



TRENCHLESS TIMES

Giving Thanks

by Piero Salvo, 2007 NASTT Chairman

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By the time this report reaches your desk, our respective Thanksgivings in Canada and in the United States will have come and gone. Thanksgiving is a special occasion when we take the time to reflect and count the many blessings in our lives. As the 2007 NASTT Chairman, I have much to be thankful for by being associated with so many key and dynamic individuals who give their time and talents to help NASTT and the trenchless industry grow.

As we look back on the success of No-Dig 2007 and prepare ourselves for No-Dig 2008, I would like to thank the 2007 Program Chairman, Dr. Sam Ariaratnam and the current 2008 Program Chairman, Kaleel Rahaim, as well as all the members of the No-Dig Program Committee, for their countless hours spent on the program. Your diligent work resulted in a quality technical paper program in which more than 112 of the most interesting and compelling papers were presented.

A quick recap of No-Dig 2007 shows that more than 1,600 attendees participated in the technical paper program, the exhibition and networking events and nearly 200 new members joined NASTT as a result of attending No-Dig. Many of them are new to the industry and looking for solutions for their underground infrastructure problems. We also raised a record-setting amount of sponsorship support from among the industry's top manufacturers and suppliers. The generosity of these sponsors and of the other

companies participating in the exhibition greatly served to enhance the No-Dig experience for all attendees.

And speaking on behalf of Kaleel Rahaim, 2008 Program Chairman, we are already looking forward to No-Dig in Dallas, where we will be counting on you to join us as we "Rope in Trenchless Technology," April 27-May 2, at the grand Gaylord Texan Resort.

A group that is always under the radar, but is an important component of NASTT, is the course instructors. Their level of commitment and support to our organization is unparalleled. Thank you so much for your help and dedication. In 2007, NASTT delivered 22 training courses across North America, putting our instructors to the task. One of these courses, the HDD course, was held in French and English in Montreal, back in February. Je tiens à remercier tous les participants, ainsi que le CERIU, qui a été notre partenaire dans cette formation. Je tiens à vous aviser que cette première (cours en français et anglais) se déroulera à nouveau en 2008. Préparez vos calendriers pour cet événement ainsi que la conférence annuelle qui sera présentée au Dallas du 27 avril au 2 mai 2008!! Venez participer!

The demand for quality trenchless training has increased, and NASTT has responded to that need with a suite of good practices training courses covering various trenchless methods. In 2007, we introduced our newest course, titled "New Installation Methods" (pipe jacking, pipe ramming, auger boring

2007 Alberta Trenchless Project of the Year Award

The Northwest Chapter of NASTT annually awards a noteworthy and difficult project with the Alberta Trenchless Technology Project of the Year distinction. This year's winner is no exception. The Wapiti River Crossing is one of the most difficult intersect-drilling projects ever attempted.

Contracted by ConocoPhillips Canada Resources Corp., Mears Canada Corp. successfully completed two HDD intersect crossings in March 2007 in a remote location north of Grande Prairie in Alberta, Canada. Careful engineering, planning and teamwork were utilized to overcome the challenges of the vast elevation differences, weather conditions and remote location on the banks of the Wapiti River.

The drill plans, engineered by Entec Engineering Technology Inc., required Mears to drill the first intersect of 4,885 ft from the flood plain to the top of the southern river bank. An elevation difference of 850 ft, existed from entry to exit. On the second intersect, Mears installed 2,953 ft with an

elevation difference of 550 ft.

The vast elevation differences presented numerous obstacles for the project team. "One of the challenges of these bores was the drilling fluid returns because of the elevation difference from entry to exit," said Mears Group superintendent Gale Sarkozi. Despite the difficulties presented by differences in elevation, gravity allowed the drilling fluids to return much more efficiently — but at a fast rate.

Drilling at steep angles in these conditions also allowed for relatively large pieces of shale to accumulate in the bottom of the bore hole. This in turn can block the pilot hole causing drilling fluid to build up above the drill head. "Annular pressure was constantly monitored while we were drilling to prevent frac-outs," said Mears Canada superintendent Dallas Coulter. Careful preparations were made to handle the extreme amount of drilling fluid flowing out of the drilled holes at the sides of entry.

Constant communication among Mears, Entec, ConocoPhillips and its other pipeline construction and support crew was enabled

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

and pilot tube method), in Reno, Nev., at the Western Regional No-Dig Conference held in early October.

In 2008, we will continue to offer, refine and expand our courses, as well as grow our pool of qualified course instructors. Their time and effort is greatly appreciated and our education and training programs would not be as successful as they have been and will continue to be without their participation. Thank you so much.

