



# TRENCHLESS TIMES

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and Government*

**An Affiliate of the  
International Society for  
Trenchless Technology**

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**Michael Willmets**

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**Angela Ghosh**

## Moving Ahead Toward an International Gathering

By Piero Salvo, 2008 NASTT Chairman

This Chairman's report will cover quite a few topics. As I have stated in the past, this has been such an honor, and I am grateful for having had the opportunity to be in this position.

The first topic at hand is John Hemphill's retirement as executive director of NASTT after 10 years of excellent work and leadership. He has been with NASTT through thick and thin and has become the face of NASTT. I have had the pleasure of working side by side with John and I will most definitely miss his insights on the organization, as well as his historical recollection of so many events that have occurred

during his time with NASTT. I will most certainly miss his guidance and friendship. Congratulations John and thank you so much.

I also have the pleasure of welcoming Michael Willmets as the new executive director of NASTT. Michael comes with a wealth of trenchless experience and has participated in many No-Dig activities, such as giving papers and teaching the Short Course on rehabilitation. He has been going through a transition with John, as well as Angela Ghosh in order to acclimate himself to the position. For that, I would like to thank both Angela and John

## The 2008 Dallas No-Dig Show in Review

NASTT hosted its 17th annual No-Dig Conference and Exhibition, April 27 – May 3, in Dallas (Grapevine) drawing more than 1,500 key trenchless players – specifically utilities, engineers, contractors, manufacturers and suppliers – to do business in the one forum that is dedicated to exclusively promoting trenchless technology.

This year's No-Dig program offered an impressive collection of 109 quality technical papers, an exhibition hall with 122 trenchless companies displaying their products and services, four specialized pre- and post-conference seminars and many entertaining networking events and special awards.

The No-Dig program is driven and developed by a group of NASTT members known as the Program Committee, who work diligently to provide attendees with a quality educational program. "This conference would not have been possible without the dedication of many individuals. In particular, I would like to thank members of the Program Committee," said Kaleel Rahaim, No-Dig Program Chairman. "They have spent countless hours selflessly devoting their time to the program, and they should be recognized for their efforts."

The Program Committee works hard to put on a show that combines a great mix of educational opportunities with a lot of fun activities throughout the conference. The No-Dig Show kicked off with a crowd-pleasing Monday Opening Breakfast. Later that evening, the NASTT Education Fund Auction raised more than \$40,000

for student chapter support, research and training initiatives. On Tuesday, the Gala Awards Dinner provided great food and live band entertainment. The Wednesday Closing Lunch set the stage for the final farewell of another successful No-Dig Show.

Photos of the No-Dig Show are available for viewing at [www.nodigshow.com](http://www.nodigshow.com) courtesy of David Crowder, a member of NASTT and the No-Dig Program Committee.

The ISTT and NASTT will join forces in Toronto, Ontario — Canada's largest city, and host of the 2009 International No-Dig Show crowd, March 29–April 3, at the Sheraton Centre. For more information, visit [www.nodigshow.com](http://www.nodigshow.com).

## No-Dig 2008 Raises Record Amount of Sponsorship Support

No-Dig 2008 raised a record-setting amount of sponsorship support from among the industry's top manufacturers and suppliers, including: TT Technologies Inc. (Platinum level); HammerHead/Vermeer (Gold level); Michels Corp. (Gold level); Interplastic Corp. (Silver level); Rain for Rent (Silver level); International Pipe Lining Technologies (Silver level) and Ditch Witch (Silver level). Numerous other companies sponsored No-Dig events and giveaways. The generosity of these sponsors, as well those companies participating in the exhibition, greatly serves to enhance the No-Dig experience for all attendees. Thank you! For a complete listing of 2008 sponsors and exhibitors, please visit [www.nodigshow.com](http://www.nodigshow.com).

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Piero Salvo

for making the transition that much smoother. Mike, welcome aboard.

Once again, No-Dig 2008 in Dallas allowed us to reach a new high in recent years. This conference saw us just beat out San Diego in terms of number of attendees. Thank you to all our members for participating and making No-Dig 2008 a successful show.

At No-Dig 2008, I had the extreme pleasure of awarding the Chairman's Award for lifetime achievement to William Gray, or Bill as I have always called him. Bill's acceptance speech left me in awe, as his passion and respect for the industry and

his colleagues is tremendous and contagious. Bill, thank you for being one of our industry leaders. And to his lovely wife, Isabel, thank you for being by his side and putting up with all his No-Dig chatter.

The success of each No-Dig is the culmination of hard work and dedication of the Program Committee chairman and the Program Committee members. Kaleel and PC members: Congratulations on a job well done.

