from some proven methods and assist in your long range planning for asset management. This is a great course series for distribution staff, as well, for cross training and learning about the collection system issues facing staff on a day-to-day basis.

These streaming video courses illustrates some the latest application for coating and lining manholes and wet wells, how to eliminate infiltration issues, how to deal with emergency repairs and sanitary sewer breaks, and suggestions for minimizing your sewer back-up liabilities. Check the individual course for further details....

Joey Leverette, the instructor for this course series has been involved in operation and maintenance of collection and distribution systems for many years. Joey shares his handson knowledge and experience in general and preventive maintenance of sewer system transmission lines – collection systems , sharing some of his research in proven techniques and demonstrates the applications in an operator friendly discussion.



# **Distribution Issues facing 2021**



**Distribution Issues for 2021** is a six (6) hour course package consisting of some current and popular issues addressing pipelines and their measurement and losses. These streaming video courses illustrate various techniques used by collection and distribution teams on their infrastructure and maintenance programs. Save time by learning some proven methods, which will assist in your long-range planning.

In this course series, we will explore the use of air release valves to minimize air blockage in the lines and equipment, flow measurement with some of the basic fundamentals of flow meters, control of water loss, and pipeline inspections and assessments. These are four of the major issues facing distribution systems; some also face their collection systems. This course series is recommended for all, as it deals with day-to-day problems faced by most operators and provides some of the latest discussions for evaluating your pipelines.

# **Collection and Distribution**

two course package series available for you:
 Collection Issues of 2021
 Distribution Issues facing 2021

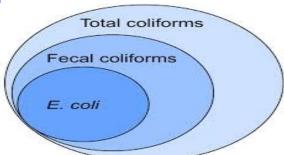
These two course packages are available in many states offering five to six hours of studies in Collection or Distribution issues facing operators of today. Observe the techniques used in rebuilding a manhole, resurfacing lift stations and manholes, what are some of the new techniques in coatings, what is proven and where are the solutions? Dealing with corrosion? How to evaluate pipe leaks and age of your pipes ...

During your studies, should you like a section of the course or want to repeat the same lesson to obtain a better understand of the lesson, simply re-play any section you would like. It is a feature we offer that conferences and classroom are not able to provide: an ondemand option for you, when you want to replay. Once all studies and quizzes have been completed, you may go to your My Transcripts section of your student page, and obtain your certificate of completion. Check it Out! We're sure you will enjoy this series.



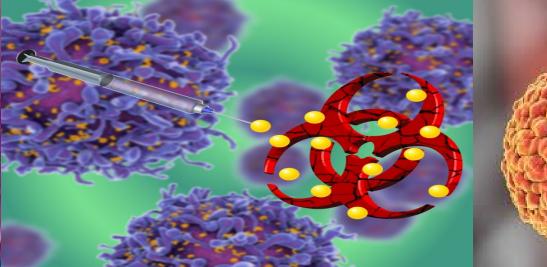


## Laboratory Practices for Wastewater



Ocea





### Laboratory Practices for Wastewater - #10021

## CEU Plan

Ten hour course package is a nice variety of laboratory practice topics for wastewater. From a review of emerging to waterborne pathogens within the stream, actual footage and identification of variety types, along with the standard methods and procedures within the lab. These courses provide an overview of laboratory techniques and process control tips:

- Emerging Pathogens in Water and Wastewater
- Wastewater Microbiology & Process Control part two
- LP: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)
- LP: Solids Analysis TSS, TDS, VSS, and More
- LP: Fecal Coliform Bacteria Determination
- LP: Basic Laboratory Terminology and Concepts
- Jar Testing

10 Hours of Lab Studies \$ 188.95

This is an awesome course arrangement allowing you to repeat the various videos, as many times as you would like ..... until you feel comfortable with the procedures.... Allow this concept to assist you in better understanding... ....Tips to help you at your plant.....

Preview of the 2020s

The BEST Investment you can make ... is an Investment in yourself!

## Invest in your education

... look at yourself and where you might feel uncomfortable in skill sets or workforce issues and update your understanding of your job.

## Increase your knowledge base

... this will reduce the time to perform your duties and tasks.

## Improve in your skills

... this will increase your status, your position, your salary and may lead to advancement in your career.



State Approved Training

### Course Packages include:

- Wastewater Treatment Process Control
- Laboratory Practices for DW & WW
- Piping System for Water Operations
- Collection Issues of 2020
- AWIA an overview and discussion
- Cross Connection & Backflow Prevention
- Basic Medium Advanced level series

### **Topics from:**

- Process Control
- Emerging Pathogens
- Troubleshooting
- Basic Fundamental
- Cybersecurity AWIA
- Operator Math made easy
- Plant Operations

# www.ceuplan.com

**CEU** Plan

ON DEMAND

Available for:

- DW
- DS
- ww
- CS
- and many more

## Student Feedback, Comments, & Testimonials

Periodically, we scan the evaluation forms submitted at the completion of the students' training course events. It is a *CEU Plan Policy* for a student to submit the evaluation form, prior to receiving their Certificate of Completion. Our testimonial file consists of over twenty years of student feedback, content discussions, operator comments, and program suggestions. In our research and course development, we evaluate this data and identify trends of cognitive understanding as demonstrated by participants in CEU Plan courses and programs. This information is vital to maintaining and updating training events, to meet the ever-changing needs of the operators and students. We would like to share some of the feedback, however, please keep in mind that we do not evaluate any spelling or typos or sentence completion errors; we are more concerned about what the student thinks, retains and reiterates from our courses and program:

