Use of ICWT Name for Water Cluster Activities Announced at June 18 Meeting

As a result of the May 11, 2004 Roundtable discussions, the Water Technology Cluster and the International Center for Water Technology will be combined and become known as ICWT. The group agreed that putting the two entities under one name would eliminate confusion and make it easier to work toward common goals. The next steps will be to develop a membership dues structure and benefits and to appoint an Advisory Board.

Free International Business Plan Writing: “Going-Global”

International Business Programs received a $160,000 “Going Global” grant from the Department of Education for 2003-2005. The “Going-Global” project represents a broad-based partnership that combines the best of technological advances with online international business curriculum, teams of international business students and faculty paired with Valley business and hands-on workshops and conferences to arm students and businesses with valuable import/export knowledge.

The International Business Plan course was designed to be offered online. The curriculum was created for existing business owners, who currently have, or would like to develop, an International Business Plan. Five local businesses have been selected for analysis and research to develop import/export strategies.

Four ICWT members participated in the program with great comments about the student performance. If you would like to take advantage of this program call the “Going Global” program at (559) 278-4653, let them know you are an ICWT member.
CIMT Supervisor Training

Careers in Manufacturing Technology's (CIMT) 2004 Summer Internship program ended on August 13. Thirteen students participated in this year's program at nine different companies. The Internship consisted of working full-time over the summer in the students' fields of study at a central valley manufacturing company.

As part of their internship experience students participated in the Training Academy, which consisted of five, four-hour seminars on topics identified by the industry as skills that lead to job success. Those topics included safety, welding, lean manufacturing, and shop math & measurement. Host companies for the training sessions included Adco Manufacturing, Fresno Valves and Casting, American AVK, Floway Pumps, and Pelco. Gene Evans, instructor at Reedley College, was the facilitator for each class. Guest speakers were also invited to share their expertise and experience in manufacturing.

Special thanks to the host companies in the 2004 Summer Internship Program:

- **American AVK** hosted Rene Rodriguez (Fresno City College) as a CNC operator.
- **BK Lighting** hosted Joseph Wells (Fresno City College) as a draftsman.
- **DMEC** hosted Raymond Reyes (Fresno City College) as a welder's aide.
- **Fresno Machine and Manufacturing** hosted Edward Farrington (Reedley College) as a manual and CNC machinist.
- **Fresno Valves and Casting** hosted Todd Brignolo (Fresno City College) as a CNC operator, Jesus De La Cruz (Reedley College) as a welder, and Javier Escobar (Reedley College) as a welder.
- **Grundfos** hosted Ryan Kopper (Reedley College) in the tool and die shop.
- **Pelco** hosted Rosendo Abrica (Reedley College) as a CNC operator and Chris Carlin (Fresno City College) as a CNC operator.
- **Richard Bonilla** hosted Michelle West (Reedley College) as a CNC operator.
- **Strategic Mechanical** hosted Daniel Jacobson (Reedley College) as a shop helper.

Fresno Valves and Casting hosted Todd Brignolo (Fresno City College) as a CNC operator, Jesus De La Cruz (Reedley College) as a welder, and Javier Escobar (Reedley College) as a welder.

This is a great opportunity for your companies. If you have supervisors who are available to attend, please respond by **September 9** to Fresno State’s Office of Community and Economic Development, 559-294-6021. Seating is limited.

The training is free of charge and is sponsored by the James Irvine Foundation and the Fresno County Workforce Investment Board.

**IPR Toolkit Launched to Guide American Companies on Intellectual Property Rights in China**

Eduardo Torres (Director, Fresno U.S. Export Assistance Center, for the Department of Commerce) has reported that the U.S. Embassy in China recently launched the “IPR Toolkit” to guide American companies, particularly small and medium-enterprises (SMEs), on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights in China. The goal of the guide is to provide practical information to U.S. companies doing business in China or thinking about entering the Chinese market. The link is: [http://www.usembassy-china.org.cn/ipr/](http://www.usembassy-china.org.cn/ipr/)

For more information click on the link above or contact Eduardo at 559 227 6582 or email: eduardo.torres@mail.doc.gov

For additional export information: [http://www.export.gov](http://www.export.gov)  [http://www.buyusa.com](http://www.buyusa.com)
THE 100% SOLAR SOLUTION:
GREENEST BUILDING IN U.S. – A PLATINUM RATING

