

# review



"Uniting the world plumbing industry to safeguard and protect the environment and the health of nations"

December  
2005

## WPC meets in St Louis

Representatives from 8 countries gathered in St Louis, Missouri, USA on 8-9 November 2005 for the WPC Annual Meeting. Held in conjunction with the American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) annual meeting, the WPC meeting considered a range of reports and presentations. This issue of WPC Review includes items on the principal topics discussed at the meeting.

In between the business sessions, delegates were able to sample the sights and sounds of St Louis including the Jefferson Memorial Expansion Gateway Arch, the Anheuser-Busch Brewery (home of Budweiser), the Mississippi river and the famous jazz and blues music of this mid-west city.



## GOHAP getting closer

It is now expected that the World Health Organisation and the World Plumbing Council will publish the revised "Guidelines on Health Aspects of Plumbing" (GOHAP) on World Water Day, 22 March 2006.

Reporting on progress of the publication, WPC Chairman's Executive Assistant Russ Chaney, who has been active in co-ordinating the revision of the document on behalf of WPC, outlined details of what is expected to be the final revision prior to publication.

It is hoped that details of the publication of this important document will be contained in the next issue of WPC Review.

## WPC membership and logo use



Following enquiries from WPC members in relation to the use of the WPC Member and Affiliate logos, the Council confirmed that these may only be used by the organisations named as Members or Affiliates. The logos may **not** be used by individual members of a WPC member organisation.

The Council did, however, confirm that Affiliate membership is open to individual companies (including contractors) in which case such firms could use the logo to indicate that they were Affiliate Members. Details of the membership application process can be found on the WPC website [www.worldplumbing.org](http://www.worldplumbing.org)

## Delegates visit plumbing training centre

Education and training is a subject included on every WPC meeting agenda. The importance of this subject was stressed during a visit to the St Louis Plumbers and Pipefitters Training Centre, pictured right, operated by the United Association Local 562. Like so many other UA Local facilities throughout North America, this centre is purpose-built and equipped to a high standard to meet the skill needs of both apprentices and journeymen.

While in some countries shortages of skilled plumbers have led to the creation of fast-track training solutions, the model followed in St Louis is sure to provide apprentices with a solid understanding of a wide range of skills. Apprentices attend the centre for one day every second week, plus one evening a week, throughout their 5-year apprenticeship. New apprentices start with a focus on their mathematical skills, which the instructors believe is so important for plumbers. During their studies they will encompass a wide range of learning opportunities ranging from technical drawing through to sophisticated fault-finding. The minimum age for a new apprentice is 18 but



there has been an increasing trend for older entrants to see plumbing as their career of choice and the average age of new recruits at the centre is now 26-27.

Although the UA model, with its well-funded arrangement through deductions from hourly wages, may not be suitable in all other countries and cultures, WPC delegates left the centre with a strong feeling that this was an arrangement which is of real benefit to the learners, their employers and ultimately to the clients of the businesses in which the apprentices worked.

## Solomon Islander sees Australian training in action



WPC Scholarship winner for 2004, Arnold Iru, from the Solomon Islands visited New South Wales, Australia in September 2005 to examine the training system there.

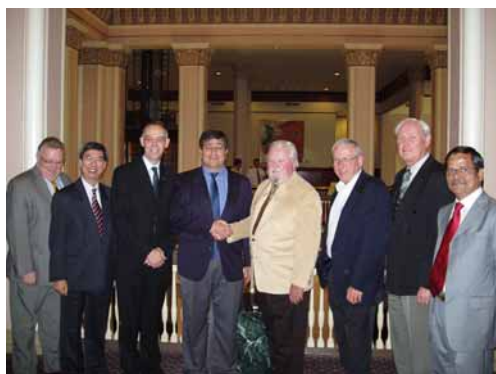
Hosted by the Master Plumbers Association of NSW, Arnold participated in a whirlwind tour which included visits to two Colleges of Technical and Further Education, several construction sites and a number of industry meetings.

Arnold has been a plumbing teacher in the Solomon Islands for 15 years. He is married with two children and is the son of a Solomon Island Chief. His aims for the Scholarship were to develop his knowledge in respect of the delivery of a Certificate IV in Plumbing Technology, the establishment of an apprentice training scheme and the creation of an association for plumbers in the Solomon Islands.

At the meeting in St Louis it was noted that Arnold's report had still to be prepared and submitted but in the meantime, the Council expressed its gratitude to Paul Naylor of the MPA of NSW for the excellent arrangements which he made during Arnold's visit.

## 2005 Scholarship winner to visit UK

Phil Campbell, recipient of the WPC Trainer's/Lecturer's



*2005 WPC Scholarship winner Phil Campbell shaking hands with WPC Chairman George Bliss while the rest of the Executive Board look on*

Scholarship for 2005, plans to visit England, Scotland and Ireland to study various aspects of the plumbing industry in these countries.