- Basic headwork components of other plants. Cheap methods to equalize flow. Colder weather operations. Understanding problems that can arise outside the normal operation of our plant can prepare us for potential problems.
- Great review of chemistry terms- solvent, solute, solution, miscible, oxidizer, precipitate Great explanation on additional health concerns that occurred with Flint water I learned more about Newark lead water issue than I had known previously. I am a chemist, and work at a water treatment facility.
- Motivate-different styles to motivate for different settings and people. Seek to go 1st-as a leader you should be the 1st to do what you would ask of your people. Be solution-be part of the solution and not part of the problem. Be positive and set the example to be followed. Was very good and covered a lot of information. Hard to absorb so much info in an hour course.
- The health effects of lead poisoning How to prevent lead leaching into drinking water using orthophosphates That lead in the water decreases free chlorine residuals, but when orthophosphates are used, free chlorine stays stable This knowledge is helpful when fielding questions from homeowners doing L&C testing. This was an interesting easy to understand course. I saw the word chemistry & was dreading the course, but the presenter made it so interesting that I actually enjoyed it!
- The difference between leadership and management. The importance of leading by example. If you want people to be on time then you BE ON TIME. Developing leadership skills for the workplace. The information in this course is priceless. Very well put together and will help in my future leadership challenges. This course was phenomenal! Well done Thomas Hofer! Good choice CEU Plan.
- Pipeline assessments can help prioritize capital improvements. Made aware of country's aging water lines. Different types of pipeline assessments.
- Secchi disk- Never used it at my plant, but I can see how its useful. Nocardia cannot be treated with Chlorine; in fact, it can make it worse. You have to waste more or adjust your process control to get it out. Microorganisms, how they work, how to identify the sludge age by which ones you see in the microscope.
- Professionalism = Attitude 2. Ethics = Golden Rule 3. Integrity = Doing right thing even when nobody is looking. I will teach others through my behavior and by teaching others the links between ethics, integrity, and professionalism. The course and materials were excellent.
- How to inventory/create L&C sampling plan, the types of faucets that do not need to be sampled Proper site isolation & sampling technique I assist with L&C sampling at a county school system with 14 schools, so this course helps me to help them. This was an excellent course. I enjoyed the slides and the links to outstanding materials to use for our schools.
- The video of the samples take in the high school was awesome??. Please have more this type of training. Wow ??

- If a tank has a cone on the bottom of it I will be able to figure out the capacity of it, if I know the flow rate I'll know how big of a tank I'll need, how to figure out the square footage of a round tank. I used this at my job to know how many gallons were going to be hauled out of a tank.
- I learned about the history of lead in drinking water, and about drinking water standards and about Corrosion control. At our water plant we comply to all the Drinking Water standards and our DEP and try to keep up with new rules to better our water quality. CEU plan is awesome. Don't change a thing.
- I like the way the sections are segmented so that I can go through them at my own pace.
- That THMs were also a problem in Flint How the LI is used to determine if the coating will work. The use of ortho or polyphosphates & how they affect drinking water going through the distribution system This information helps to field questions from customers as we do L&C testing at our public water systems. I love CEU Plan & the quality courses it provides.
- Learned about bar screening and grit screening. Learned about flow measurement. Learned about lift station importance. This course is a great refresher for my wastewater treatment certification.
- This is a very informative course on how to keep yourself protected from being a victim of a cyber-attack. Explains how to safeguard your computer from Malware issues, and how to not be infected.
- Using a microscope is useful What a Secchi Disk is and how to use one Proper settleometer container What a sludge core sampler is and how it is useful to an operator I am going to start using a 1-to-2-liter beaker for the settleometer test, instead of a graduated cylinder.
- I appreciated that the course built upon the basics. It is difficult to just jump to the more advanced topics without reviewing the basic information. I feel that I have a better foundation to build my knowledge upon.
- All about flanges, I never realized there are that many different types. Tensile Strength for fasteners, Selecting the best fastener for a specific job is a very important part of preparation. Fastener materials, we use stainless steel fasteners quite often in our pump stations, and learning about the series of stainless steel was important. I thought the CEU plan was great. It worked out well in my busy schedule.
- Cyber criminals, disgruntled employees and hackers are all a threat. VPN are not as safe as I once thought. Thumb drives are not as safe as I once thought. u r awesome.
- Identify ISO standards that are applicable 2. How to conduct an assessment 3. Necessary components of an Emergency Response plan. I will use this information in the development of a wastewater Emergency Action Plan for our facility.
- Polymer Concrete Link Seal Super Oxygen This is excellent information for items relevant in the sewer utility industry.
- Types of Grout. Differences between linings and coatings. Alternatives to standard concrete structures. Was not aware of newer alternatives to standard concrete structures that could utilized for special applications.
- I learned about Sampling in school buildings, sampling in child care facilities and the case study of Ernieville High School. We don't have any schools or child care facilities in our service area.
- Enjoy that the programs are segmented into sections that don't require sitting in front of computer for hours.





