

# CROSS TALK

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

FOUNDATION FOR CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

University Park, Los Angeles, California 90007

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## Water is Flowing

This issue of *Cross Talk* has been delayed purposely in order to bring the good news that water is now flowing in the relocated and completely rehabilitated Laboratory of the Foundation. The work of rehabilitation is not yet complete; but, all of the piping on the operating floor of the Laboratory—the supply and return lines, the headers to the test lines, the control valves and flow meters are

now in place and operational. The pumps are not yet set in place; but, both a low pressure and a high pressure City line are tied into the piping system. Thus, short duration flow tests may be made using water from either source and wasting it to the Los Angeles River.

The instrumentation panel with its strip chart recorders and associated instrumentation is being developed by

an equipment manufacturer. And, this instrumentation center will bring together the data from two sizes of flow meters, venturi meters, head loss data and line pressure data. However, the primary need at this moment is for the electrical switchgear and dead-front and dead-back switchboard for the pump installation.

## Two New Units

Two brand new reduced pressure principle backflow prevention units are currently undergoing evaluation in the Laboratory. One of these is a

new design by an oldtimer in the field; while, the other is a new design by a new comer in the field. There have been other inquiries about

unit designs; but so far none of these have progressed to the model stage.

## Welcome Help

In the last issue of *CROSS TALK* we acknowledged fourteen manufacturers who have given material assistance in the re-development and refurbishing of the Laboratory. Since that time we have received major contributions of equipment from five additional manufacturers. We are grateful for their assistance and list them below:

Coastal-Pipco  
Dresser Manufacturing Division of  
Dresser Industries, Inc.  
Rockwell Manufacturing Co.

Additional support through equipment donations has been made by:

BEECO, Division of Hersey-Sparling Meter Company,  
Cla-Val Co., and  
Hersey-Sparling Meter Co.

In addition, we have received offers of specialized equipment from several companies. However, due to the specialized nature of their equipment we have not pursued their kind offers at this time. In the future, when actual need for specialized equipment does arise we will again contact them.

As noted above in the comments about the initial operation of the Laboratory the one major item of equipment we are currently in need of is a dead-front dead-rear switchboard and the associated switchgear—transformer, starters and circuit-breakers—for the pump installation. William Whiteside (213-697-6721) is the Chairman of the SCWUA, Inc. committee working on the acquisition of this equipment and he would appreciate a call from anyone with a good lead.

## Navy Specs

Recently news of the specific recognition of the work of the Foundation was received with both pleasure and pride. A U.S. Navy facilities document dated 10 Jan. 1968 is quoted in part as follows:

“(2) The following paragraph covering certification and testing of backflow preventers shall be incorporated

in the project specifications or procurement documents:

“*Testing and Certification.* A certificate of full approval shall be furnished, attesting that this design, size, and make of backflow preventer has satisfactorily passed the complete sequence of performance testing as performed or certified by the following:

“Foundation for Cross-Connection Control Research

University of Southern California  
Los Angeles, California  
90007

“Certificates of provisional approval will not be acceptable in lieu of the above.”

## Research & Development Notes

A new, very interesting and compact sewage treatment system is currently in the final stages of field testing. Information about this development is being passed on to SCWUA, Inc. members, not as an endorsement of the product, but, so that knowledge of what appears to be a revolutionary treatment plant may be made available where the need might exist. The

Atomic Equipment Division of Westinghouse Electric Corp. (Cheswick, Pa.) developed this unit (trade named PURIPAK) originally for shipboard installations. However, this package unit can be built in sizes ranging from 1000 GPD to 15,000 GPD. One shipboard unit and one land-based unit are now in use. The design is independent of temperature

limits for bacterial activity, produces a harmless, clean effluent and the totally oxidized sludge (ash) is easily disposed of. It would appear that this type of unit would be worth consideration for remote or any installation where surface or underground pollution is a consideration.

## Educational Notes

A new and exciting approach to the development of capable engineers in an undergraduate program has been announced by the Mechanical Engineering Department of the University of Southern California. The curriculum change goes into effect with the freshmen entering in September 1968. The program has been under

development for the past 18 months and promises to be the avant garde of undergraduate engineering education. The truly unique feature of the new curriculum is that the students will be in almost daily contact with a *team* of top engineering educators who are all active in the profession of engineering. The cut-and-dried acade-

mic problems will give way to a new and exciting project-type approach. The objective of this new program is not only to produce a better BS engineer but to retain the interest of the freshmen and sophomores so that they may become engineering graduates and not transfer drop-outs.



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