In 2007, I often referred to our "champions" at the grassroots level, and I would like to thank our seven regional chapters and 11 student chapters and encourage them to further continue the work of NASTT and our mission. These "champions" are the ones who devote countless hours in recruiting new members, planning seminars and organizing conferences, among other activities. I strongly believe in the role NASTT chapters can and must play in furthering the application of trenchless technologies for the public good at the grassroots level. I will be visiting two chapters — the Northwest and Mid Atlantic chapters — before the end of 2007. In 2008, I will be visiting the remaining chapters at different times throughout the year. A mis amigos en México, deseo trabajar con sus colegas en establecer un capítulo regional de NASTT en 2008. Yo sé que no es una cosa fácil, pero trabajando juntos nos podemos alcanzar este objetivo.

We also have more than 1,000 mem-

bers to be thankful for — whether they are municipal and utility personnel, engineers, consultants, contractors, academia, students, manufacturers or suppliers. In the past year, the membership has increased quite steadily, and it is a testimony of the growth and vibrancy that NASTT is experiencing in the trenchless industry as we move forward toward 2008.

During my years on the NASTT Board and as your Chairman, I've had the pleasure of serving alongside the members of the Board of Directors and Officers. The Board is yet another example of what can be accomplished by talented people who are always looking for ways to give support to the industry and to our membership. I especially wish to recognize two outgoing Board members — Joe Abbott of Godwin Pumps and Mike Spero with Future Pipe — both of whom have served NASTT with a tremendous level of dedication over the past five to six years. Thank you gentlemen!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank several incredibly talented and dedicated people who have had a big impact on NASTT's success and vision. John Hemphill, our current Executive Director, will be leaving us in 2008, and I have to say that I will personally miss him greatly, especially the way he represented NASTT with honor, dignity and respect. Thank you so much John for all your help and support in making my job so easy! I would like to

thank Angela Ghosh, our Assistant Executive Director, for the great work she has put into planning and running our training courses. I would also like to thank our Chairman Emeritus, Joanne Hughes, as well as our officers, Jack Burnam and Keith Hanks, whose energy has been so contagious. And last, but certainly not least, a high level of gratitude goes to Chris Brahler, for allowing me to continue one more year as Chairman of NASTT in 2008. Chris, thank you for believing in me.

In closing, we can be thankful to those who have invigorated NASTT with quality deliverables like a successful No-Dig and unparalleled training courses. We thank you for your volunteerism and service in regional chapters, committees and on the Board of Directors. You make the difference.

To all of our NASTT friends, I just want to convey how happy and thankful we are to count you as part of our trenchless family — you all make a difference! Now to finish off the year — I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Pour terminer l'année, je vous souhaite un Joyeux Noël et Une Bonne Année! Para terminar este año, le deseo un Feliz Navidad y un Feliz Año Nuevo!



Piero Salvo

by a satellite service command and control center. Careful preparation and preventative measures were key to the successful completion of this project.

The Northwest Chapter formally recognized the winners of the Wapiti River Crossings project during the annual Alberta Trenchless Technology Symposium, Nov. 15, in Calgary.

Invitation to Renew Your Membership for 2008

We are pleased to invite you to renew your membership for 2008. If you're not already a member, consider joining NASTT — the one society devoted to trenchless construction. Our membership includes hundreds of trenchless professionals and leaders across North America dedicated to promoting trenchless technology for the public benefit through education and training.

Membership offers a number of benefits, including continuing education and training, registration discounts to attend the annual No-Dig Show and NASTT training

programs, discounted pricing on NASTT publications, monthly subscriptions to industry magazines, a bi-monthly newsletter, members-only access to published



HDD intersect crossings on the banks of Wapiti River in Alberta, Canada.

papers and the opportunity to participate in committees and to become involved in your regional chapter.

NASTT has been extremely active this year in an effort to better serve its membership. Your annual dues help to support these activities. We look forward to welcoming you as a returning member.

Together, we can continue to improve NASTT and advance the application of trenchless technologies.

Join or renew your membership today and discover all that NASTT has to offer you. Visit our Web site at www.nastt.org.

NASTT Training, Conferences & Chapter Events

- Jan. 30, 2008: CIPP Good Practices, Atlanta
- Jan. 31: Sewer Laterals Good Practices, — Atlanta
- March 25: Pipe Bursting Good Practices, Las Vegas
- March 26: HDD Good Practices Guidelines, Las Vegas
- April 27-May 2: NASTT No-Dig Conference & Exhibition, Dallas
- April 27: An Introduction to Trenchless Technology, Dallas
- April 30-May 1: New Installation Methods Good Practices, Dallas
- April 30-May 1: HDD Good Practices Guidelines, Dallas