# A Regulatory Guide to Maintaining the Integrity of Continuing Education Programs



A REGULATORY GUIDE TO MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS COPYRIGHT © 2016 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING 1

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### Preface

This report paints with a broad brush. Trends and issues identified herein may not correspond to every regulatory agency across the globe. Regulatory agencies are notoriously different between jurisdictions and often have special processes for addressing unique issues. It is, however, the goal of this report to provide a general overview of major issues regulators face in administering a professional continuing education regimen for their industry. While some issues identified herein may have almost certainly been addressed by agencies, this report should also provide new insights for regulators. In addition, professional education regimens normally include: pre-license education (courses required prior to licensure and testing), post-license education (focused education required within some period after licensing), and continuing education (education required periodically after licensure). While references may be made to these three categories of professional education, the focus of the report is on continuing education.

Finally, the terms *occupation* and *profession* shall be combined into a single term called *industry*. For example, architecture is considered a *profession* while construction work may be classified as an *occupation*. Continuing education can be applied to both professions and occupations so we shall equate both with the term *industry*.

3

### Introduction

The goal of this report is to provide regulatory staff and agents with an introduction to the issues inherent in regulating continuing education programs. A cornerstone of regulating any profession is ensuring licensees meet minimum standards for earning and maintaining their professional license. Minimum standards are usually met by completing an education and testing regimen. After licensure, professionals usually embark into a process of career-long learning with mandatory continuing education programs. The integrity of these education programs are vital to maintaining a well-trained licensee base and protecting public interest.

Almost every profession changes. Laws, regulations, technology, competition, and globalization are all major drivers of 21<sup>st</sup> century advancements. Change affects all industries and one way regulatory agents protect the public is to ensure their licensees keep up with evolution through mandatory continuing education (CE).

### Philosophy of Regulating Continuing Education

When patients go to a doctor, how do they know the doctor is competent to practice medicine? When consumers purchase a home, often the biggest purchase of a lifetime, how do they know the real estate agents are competent and won't violate the trust placed in them? When a group of construction workers install scaffolding above a busy walkway, how is the public assured those individuals are competent to take on such a risky task?

Licensure and mandatory professional education is the answer to those questions. Almost every major trade group from accountants, doctors, lawyers, real estate agents, engineers, etc. have some type of regulatory framework governing them. A part of that framework involves mandatory pre-license education and requires periodic mandatory CE to ensure licensees meet minimal standards to practice their profession. Those individuals charged with establishing and/or enforcing those education standards we shall call *regulators*. It is understood that many industries have their education standards set by legislators. Regulators then extrapolate and administer policy that best implements the desire of the legislature. However, legislators often have limited experience in the industries they are affecting and depend on practitioners to guide and counsel them in decision making. For purposes of this paper, we will define *regulators* has a group that may operate separately and under the authority of a federal, state or provincial legislature. Regulatory groups manifest themselves in different jurisdictions as professional boards, councils, and/or commissions.

Regulators are hired, elected, and/or appointed to serve in a regulatory capacity for an industry. Typically, highly qualified industry practitioners are chosen for esteemed positions on regulatory boards, councils, and commissions. With the honor of holding a position on a regulatory body also comes great responsibility. The task of protecting an industry or profession is no small task. Regulators define minimum standards for their profession and grant or deny individuals the ability to practice their trade.

Regulators normally require licensees to complete a certain amount of education each licensing period to meet minimum standards. For example, across the United States, on average, real estate licensees have to complete 12 hours of CE annually to maintain their professional license. Some jurisdictions require more, while others less. The amount of CE also varies from industry to industry. Industries like accounting, on average, require more CE of their licensees when compared with others.

4

# Factors Influencing CE Requirements

The amount of CE required in an industry is based upon a number of factors including:

• **Political influence of trade groups.** Trade groups want to defend the integrity and reputation of its members. In industries like law, and real estate, a few bad actors can tarnish the industry as

a whole. Trade groups, in turn, defend and promote their professional brand among consumers. Promoting a professional brand increases consumer confidence, commerce and opportunity for the whole. However, it can also be in a trade group's interest to limit the number of people entering their profession. Anti-trust laws are in place to address issues of trade groups who inappropriately leverage their power to limit the number of practitioners in an

Trade groups want to defend the integrity and reputation of its members.

industry. Another way trade groups, through their associations, often wield their power is through the use of political action committees (PACs). PACs are used to collect and donate money to political candidates that support the association's causes. PACs are used strategically to help ensure policy is implemented that is favorable to the trade group. It is no coincidence the most effective trade groups in establishing policy are often the ones that have the most robust PAC. This is not to say politicians or trade groups are all corrupt. Numerous interest groups, often with the best of intentions, compete for policy makers' attention and money is one way to get it. Politicians only have so much time to spend with constituents. Out of necessity for time management, politicians will often choose to focus his or her time on the most organized and/or the most significant financial contributors.

