

CROSS TALK

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

FOUNDATION FOR CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

University Park, Los Angeles, California 90007



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Another Cross Connection

There have been a number of complaints in widely separated areas of either an odor or a taste problem with the water in or about mobile home parks. In some instances the local water company or health agency has been called in and has been able to pin-point the apparent cause of the trouble—a cross-connection. The increased awareness of this apparent problem has been reported to the Foundation.

In order to gather data and be in a position to make recommendations for what appears to be a present and potentially sizeable problem the Board of Directors of the Southern Cali-

fornia Water Utilities Association, Inc. at its January, 1970 meeting appointed a five man committee with Ray E. Warren of the City of Camarillo as Chairman. This committee is asked to make a preliminary report at the February meeting of the Association and to follow up with a more complete report including specific recommendations for the control of this type of cross-connection if its findings seem to indicate that a tightening of the specifications and/or regulations of the water agencies are indicated.

In order that as much data as is available be made known to the mem-

bers of this committee it is requested that any water or health agency having any specific knowledge of instances of backflow problems relating to the hookup of mobile units—either homes or offices or any type of trailer type unit—to the local potable water and/or sewer system will please promptly communicate as complete a report as possible to either the Director of the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control Research at USC or to

Mr. Ray E. Warren
Water Department
City of Camarillo
P. O. Box 37
Camarillo, Califo. 93010

Interest Continues to Expand

Recognition and at least a partial understanding of the cross-connection control problem is continuing to spread across not only the United States but overseas as well. We are continuing to receive inquiries and requests from overseas which is heartening. But, even more heartening is the continues growth of the correspondence from within the United States. This is observed in two ways—by the volume of daily mail and also by the number of copies of the Manual of Cross-Connection Control that are being sold by the USC Bookstore.

As a reminder to those readers of

Cross Talk who might have occasion to discuss the formulation of a local code, rule, regulation or ordinance with any agency or cognizant person in the water or health areas we again comment that the Foundation has made *Section 10* of the *Manual* available as a separately bound document. This may be purchased through the USC Bookstore for \$1.00 per copy postpaid.

Where an ordinance or code is being prepared the use of this Section of the Manual as a referenced or an included part of the working document will greatly reduce the work of those who are preparing the legal

document. Furthermore, the reference to the "current list of approved devices for backflow prevention control by the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control Research of the University of Southern California" will also relieve the enforcing agency of the task of trying to keep up-to-date via some process of osmosis or by the proverbial grape-vine. Purveyor members of the Foundation are automatically provided with the current list of approved backflow prevention devices each and every time that a change is made on the listing. Hence, the maintenance of a local list is obviated as a separate task.

The Time is NOW

As the US space effort is tapering off and many of the space-oriented companies are finding their formerly bottomless-barrel now vanishing there are two noticable trends. The first is a sudden interest of these companies in ecology, urban affairs and underwater technology as well as other

more mundane commercial enterprises. The second noticable trend is the change of interest on the engineering student. The sudden and drastic reductions in the aerospace industry have caused many undergraduates to re-evaluate their career objectives; and, likewise, many of the graduates

are now returning to college to prepare themselves in one of the "more stable" fields. NOW is an excellent time for the water utility industry to illustrate how interesting a career in this industry can be. Water can grow grass but don't let the grass grow under your feet.

The Lab

This is getting to be an old story; and we hope that all our members will bear with us. Arrangements that we had hoped would provide us with a completely operable laboratory long before this time have just not materialized. Hence, we are now faced with a search for new capital funds so that we can contract ourselves for the completion of the sump and piping of the pumps into the manifold system. We truly hope that ways will be found very soon that will expedite this work so that the Laboratory will be completely operational.

As noted well over a year ago the test circuits within the laboratory building—i.e. the header and the

valves for the 16", 8" and 4" test lines—are now operational by means of a high pressure water service line from the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power mains. The only disadvantage of this arrangement is that we can not recirculate the water and thus must waste it to the river—and, of course, pay for the water used.

During recent months a 200 HP internal combustion engine driven single stage pump intended for auxiliary and emergency service has been tested and rated by installing it in the 10" loop line and simply recirculating the water in a closed loop. Enough water was bled and make-up added so that the temperature of the

circulating water was maintained. Also, a model of the Castaic flume transition section for the hydro plant was set into the Lab and its flow characteristics evaluated by the personnel of the Department of Water & Power. These two projects occupied space such that work normally scheduled for the small test line has had to be delayed. But now the work submitted by one manufacturer will continue and we have two other series of evaluations scheduled for late in March.

Hence, as we have said before, while the Lab is not complete we are doing our best to be as operational as possible. It is slow, but some progress is being made.



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