Phil, a Training Co-ordinator/Instructor, from Las Vegas, Nevada, attended the WPC meeting where he was congratulated on his award by Chairman George Bliss who said that

members would look forward to receiving the report of Phil's visit at the 2006 WPC Annual Meeting.

Phil explained to delegates the main goals of his Scholarship visits which included gaining a deeper understanding of the different methods of drainage and venting in the UK and an examination of the UK's Modern Apprenticeship system. He also plans to research into different materials used and visit some of the historical sites associated with plumbing such as Bath and Hadrian's Wall. If time permits, Phil hopes to fit in a round of golf at the birthplace of that sport, St Andrews in Scotland.

## WPC to be involved in Chinese training event

WPC, working with its special industry partner, Messe Frankfurt, is involved in organising a one-day event for plumbing professionals to be held during the ISH China exhibition in Beijing. The event, under the heading "WPC/ISH Plumbing Academy" will take place on Thursday 16 March 2006. A range of national and international speakers is

## 2006 SCHOLARSHIP LAUNCHED

Details of the WPC's Trainer's/Lecturer's Scholarship for 2006 have now been posted on the WPC website [www.worldplumbing.org](http://www.worldplumbing.org)

This Scholarship will be the fourth offered by the WPC. It is open to plumbing teachers and lecturers from throughout the world. Up to US\$7,500 is available to the successful applicant to spend on visiting another country to research aspects of plumbing industry education and training.

Previous winners of the Scholarship are:

**2003** John Smartt (Ireland) who visited the USA

**2004** Arnold Iru (Solomon Islands) who visited Australia

**2005** Phil Campbell (USA) who will visit the UK in 2006

Robert Burgon, WPC Deputy Chairman, who chairs the Scholarship judging panel hopes that "2006 will be a bumper year for Scholarship applications. Education establishments throughout the global plumbing industry should draw this unique Scholarship to the attention of their lecturers. Previous winners have demonstrated that there is much to be learned by visiting training centres in other countries."

**Closing date for applications for the 2006 Scholarship is 30 June 2006**

being invited to contribute to the event on subjects including:

- Drainage design and public health
- Water conservation and environmental protection
- Global training in the water industry

Participants, in what may become a regular series of events at ISH exhibitions, will receive a WPC/ISH Certificate of Attendance.

WPC involvement in the event is being co-ordinated by Executive Board Director Henry Hung, working with Mr Hua Mingjiu representing the Plumbing Facilities Commission, China.

The next meeting of the WPC Executive Board will take place in Beijing during the time of the ISH China event (14-17 March 2006). Details of the meeting (which all Members and Affiliates may attend) will be circulated by the WPC Secretariat.

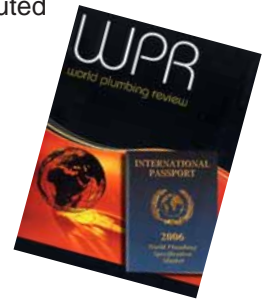
## Global plumbing magazine to be launched

Jeff Patchell, publisher of the Australian industry magazine Plumbing Connections, attended the St Louis meeting and explained his plans for the publication in 2006 of World Plumbing Review (WPR). The publication, which will be produced simultaneously in 5 languages, will have an initial circulation of 50,000 copies distributed to key engineers and specifiers throughout the world.

WPR will include well-researched, professionally written articles by leading journalists working in collaboration with industry experts in the areas of potable water, sanitation, drainage and fire services.

Jeff Patchell, a long-time supporter of WPC (his company is an Affiliate member) has offered to provide 3-4 pages for WPC news in each issue of the magazine. Members of the Council expressed their thanks to him for this excellent way of promoting the activities of WPC globally.

Further details about WPR can be found at [www.wpr.com.au](http://www.wpr.com.au)



## 2006 Annual Meeting will be in Chicago

Advance notice is provided that the WPC 2006 Annual Meeting will take place in Chicago, USA during the time of the ISH North America Exhibition (28-30 September 2006).

## Indian Plumbing Association to hold conference in New Delhi

WPC member, the Indian Plumbing Association will hold the 4th Indian Plumbing Conference and Plumbex 2006 (exhibition of plumbing products) on 6-7 January 2006 at Habitat World, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.

WPC will have a stand at the Plumbex exhibition.

Any member interested in attending should contact the event organiser Kamal Khokhani at [kamal@ipaevents.com](mailto:kamal@ipaevents.com)

## Show partnership

ISH North America has announced that the International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) is to join the ISH North America show partnership. Other WPC members partnering ISH North America are the Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating (CIPH) and the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling-Contractors Association – National Association (PHCC).