Interestingly, to get more CE implemented in a jurisdiction, some trade groups will insist on "grandfathering" existing licensees from having to do additional CE while requiring only new licensees to bear the extra burden. On occasion, there is no other political avenue than to pass legislation requiring more CE with a grandfather clause because the long time industry practitioners do not believe they need the education. Often, industry veterans have close relationships with key policy makers who can kill policy proposals that may inconvenience them.

Public complaints and violations of license law. Public outcry of sub-standard professional practice and/or misconduct can also affect regulatory policy and the education that is required in an industry. For example, in 2002 the owner of a crematory in Georgia was found to have been disposing of bodies inappropriately on the grounds of his facility. The news of the horror went national and numerous groups regulating crematories reassessed their license laws and how compliance could better be assured in light of such a tragedy. The best regulatory agencies have mandatory CE courses that proactively cover the most frequent violations of license

The best regulatory agencies have mandatory CE courses that proactively cover the most frequent violations of license law.

law that affect public trust.

• **Cost.** Regulatory agencies should evaluate the costs of mandatory education. The evaluation of expense should include costs for the education itself and opportunity costs for the time the practitioner is away from their trade. Opponents of additional CE requirements may suggest that increasing the amount of education required for a profession may drive some practitioners out of business. From the author's experience, a moderate increase in educational requirements

Regulators should be cautious about imposing requirements on the mass based upon the limited experience of a few. does not result in an immediate mass exodus of practitioners from the industry, although there may be some limited instances of it happening. Most ethical regulators and industry practitioners want high yet reasonable standards. One of the best ways to determine what is a reasonable education regimen is to examine the requirements of neighboring jurisdictions. If the national average is sixteen hours of CE for a particular industry and the regulatory agency in question requires six, chances are that the regulatory agency may want to consider raising their requirements. Often trade groups balk at the notion of doing something because another jurisdiction is doing it, but comparative analysis should not be

overlooked as a component of decision making. Another excellent way to ensure a jurisdiction is requiring the appropriate amount of CE is to do a job analysis and develop the education regimen around the needs identified. This can often be expensive but very worthwhile. The alternative is to gather a group of practitioners and/or regulators and make antidotal decisions about what should be required based on the group's collective recommendation. Regulators should be cautious about imposing requirements on the mass based upon the limited experience of a few.

Regulators should also understand the big financial picture of the education market in their jurisdiction. For example, regulators can sample the cost of CE offerings from various education providers and calculate the average price per clock hour of instruction for the continuing education. Then multiply the average cost per clock hour by the number of mandatory hours per licensee. After that, multiply the cost per licensee by the total number of number of active licensees. Using analysis like this can help frame and determine costs associated with continuing education changes. Prior to changing any continuing education requirement, regulators and legislators will always want to know the financial impact.

• Perception of need. While far from a scientific approach, many regulatory education regimens are based upon an arbitrary amount of hours set by industry regulators and practitioners. Exceptional regulatory agencies will form taskforces and/or other workgroups to examine curricular needs to maintain a healthy industry. After the needs are identified, the recommendations will be placed into a curriculum and recommended for approval. It is important for regulators to ask, if our agency is going to require X hours of CE every year, how did we arrive at X hours? In the course of advocating for new laws regarding continuing

education, the author has been asked this question by numerous legislators trying to decide how to vote for whether CE hours in an industry should be raised.

## Why the Marketplace Does Not Always Promote the Best Education

Some assume that CE and training markets work the same way as other free markets in that learners will seek the highest quality for the lowest dollar. Poor quality providers will then, as a matter of course, be driven out of business because learners will not take courses that are weak or low quality. If the free market will regulate the quality of the CE provider, why is government needed at all?

That approach seems logical, but the premise is flawed for one major reason. Education is one of the only things people are willing to pay for and not receive. If the government dictated that each person would have to buy a certain number of groceries every week, regardless of whether he or she needed them, where would the consumer go for their groceries? The answer is the place that cost them the

Education is one of the only things people are willing to pay for and not receive. least time and money. Quality is secondary or forsaken altogether. Professional education is not much different. Professionals are often busy and the opportunity costs of taking CE they do not believe they need are high. Learners therefore often opt for the easiest way to comply. The commodity becomes compliance, not education. If not regulated, education providers have a commercial interest in making their education as fast and easy to complete as

possible. The best education providers typically struggle with the unleveled playing field. Quality providers want to offer great education that has integrity, but are undercut by competitors who offer a faster, cheaper, lower quality, and less rigorous alternative while still providing the most coveted commodity which is compliance. If not wisely regulated, the quality of CE programs can spiral toward the lowest common quality denominator.

## What is Professional Education's Lowest Common Denominator?

One of the frustrating facets of being an education provider is that quality and rigor are not always appreciated or marketable. Often simple and fast courses requiring little of the learner are the most marketable. If regulation is not in place to ensure a minimal standard for quality and rigor, a jurisdiction's required CE regimen will degrade toward the lowest standard. For example, one regulatory agency allows its licensees to complete their mandatory CE by ordering a small workbook that contains a ten question quiz on the rear cover. Learners receive the book, complete an over simplified quiz, and send it back to the provider for three hours of CE. In reality, most learners spent less far less than three hours working in the course. Essentially, the course was designed for compliance, not quality education. If learners can buy and obtain compliance that easy, what about the course developer that spent tens of thousands of dollars developing a rigorous quality program that actually requires three hours to finish? The author has interviewed numerous major professional education providers who intentionally reduce the rigor of their courses in order to compete with other providers doing the same. The result is that education markets resort to the lowest common denominator for quality and rigor unless regulation is in place to level the playing field and keep the standard meaningful.