As stated in the title, we are moving ahead toward an international gathering in more ways than one. In the first case, we are hosting the International No-Dig

2009 in Toronto, Canada, so please pencil in the dates – March 29-April 3.

Réservez ces dates et soyons présents et nombreux!! ¡Reserve estas fechas y seamos presentes y numerosos!!

In the second case, we have made some progress with more NASTT involvement from México. I will keep you posted. A mis colegas Mexicanos, gracias por su participación en estas discusiones. ¡Estoy anticipando una colaboración acertada!!

And finally, have a great summer!!

### NASTT Recognizes Individuals and Companies for Contributions and Achievements

Throughout the No-Dig Show in Dallas, NASTT recognized a number of individuals and companies for their contributions and achievements for NASTT and the trenchless industry. Among those recognized were:

#### 2007 NASTT No-Dig Outstanding Paper Award (Rehabilitation):

Michael Delzingaro, Godwin Pumps of America

#### 2007 NASTT No-Dig Outstanding Paper Award (New Construction):

Robert Kahl and David Mathy, DCM Engineering, Tim Nealy, NAPA Sanitary District, and Ted Whiton, Winzler & Kelly

#### 2007 NASTT Outgoing Board Members:

Joe Abbott, Michael Spero and Michael Willmets

#### 2008 Trenchless Technology

##### Person of the Year:

Maynard Akkerman

#### NASTT Student Poster Competition: (1st Place - Research)

Ivan Diaz, Louisiana Tech University

#### NASTT Student Poster Competition:

(Runner-up - Research) Sherif Kamel, McGill University

#### NASTT Student Poster Competition:

(1st Place - General) Denise Morello and Charles Ormsby, McGill University

#### NASTT Student Poster Competition:

(1st Place - General) John Matthews, Louisiana Tech University

#### John P. Lake - Rain for Rent

##### Academic Scholarship Awards (\$1,000 each):

Adam Kolwicz, Bowling Green State University; John Matthews, Louisiana Tech University; Robert Pohlman, Bowling Green State University; and Todd Snyder, University of Texas at Arlington

#### NASTT Innovative Product Award (Rehabilitation):

TT Technologies Inc.

#### NASTT Innovative Product Award (New Installation):

Herrenknecht AG

#### NASTT Chairman's Award for Outstanding Lifetime Service:

Bill Gray

#### NASTT Appreciation Award: John Hemphill

#### NASTT Student Pipeline

##### Assessment Competition (1st Place):

Ivan Diaz and John Matthews, Louisiana Tech University

#### NASTT Student Pipeline

##### Assessment Competition (2nd Place):

Sneha D. Chavan and Priyant K. Sawant, University of Texas at Arlington

#### NASTT Student Pipeline

##### Assessment Competition (3rd Place):

Denise Morello and Charles Ormsby, McGill University

#### 2008 Outgoing No-Dig Program Chairman Award:

Kaleel Rahaim

### Hemphill Retires as NASTT Executive Director

After eight years serving as executive director, John Hemphill is retiring his position with NASTT. During his tenure, NASTT experienced a number of meaningful events and achievements associated with NASTT's growth.



Hemphill

Among them include the success of the annual No-Dig Show, development of the *HDD Good Practices Guidelines Manual*, the *ASCE Microtunneling Standard*, the NASTT Educational Fund Auction and the development of several

good practices training courses. Hemphill will continue serving the trenchless industry in his new role as the executive director of ISTT. Beginning in June, he may be reached at: [istt@verizon.net](mailto:istt@verizon.net).

### Bill Gray Receives NASTT Chairman's Award

Bill Gray was honored with the 2008 NASTT Chairman's Award for Outstanding Lifetime Service at the No-Dig Show annual Gala Awards Dinner. Since 2004, NASTT has presented this prestigious award to individuals who have provided the organization and the trenchless technology industry with meritorious service throughout the course of their careers. Past award recipients include Trent Ralston, Bernard P. Krzys and Tom Iseley.

Gray recently retired after 47 years specializing in the design and construction of gravity and pressure pipelines including extensive involvement in the application of large and small diameter tunnels. While working as project manager with PB Water in the Atlanta office, he served as the PB water PAL for Wet Weather specializing in the use of storage and transport tunnel systems for mitigation of CSOs across the nation. Gray was an early member of ISTT, as well as NASTT, having served as NASTT chairman in 1996.

Gray is a long-time proponent of trenchless technology, believing that "the use of trenchless methods is a necessity for the design and construction of infrastructure in present-day cities and environments."