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*Actively Advancing the
Science and Practice of
Trenchless Technology for the
Benefit of the Public and
Private Sectors, Industry
and Government*

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

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Return to Grassroots

Over the years, the end of December and the beginning of January seem to have become a time of reflection, rest and charging of the batteries to tackle the New Year. Closing out 2006 and bringing in 2007 was no different. New Year's resolutions abound and armed with a renewed enthusiasm, let's get going with a healthy and successful New Year.

At this time I should start off with an extensive list of New Year's resolutions. However, I will spare you a long list and provide only a few. Why a short list you may ask? Well, I feel that NASTT has continuously expanded and grown from year to year and 2007 will be no different.

NASTT had a great year in 2006, with its 15-year anniversary, holding a greater number of training courses, finalizing and presenting two more training modules in the year and increasing membership.

Given the above accomplishments, I will only list two resolutions and major objectives during my term as Chairman:

- Resolution 1 – "Return to the Grassroots" by getting our Chapters (regional and student) more involved
- Resolution 2 – Continue to expand and remain the leader in the dissemination of

information and providing educational workshops for the trenchless Industry.

Why "Return to the Grassroots?" When I became more involved in NASTT as a Chapter Chair for the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence Chapter (GLSL, now named GLSLA since we have added the Atlantic Provinces) back in 1998–1999, I remember sitting around a table with the Chapter Chairs of that time and exchanging ideas and "façons de faire" for our respective chapters and how over the years those exchanges have been a great benefit to our Chapter.

I believe that by reinitiating this philosophy and going to meet with the Chapters and to demonstrate to them how NASTT can be a great tool for the expansion and visibility of their respective Chapters. One sub-objective is to go out and meet the Chapters and see how we can assist them in any manner they see fit. The strength of any organization is its people. I will be seeking out the leaders and asking them to step up to the plate and champion their Chapters. Let's get ready to "PLAY BALL!"

NASTT's strength is its membership. Your participation is important, and there is a large platform for you to get more involved.

Atalah, Coté and Westphal Join NASTT Board of Directors in 2007

In December 2006, NASTT held elections for its Board of Directors, and Dr. Alan Atalah, Ben Coté and Robert H. Westphal were elected. Read more about NASTT's new board members in the brief introductions that follow.

Dr. Alan Atalah is an associate professor at Bowling Green State University where he teaches construction management. He earned a doctorate of engineering, master of science in civil engineering and master of business administration from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La. He graduated with a diploma in construction man-



Atalah

agement and bachelor of science in civil engineering from Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. He has more than 24 years of construction experience in water and wastewater projects, 15 years of which were in trenchless technology construction. Throughout his career, Atalah has made hundreds of trenchless technology

and construction management presentations in many national conferences and educational seminars.

Ben Coté has been with Sanexen Environmental Services since 1995. In



Coté

1998, he was involved in the development and marketing of the Aqua-Pipe technology for water main rehabilitation. For the past 10 years, he has managed the development and growth of the water main rehab branch at Sanexen. Since 2001, Coté has held the position of director of Aqua-Pipe at Sanexen, working to market and license the technology in North America. He has comprehensive expertise in water main rehab and NSF certification protocols. Coté earned his masters in science from the University of Sherbrooke. He also is active with AWWA.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Participating in the No-Dig program committee, presenting papers and moderating at No-Dig, attending the regional seminars and, of course, attending No-Dig are excellent opportunities to get involved and network with people in the industry who have been involved for a long time. Go to our revamped Web site for details on participation – www.nastt.org.

The second resolution has become an annual one in which we strive to continue making the industry aware of the use of trenchless technologies, increase participation from every organization that has the potential of using trenchless technologies in their infrastructure construction, rehabilitation and maintenance activities and continue to develop and offer training modules for different aspects of trenchless technologies.

At this point, I would like to address a word to the NASTT members from Canada. Given that our country is officially bilingual and that I was born and raised in Montreal (now living in Ottawa), I would like to address them in both languages. NASTT has been a great venue for my colleagues in Canada. All we have to do

is take a look at the activities of our three Chapters – TTBC, NWTT and GLSLA – and how many Canadians attend and participate in the various activities put on by NASTT, especially No-Dig. Members in Ottawa, Montreal, Gatineau, Hamilton, Halton Region, Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver, just to name a few, have been leaders in the use of trenchless technologies over the years. Let's keep our sleeves rolled up and continue working hard.