Imposing meaningful education standards can help ensure CE regimens do not degrade to the lowest common denominator. For our purposes, education standards have three components:

- 1.) **Content standards** ensure the course content aligns with the relevance to industry. Quality content standards also align the rigor of the course with the appropriate audience. In other words, gauging whether content is too easy for experienced professionals is also a component of content evaluation.
- 2.) **Instructional design standards** ensure courses are designed to meet the objectives. While instructional design is a topic unto itself, it involves things like, objective writing, assessment design, remediation strategies and course evaluation.
- 3.) **Delivery standards** encompass how the course is delivered to the learner. Delivery standards can encompass things like technical requirements for the course, facility requirements, differentiated instructional methods, cognitive challenge, learner engagement strategies, ensuring relevance to the audience, and strategies for teaching to preexisting knowledge. Obviously some of these items may also coincide with instructional design standards.

Regulatory imposition of instructional design and delivery standards can be onerous for a regulatory agency with limited resources. This is why organizations like the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) exists. Regulators can impose a well-researched education

standard for instructional design and delivery through a third party like IACET and then focus their regulatory review on the course content. Essentially, a provider earns an accreditation for instructional design and delivery before ever submitting a course to a regulatory agency. Once the course arrives at the regulatory agency, regulators can have confidence the course already meets a minimum standard for instructional design and delivery. Course content is where the regulator has unique expertise. No one is as qualified to review course content as the regulator. Regulators should approve courses that have the appropriate content and the rigor necessary to fulfill objectives. Ensuring appropriate rigor in CE courses means being able to distinguish between basic, intermediate and advanced content levels and prescribing the appropriate level for its practitioners. When addressing the difficulty level

Regulatory imposition of instructional design and delivery standards can be onerous for a regulatory agency with limited resources.

of content that is contained within a CE course, the "competency vs. seat time" debate will inevitably arise and is a topic for which the regulators should be prepared to address.

## Competency Verses Seat-Time

Measuring the competency of a practitioner to perform a task is the ideal way to assess learning in CE programs. If the objective is to weld in a straight line, the learner should be able to demonstrate welding in a straight line. However, proving competency in dynamic topics like contract negotiation, ethics or financial investment instruments can be difficult and costly.

To better assess competency, almost all industry regulators require "pre-license" education and testing so the candidate for licensure can demonstrate a minimal level of competency through high stakes testing and in some cases some experiential requirements. Pre-license is the initial hurdle a licensee has to overcome in order to earn a license. Often the pre-license test and experiential requirements are designed by professional testing companies that perform a work analysis within the profession and design tasks that are meant to assess competency. In order to provide a greater emphasis on measuring

competency, some regulators and testing companies have moved away from instruments like multiple choice tests and are using more practical competency-based testing instruments such as simulation-based tests. Unfortunately, pre-license education only helps ensure competency of the practitioners on the front-end of licensure and affects a minority of current licensees.

After a practitioner receives a license, all too often the jurisdiction's CE regimen reverts to seat-time requirements. Accountants may take 80 hours of CE cycle while real estate agents have to take 12. A worthwhile question to ask is how are these hours justified? The answer varies between regulatory agencies and jurisdictions. As a result, legislatures pass laws requiring "hours of CE" for licensees. In turn, regulatory agencies enforce the statute using clock hours and competency becomes secondary. Realistically, a person can be incompetent in the topic but pass the open book exam at the end of a course. This is perhaps one of the biggest weaknesses of any CE regimen based on seat time. Quality regimens are built on a well-designed and implemented needs analysis.

So why wouldn't regulatory agencies simply measure competency for CE programs? That is easier said than done, and here are a few reasons why. First, what is competency? Regulators would have to define competency for what are often numerous and complex industry issues. Defining competency would be expensive and impractical. Second, regulators often do not have the resources to develop a competency-based education system. Expertise beyond that of typical regulatory staff is required and along with that comes extra expense. Third, regulators will often leave it to the education providers to measure competency with the topics they teach. However, when an education provider decides what competency is, the bar can fall far below what is needed. Education providers are all too often pressured to sell compliance which means allowing learners to complete objectives that are far less rigorous than what should be expected from an experienced practitioner.

Regardless, measuring competency when possible is still ideal. Some academic environments are rethinking the competency versus seat time debate.

"A recent policy scan from the Carnegie Foundation explored the course credit policies for all 50 states and the District of Columbia in an effort to understand the distribution of seat-time requirement versus credit flexibility. The report notes a shift in policy away from the historically preferred Carnegie Unit and toward a broader definition of what may constitute course credit. While 10 states (Arkansas, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Texas, Virginia, and Wyoming) and the District of Columbia were still requiring the use of seat-time as the only definition of credit, the remaining 40 states allowed for some degree of flexibility. The report finds 29 of these states define credit by a combination of seat-time and/or additional measures such as competency-based education" (Pate, 2013)

Making strides toward a greater competency-based education regimen is an uphill climb in most regulatory circles. Countless statutes governing numerous industries specify clock hours of education for CE. In a need to enforce the law, regulators will continue to require clock hours of CE regardless of how practical competency sounds.