Los Angeles Audubon Solar Center

Los Angeles. In the ecosystem one creature’s waste is another creature’s food. Things are constantly being recycled and regenerated into the environment to create a natural delicate balance. The only external input is solar energy, the source of all life. The Los Angeles Audubon Center is an example of living in harmony with our natural environment. The Center is off the grid and is 100% powered by solar thermal and electric to operate all building systems including heating, cooling, lighting, computer, water pumps, and office equipment. The Center is a showcase of a “perfect solar marriage” of creative active and passive solar bio-climatic design to operate the 5,026 square foot nature center. The architects and planners have incorporated sustainable building materials for both the interior and exterior construction of the building. The building used recycled materials to create new applications and functional uses for cabinets, block walls, concrete post, trellis, etc. Except for water connection required for fire suppression, there are no sewer or gas connections to the building. The wastewater is treated and recycled to irrigate the 17-acre site. The design of the facility took into consideration both indoor and outdoor green building practices to qualify it for a Platinum U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED (Leadership in Energy, Environmental Design) Green Building Rating.

The roofs of the building, the most undervalued and underutilized piece of real estate, now play an important role of capturing the solar rays to provide power to the building as well as adding another layer of insulation to help reduce the air conditioning load by 20 percent. The 10-ton solar thermal absorption cooling system not only cools the building during the hot summer months, it also heats it during the cold winter days and provides hot water throughout the year. The solar thermal system is contributing up to 60 percent of the total energy load of the building. When compared to an electric compression type air conditioning system, the absorption cooling system uses 1/10th of the energy and displaces 15 kilowatts of peak load demand from the energy requirement.

The 25 kiloWatt solar photovoltaic electric generating system provides 100% of the electrical power to operate the pumps, lighting, computer, and office equipment. More than 200 photovoltaic crystalline panels provide electricity and battery capacity for up to five winter days without direct sun.

The Audubon “Solar” Center is a major showcase for how solar energy can play an important role in our energy future by providing solutions to our energy crisis caused by excessive and sudden peak load demand to cool our offices, factories, and homes. The Center demonstrates that the production of solar energy coincides perfectly when the power demand is highest for air conditioning. In addition to an environmentally sensitive design building and “smart” appliances, the integration of onsite solar power generation, both solar thermal and electric, is a solution towards controlling our energy destiny and creating a sustainable future for generations to come.

For more information contact Les Hamasaki @ info@sunutility.com

THANKYOU
Thanks to those of you who sent in articles for this quarter’s newsletter—it is very much appreciated!
California Congressmen Participate in News Conference Introducing Water Technology Bills

On July 14, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chairman Pete Domenici, R- New Mexico, and Ranking Member Jeff Bingaman, D- New Mexico, House Resources Chair Richard Pombo, R- Stockton-11th District, and Congressman Ken Calvert, R-Riverside-44th District, held a joint press conference announcing the introduction of water technology bills on both sides.

S 2658, the Water Technology and Development Act and HR 4835, the Quality Water Supply Enhancement Act, authorize $200 million a year for five years to the Department of Energy for partnerships between eight laboratories and various universities nationwide to develop new water technology as a priority. The House bill puts an extra emphasis on demonstration projects.

“Water quality and technology is crucial. And we need to plan now in order to provide for future generations,” said Pombo. “We must look toward the future to improve water quality and our environment.” Calvert highlighted the benefits these bills would have to desalination efforts. “We have that great reservoir out there called the Pacific Ocean,” he said. “We need to use it.”

The bills are not expected to move this year. Rather Domenici said they were working to lay the groundwork for a bill to quickly move through various water labs, highlighting their efforts on producing clean and safe water.

-Article by ACWA Federal Relations Coordinator Carrie Crystal Van Driel

Note: We plan to have the ICWT and its members actively participate in this Federal Funding when it becomes available.

WATER CLUSTER MEETING

September 16, 2004
9 – 11 A.M.
Central Valley Business Incubator
2555 Clovis Ave. Clovis, CA 93612

Upcoming Meetings
December 16, 2004
9 – 11 A.M.
March 17, 2005
9 – 11 A.M.
June 16, 2005
9 – 11 A.M.

Please RSVP to lramos@csufresno.edu
or (559)278-2066

Funded by Fresno County Workforce Investment Board