J'aimerais prendre cette opportunité de remercier tous ceux et celles entre vous qui ont participé aux activités de notre Chapitre GLSLA, dans la province de Québec et dans la Région d'Ottawa-Gatineau et au niveau national avec NASTT. Votre appui est très important et grandement apprécié. Je vous invite à participer davantage en 2007 en devenant membre du NASTT et en participant à la conférence No-Dig 2007 à San Diego, car les technologies sans-tranchée sont des outils très importants à avoir dans notre coffre de travail. Surtout, ne gêner vous pas à me contacter directement si vous en avez le besoin. Encore une fois Merci et contin-

uons de faire grandir le marché du sans-tranchée dans notre région et à travers l'Amérique du Nord.

Finally, I would like to thank my peers for giving me this opportunity to represent NASTT as its Chairman, especially our past Chairman, Joanne Hughes, whose energy and enthusiasm is contagious; John Hemphill, our executive director, whose knowledge and understanding of our industry never ceases to amaze me; and Angela Ghosh, our assistant executive director, who has worked tirelessly in getting our training courses up and running across North America. I would also like to thank Chris Brahler for accepting my invitation to be vice chairman. Thank you Chris, I am looking forward to working with such an energetic person. I also wish to welcome the new incoming board members who are introduced in this newsletter. Thank you all and let us be prepared for our 2007 No-Dig Show in San Diego, April 16-18.



by Piero Salvo

Robert H. Westphal has worked in multiple divisions of Michels Corp. and held a variety of positions ranging from laborer to vice president since 1965. In 2000, Westphal was promoted to his current position of senior vice president. His focus and expertise is in the management of domestic and interna-



Westphal

tional pipeline construction and horizontal directional drilling operations. Westphal's responsibilities include business development, contract procurement and negotiation, project oversight and management and client communication. Most often, he discharges these responsibilities on multiple, simultaneous projects conducted in different locations around the United States, as well as the world. Under Westphal's leadership, Michels has gained worldwide recognition as one of the leading horizontal directional drilling contractors in the industry.

The newly elected board members join the following individuals who have returned to serve in 2007: Joe Abbott, *Godwin Pumps*; David Bennett, *Bennett/Staheli Engineers*; Chris Brahler, *TT Technologies Inc.*; Jack Burnam, *CH2M Hill Engineers*; Ken Chua, *City of Edmonton*; George Cowan, *New York City, DDC*; Mark Hallett, *Miller Pipeline Corp.*; Keith Hanks, *City of Los Angeles*; Jim Hoggatt, *South Tahoe Public Utility District*; Dr. Mark Knight, *University of Waterloo*; Dan Liotti, *Midwest Mole*; George Ragula, *Public Service Electric and Gas*; Kaleel Rahaim, *Interplastic Corp.*; Piero Salvo, *WSA Consultants*; Mike Spero, *Future Pipe Industries*; and Michael Willmets, *City of Ottawa*.

The NASTT Board of Directors is the governing body of the Society. It sets the policy, establishes the budget and verifies that your Society is fulfilling its mission.

Upcoming NASTT Training & Events

- **Jan. 31** — Laterals Good Practices, Houston
- **Feb. 1** — Cured-in-Place-Pipe (CIPP) Good Practices, Houston
- **Feb. 18** — Pipe Bursting Good Practices, Denver
- **Feb. 26-27** — HDD Good Practices, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- **Feb. 28** — Pipe Bursting Good Practices, Boston
- **March 1** — HDD Good Practices, Boston
- **March 6** — Pipe Bursting Good Practices, Orlando, Fla.
- **March 7** — HDD Good Practices, Orlando, Fla.
- **March 20** — Pipe Bursting Good Practices, Portland, Ore.
- **March 22** — Cured-in-Place-Pipe (CIPP) Good Practices, Denver
- **April 16-18** — No-Dig Conference & Exhibition, San Diego

For a complete listing of training and events, visit www.nastt.org or call Angela Ghosh, assistant executive director, at (703) 217-1382.