### Classroom and Distance Learning

#### **Classroom Education**

Regulators generally tend to let their guard down when it comes to classroom education. When in a classroom, learners sit with an instructor for a specific time period which seems to make regulators

more comfortable with the learning environment. Occasionally, regulatory agencies will require exams at the end of a classroom course but not always. There are often assumptions about classroom education that regulators generally make like:

- 1. instructors will engage the learner with the appropriate course content.
- 2. instructors will assess learners periodically to ensure concepts connect and are clarified.
- 3. meaningful interaction in the course will be facilitated.
- good instructional practice will be used by teaching to different learning styles, teaching to preexisting knowledge, and incorporating <u>Bloom's</u> <u>taxonomy</u> into the course objectives and assessmen

The best regulatory agencies audit classroom courses.

taxonomy into the course objectives and assessments to ensure learners are engaged at the appropriate cognitive level.

5. Regarding learner identity, learners are who they say they are. If the "learner" is physically in the class, they must be the licensee.

The best regulatory agencies audit classroom courses to ensure the assumptions listed above are happening. Feedback is then given from the regulators to the education provider and, if necessary, improvements made or approval to teach is revoked for non-compliance. Unfortunately, a majority of regulatory agencies do not have the time, money or professional resources to audit education.

#### **Distance Learning**

Distance education has been around for centuries via mail correspondence. However, a 21<sup>st</sup> century definition usually involves online learning using the Internet. Perhaps no other medium in the world,



beside Gutenberg's printing press, has generated so much potential for learning and yet so much concern for integrity.

In the late 1990's as distance learning used for CE programs started to more heavily leverage technology, regulators were faced with an increasing number of decisions about ensuring educational standards were maintained without the benefit of the learner appearing before a live instructor. During this period, numerous industries reacted by limiting distance learning, or banning it altogether for the purposes of

continuing education. In many cases, there were huge gaps between what learners experienced in a classroom and what they experienced through their computer. As regulators considered distance learning courses for CE they had to wrestle with the following distance education issues:

- Limited or no access to an instructor.
- The learner primarily accountable for their own learning with little or substandard accountability provided by the learning systems.
- How is seat time maintained and subsequently a statute enforced?
- What would prevent a learner from clicking through a 3-hour online course in 10 minutes?
- How do regulators know the person taking the course is the licensee getting credit?

**Asynchronous distance learning courses** can be the most problematic distance learning format for regulators trying to uphold quality. Asynchronous courses can be taken at any time from any location offering busy learners an attractive convenience for meeting their education requirements. Often asynchronous courses seek to minimize or eliminate the role of the instructor in the educational process. This leaves the weight of ensuring quality education on the instructional design process. Consider the things an instructor typically does in a classroom course: presents content, responds dynamically to learners' questions, provides remediation, reassesses as necessary, teaches to different learning styles, and modifies the objectives and/or assessments via Bloom's Taxonomy to ensure maximum learning occurs. To remove or minimize the roll of the instructor is to potentially leave a major gap in the educational process that technology and instructional design will have to fill. One major gap that asynchronous courses can have when compared to classroom courses is how course time is mandated to ensure compliance with statute.

The two biggest concerns regulators have with distance education courses are typically: 1.) learner identity 2.) ensuring clock hours in the course. Other issues certainly exist, but these most frequently top of the list.

#### **Learner Identity**

Technology is rapidly solving the learner identity issue but regulators in many industries are still not persuaded to mandate learner identification procedures due to cost. Usually, regulatory agencies at

minimum will require some type of affirmation to an identity statement. For example, a learner may be asked to check a box in a course that says they hereby affirm they are the person getting credit for the course. It is understood that this procedure does not verify learner identity but gives some legal basis to the regulator to take action should they find out the learner did not perform the work as stated. Regulators should also ask not only what are learner identification procedures in the online environment but for the classroom as well. Often regulators will have big concerns over what happens online but not in a classroom.



Essentially, when it comes to verification of learner identity, regulators do not desire to inconvenience the masses for the impropriety of a few learners who would cheat. However, as technology improves, learner identity is, in general, becoming more cost effective and easier to accomplish.

#### Methods for Establishing Course Completion Time

The second issue, involving how regulators ensure seat time in a distance learning course, is another major regulatory concern. Consider *Figure 1* below listing the methods for establishing time spent in an asynchronous (anytime, anyplace) distance learning course along with the advantages and disadvantages.