IAPMO and PHCC will hold their annual conventions to coincide with ISH North America and this is expected to increase both exhibitor and attendee participation at the 2006 show, to be held from September 28th to 30th in Chicago. Further information at [www.ish-na.com](http://www.ish-na.com)

Future ISH events in 2006 include:

**ISH China**, Beijing, China March 14th-17th 2006

**ISH Kitchen & Bathroom Gulf**, Dubai, U. A. E. May 14th-16th 2006

**ISH / Aircontec**, Frankfurt, Germany March 6th-10th 2007

Details can be found at <http://ish.messefrankfurt.com/global/en/home.html>



## Apprentice & Journeymen training

As part of a renewed commitment to apprentice and journeyman training, the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors - National Association Educational Foundation in the USA will be offering several new training programs, including:

- a revamped and updated First-Year Plumbing Apprentice Programme

- a First-Year HVACR Apprentice Programme offered in collaboration with the Refrigeration Service Engineers Society (RSES) and the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)

- a Joint Plumbing and HVACR Instructor Conference, which will be offered in conjunction with three other organisations.

The conference will target instructors in apprentice programmes and educators who teach the subjects in the secondary and post-secondary schools and colleges. It will be held April 5 - 6, 2006, outside Washington, D.C.

Details at [www.phccweb.org/technical/apprentice.cfm](http://www.phccweb.org/technical/apprentice.cfm)

## Centenary celebrations

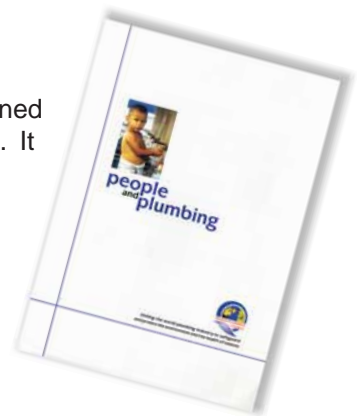
The UK's Institute of Plumbing & Heating Engineering marks its centenary in 2006. Part of the organisation's celebrations will be at the annual conference in England's West Country, from 1 - 4 June 2006, where a number of WPC members will be represented. Further details can be found at [www.iphe.org.uk/conference](http://www.iphe.org.uk/conference) or email the conference organiser at [michelle.gough@virgin.net](mailto:michelle.gough@virgin.net)

## People and Plumbing

A new edition of the WPC's **People and Plumbing** brochure has been published. Designed in the UK and printed in India, it contains information about the Council and its activities. It will be distributed at exhibitions and other events where there is a WPC presence.

WPC members can obtain copies by contacting Sudhakaran Nair at [essenco@bgl.vsnl.net.in](mailto:essenco@bgl.vsnl.net.in)

A new edition of the WPC membership recruitment brochure is also being produced and is expected to be published early in 2006.



## Skills development

The Institute of Plumbing South Africa (IOPSA) is concerned to engage with the developing sectors of its economy, concentrating on the training needs and requirements of the previously unregistered plumbing fraternity. IOPSA hopes to provide regular feedback to WPC and to formalise its programme against the backdrop of skills development worldwide.

Other WPC members interested in networking with IOPSA should contact Lee Goldie, National Executive Committee member of IOPSA, at [claudia@upstartventures.co.za](mailto:claudia@upstartventures.co.za)

## American Red Cross seeks water and sanitation expert

In response to the December 26 tsunami and earthquake in Asia and Africa, the American Red Cross seeks an experienced water and sanitation expert to manage a portfolio of programs in Indonesia to improve access to safe water, provide adequate sanitation and prevent water-related diseases and death. The Water and Sanitation Officer, to be based in Banda Aceh, will provide technical assistance and project oversight in designing, implementing, and evaluating various water and sanitation programs in Indonesia in collaboration with Red Cross and non-Red Cross partners. For a full job specification and application details, visit [www.globalrecruitment.net/GRS\\_483.html](http://www.globalrecruitment.net/GRS_483.html)

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*The mission of the World Plumbing Council is to unite the world plumbing industry to safeguard and protect the environment and the health of nations, for the benefit of all. Its objective is to provide and share information regarding research projects and technology that may be applicable to the Plumbing Industry and the people they serve*

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## New Members

WPC is delighted to welcome these new members who have joined since the last edition of the REVIEW.

Total membership is now in excess of 100 organisations.

### Full Members

Austap Incorporated - Australia & New Zealand

### Affiliate Members

ACO Severin - Germany

Ashirvad Pipes PVT Ltd - India

Astral Polytechnik PVT Ltd - India

CJI Forum - India

Flexseal Couplings Ltd - United Kingdom

IAPMO Mexico - Mexico

John Mech-el Technologies (P) Ltd - India

LU 189 Education Program - USA

Mechanical Contractors Association of Colorado - USA

Otago Master Plumbers - New Zealand

RAJCO Metal Industries - India

Ridgid Plumbing Limited - China

The Imperial Bathroom Company - United Kingdom

Viega N.A. Inc - USA