ADVOCATING FOR WATER EFFICIENCY, SAFETY AND RESEARCH

PETE DEMARCO
THE IAPMO GROUP
DISCUSSION OUTLINE

Our Global Water Challenges
- Access to Safe Water
- Water Scarcity & Climate Change
- Declining Water Quality/Pathogens
- Research Needs

Putting Tools in Our Toolboxes
- Emerging Technologies
- Standardization
- Workforce Development
- Women Needed

What’s Your Role?
Get In the Game!
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What’s Your Role?
Get In the Game!
“ADVOCATE”

VERB:
TO SPEAK OR WRITE IN FAVOR OF; SUPPORT OR URGE BY ARGUMENT; TO RECOMMEND PUBLICLY

NOUN:
A PERSON WHO SPEAKS, WRITES OR ACTS IN SUPPORT OR DEFENSE OF
Global Water Challenges

Access to Safe Water and Sanitation

- United Nation’s Sustainability Goals
- IAPMO / IWSH Foundation advocates to government and NGO’s alike for grants
  - Get help with grant writing if you need it
  - Getting the first one is the toughest
  - Nail it!
Global Water Challenges

Access to Safe Water and Sanitation

IWSH.org

IWSH Foundation gaining experience!
- Consider Domestic and International projects
- Build a diverse team of volunteers
- Push-Pull does it!
- Talk it up!
- Utilize efficient products available locally certified to international standards
- Build local skills!
Global Water Challenges

Declining Water Quality / Pathogens

Research Needs

Be aware of **unintended consequences**!

- grossly oversized distribution and plumbing systems
- Increased diversity in materials
- Participate in the development of standards
- Advocate for water teams trained on risk management strategies
- Work with regulators on enforcement
Global Water Challenges

Research Needs

In for the long haul! NIST report on the way!

- Don’t go it alone - Build coalitions!
- Be persistent and don’t rush to judgement
- Water is apolitical!
- Be clear in what you want
- The hard part... Getting the $
Every Continent on Earth is impacted by water Scarcity

- Physical water scarcity - inadequate water sources, ~20% of human population\(^1\)
- Economic water scarcity - lack of investment in infrastructure, ~25% of human population\(^1\)

\(^1\) United Nations Development Programme
Climate change is making our job more difficult

- Increasing droughts, more severe storms, flooding
- ~35% all wetlands disappeared between 1975 and 2015
- Increased water vapor in the air creating feedback loop
- Displaced populations lacking water and food.

2. Global Wetland Outlook by the Ramsar Convention, a globally treaty ratified by 170 countries
Advocating for water scarcity is relatively easy - Advocating for Climate Change is tricky… depending on who you’re talking to

- Know who your advocating to and tailor your messages
- Don’t forget World Plumbing Day!
Putting New Tools in Our Toolboxes

Emerging Technologies

Standardization

Embrace Industry!

• Support new technologies in standards & codes

• Standards lead the way, but participation is lagging

• SDOs need your knowledge

• Participate at conferences and symposiums
Putting New Tools in Our Toolboxes

Workforce Development

Women Needed

Support training programs, build skills!

Advocating for Workforce Development has been a success!

- Politicians universally support
- But, need to start earlier
- Show me the money!

Pipefitter, Fabricator, Plumber, HVACR Tech
GREAT SALARIES!

Take home annual salary by job title based on 2,000 hrs/yr. *

- Apprentice (3rd Year)
- Journeyman
- Foreman
- General Foreman

* Salaries not accurate to collective bargaining agreements between UA Piping Trades & Apprentices of Plumbing / Sprinkling Industry of the US & Canada, UA Piping Trade, MEA, & All Independent Signing Contractors.
Women remain underrepresented in the plumbing trades!

- Women plumbers report high job satisfaction
- Excellent advancement potential
- No wage gap!
- Profound need in developing nations
What's Your Role?

Get In the Game!

BE AN ADVOCATE
What’s Your Role?

Get In the Game!

Thank You!