Figure 1. Asynchronous Course Time Evaluation Mechanisms	Advantages	Disadvantages
Mandatory time requirement for each page of instruction enforced by technology.	- The course mandates a certain amount of time on every page of instruction and the seat time will be enforced.	- How is it known if whether the learner has walked away from the computer?
		- Learners with higher reading rates and better comprehension are punished by not being able move through the course at their most effective rate.
		- Does not consider the competency of the learner.
Mandatory time requirement enforced with technology at the course level (not page-by- page).	- Time is mandated and learners are forced to be engaged until time expires.	- When the learner reaches the end of the course additional instructional design is required to inform the learner of how
	<ul> <li>Allows learners to navigate freely until then end of the course.</li> </ul>	they must fulfill the remaining time if necessary.
		<ul> <li>Does not consider the competency of the learner.</li> </ul>
Course time studies by third party analysts.	- Time studies by a third party are a great way to road test a course and get a sample for how learners may perform from	- Time study participants must be of the appropriate sample audience and experience level.
	a professional capable of making such an estimate.	- Time studies do not mandate seat time. They suggest to the regulator how long the course might take the typical learner.
		- Time study analysts have to be experts within the field or risk over or under estimating the difficulty of content.
Course time analysis by sample learners	- Time studies are a great way to road test a course and get a sample of how learners will perform based upon actual results from learners from the appropriate sample audience.	- More than one learner needs to complete the course and, therefore, cannot be included in the sample as every learner is different.

Figure 1. Asynchronous Course Time Evaluation Mechanisms	Advantages	Disadvantages
Word count	-Provides an equitable and quantitative benchmark for establishing the amount of	-Disregards consideration for difficulty of the content.
	content needed. The average adult reads at 250-300 words per minute. (Ziefle, 1998)	-Does not consider non-prose content such as math problems.
		-Encourages instructional designers to use superfluous language to meet word count requirements.
Playing audio recorded reading of written content to ensure an appropriate time.	-Provides some objective measure and enforcement of course time.	-Educational research suggests reading written content to a learner while that same written prose appears on the page in front of them is counterproductive to learning (Clark & Mayer, 2008).
		-Learners cannot read at their own rate but must listen at the speed of the narrator.
Audit time logs in learning management system.	-Provides a quantitative and unambiguous report of the time learners spend in a course.	-reports can be manipulated by unscrupulous providers.
	-if not required for every course and every learner, the time logs can be examined on an as needed or audit basis.	-the methodology is based upon hindsight. If courses are short in time, some learners will get credit and not spend the time necessary.
		-Learning management systems must be properly equipped and programmed to track the time a learner spends in the class.
		<ul> <li>course providers must agree to provide the time reports.</li> </ul>

There is no perfect way to evaluate the time learners spend in a course when they can complete it at their own pace. Perhaps the best method for enforcing time is requiring a strategic combination of these methods. The methods required for evaluating course time will depend on the philosophy of the regulatory agency in fulfilling their statues. For example, in a three-hour CE course, some regulators are comfortable verifying time with a sample of learners, who may be academically exceptional, finishing

the course in faster time than the allotted time. These learners may have experience with the content and/or a faster reading rate than other average learners. However, providers can still make the case that the "average learner" takes three hours to complete the course. Some learners will take longer than three hours and some will take less, but the average is three.

In a more conservative regulatory agency, basing hours on how the average learner performs may not work. Statutes will mandate learners' complete x hours in a course regardless of individual competency. If this regulatory philosophy is in place, the regulatory agency must implement a delivery policy that mandates seat-time regardless of performance or competency.

**Synchronous online courses** are held at a certain time and can be taken any place with the technology. Synchronous courses make it easy for regulators to establish time since the course is designed to mirror the classroom experience. Learners login at a specific time and interact with an instructor and/or classmates in a cohort. Course time is mandated and engagement can be tracked using a variety of technologies on the market today. Perhaps the biggest regulatory concern regarding synchronous courses is ensuring instructors include enough interaction to ensure learners do not walk away from the course for an extended time and still get credit.

Education providers and learners are usually less excited about synchronous courses because the design mandates learners appear at a certain time online. Another disadvantage of synchronous courses is that instructors can only facilitate a maximum number of learners in one teaching session. Inevitably the loss of flexibility leaves a lot to be desired for the busy learner and makes other asynchronous online learning alternatives more attractive.



**Online academic cohort based online courses** are held asynchronously and over a period of weeks or months. Periodically, an instructor leading the course opens new content modules, makes assignments and gives feedback. This methodology represents a small minority of CE programs for professional licensure as it is not practical to have a cohort for a class that spans a few hours or less. In addition, the cost of having an instructor facilitate the education process (making assignments, monitoring progress, giving feedback etc.) is an expensive proposition. Education providers usually prefer to build their CE courses, and then offer them at any time with minimal human involvement.

#### Summary on distance education

As time has passed and concerns have been addressed with quality standards and instructional design,

restrictions on distance education have been eased. Distance learning opens numerous opportunities for professional education. However, the online environment is still ripe for abuse if not carefully and thoughtfully regulated. Regulatory strategies intended to address concerns with online courses include:

- Limiting the number of hours of CE a learner in can earn via online education.
- Imposing a strong audit system for ensuring courses are taught as approved.

The world doesn't stop changing after professionals obtain a license nor should the education they receive.

- Require formative assessment in the instructional design. Incremental learning quizzes help ensure mastery of content on a unit by unit basis.
- Require summative assessments including but not limited to final exams for online courses.
- Require or recognize a third party accreditation process like IACET for education providers that help ensure integrity of providers and courses before they ever get to the regulators desk for approval. Requiring an accreditation helps ensure courses meet a high standard prior to submission to the regulator for approval.

#### Summary

Regulating professional education is a necessary part of ensuring professionalism and protecting the public. Standards exist that help regulators navigate the educational research and implement a fair and attainable standard that benefit all the industry stakeholders. Organizations like IACET help ensure regulators do not have to recreate the wheel of education standards for professional education. The need to implement high standards seems obvious but in doing so, as with almost any worthwhile endeavor, will not come without opposition. In every industry, there are licensees and educators who are satisfied with the status quo. Licensees and educators will often adopt paradigms about education that are below what should be required to maintain a competent licensee base. The regulators job is to parse the difference between paradigms and implement research based standards that serve to improve their industry. Finally, there is one component of a CE regimen that is almost universal in its application across industries. In a society that is growing in complexity, regulators should advocate for policy that encourages, if not mandates, a lifelong approach learning. The world doesn't stop changing after professionals obtain a license nor should the education they receive.

## Checklist to Avoid Pitfalls in CE Regulation

Regulating a professional education program is no easy task. However, here are some good ways to avoid common pitfalls regulator face:

- Never treat one education provider different from another. This should go without saying but it is one of the most common pitfalls regulators can unintentionally make. Often, education standards can be interpreted in different ways. If one provider interprets a standard different from another and it causes one provider to have a competitive disadvantage, providers will often appeal to the regulator for an equitable interpretation. Such exercises raise stress and could affect the reputation of the regulatory agency.
- □ Know the scope of what the agency regulates and stick to it. Statutes and regulations will specify what is to be regulated. Lean on those policies and do not vary from them. Any requirement placed on a CE provider should unambiguously be associated with the policy.
- □ Focus on quality content review. No one else can do as good of a job evaluating course content as a regulator. Regulators should require sufficient course material to ensure the quality of the content. Regulators should also evaluate whether a course is too easy for typical practitioners.
- Leverage instructional design and delivery accreditations to take a load off of the regulatory staff. Many regulators get tied up in instructional design and delivery standards and are often not qualified to determine such policy. For example, one regulator decided that since he used a particular common web browser that all providers should create courses that could be taken through that web browser. A provider that had a custom web browser build into their custom software was not eligible for approval. The provider appealed the case to the full regulatory body and won. Instructional design and delivery standards should be based upon research and developed by qualified people. Staff should never be able to arbitrarily impose standards in a manner that are not consistent with agency's policies and/or education research. It is very easy for a regulator to be placed in a position to approve course designs that he or she likes. However, this is not a good way to regulate as quality course design is driven by research, not someone's feeling about a delivery strategy.
- Consider requiring or recognizing an instructional design and delivery accreditation, like IACET's, as a prerequisite to the provider submitting the course to the regulator for approval. This allows the regulator to know that the course they are receiving has already met rigorous standards without the burden of developing and maintaining those standards themselves. In a day when regulators are always expected to do more with less, having a third party vet incoming providers and courses can be a substantial time and money saver.
- Evaluate content rigor to assure applicability to the appropriate audience. This is one of the most frequent pitfalls. Regulators approve courses that are far too easy for experienced professionals and word quickly spreads of the lack of rigor in the mandatory education process. The usefulness and relevance of the CE programs are then called into question.
- □ Base the number of CE hours on a defensible curricular requirement developed along with industry stakeholders. There is nothing worse that regulators appearing to develop policy arbitrarily. Include stakeholders in the decision making process and document clearly who was involved.
- □ Have at least a portion of the required CE hours cover mandatory topics that includes common license law violations. This strategy will increase relevancy of the education and theoretically reduce violations.

- Audit courses for compliance. Classroom as well as distance learning courses should be occasionally audited for compliance with content, instructional design and delivery standards. If the regulatory agency has limited staff for auditing providers, consider a third party accreditation, like IACETs, that audits providers for compliance at no cost to the regulatory agency.
- Provide periodic training for education providers on the expectations and developments in your industry. The best regulatory agencies develop a community of educators that compete and hold each other accountable. These communities can also be very useful in fostering expectations for quality and professionalism.

### About the Author

Joe McClary, Ed.S, CAE, is the Chief Executive Officer of the International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Prior to his work with IACET McClary was the CEO of the Kentucky Association of Realtors, Kentucky's largest trade association. He was influential in writing and passing some of the most important professional education legislation in the past two decades that expanded and improved mandatory continuing education requirements for the state's real estate licensees. From 2001 to 2012, McClary served as the first Executive Director of the International Distance Education Certification Center (IDECC) which is an organization that develops internationally recognized distance learning standards. In his role with IDECC, McClary worked with more than 400 professional education providers and numerous regulatory agencies located across the globe. McClary has earned the Certified Association Executive designation from the American Society of Association Executives and is experienced as a college instructor, high school teacher, and adult educator. He has earned multiple graduate level degrees in the field of education. Within his role at IACET, Joe is available for speaking engagements on educational best practices, distance education, accreditation and other topics related to professional education. He can be reached at <u>imcclary@iacet.org</u>.

### About IACET

IACET's mission is to advance the global workforce by providing the standard framework for quality learning and development through accreditation. IACET's history includes development of the original Continuing Education Unit (CEU) as well as the creation and maintenance of the ANSI/IACET Standard for Continuing Education and Training. More about IACET can be found at www.IACET.org.

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