**Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*)** ***e-*flash**

**Information for Water Industry Managers and Practitioners in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #310 – 1 March 2017)**

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**1.   Queensland Live Mains Tapping competition open for entrants**

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Following the successful South-East Queensland Live Mains Tapping competition held at last year’s ***qldwater*** Innovation Forum, we are thrilled to announce the first Queensland Tapping competition to be held at this year’s Water Industry Operators Association of Australia conference at Logan on 7 June.

The 2016 title was taken out by the City of Gold Coast – completing the task in an impressive 1 minute and 49 seconds to finish ahead of challengers from Queensland Urban Utilities and Logan Water.  In 2017 the competition is being opened up, but is strictly limited to 8 teams.  (This may increase in future).

The prize this year is sponsored by Ixom and the winning team gets an impressive trophy and the opportunity to nominate a local charity to receive a $1,000 donation.

**A bit more about the competition**

-        Each team consists of 2 people.

-        Each team supplied with:

o   A tapping machine tool box with 1 tapping machine with new drill bit, 1 pair of footprints, 1 ring/open-end spanner, a wooden paddle, and roll of thread tape.

o   1 Metre of 25mm OD poly pipe, 1 x 100mm tapping band, 1 x 20mm ferrule cock, 1 x  20mm ball valve.

-        A 100mm DICL water main pressurised from a water tanker (or hydrant) will be set up on a stand.

-        The competing teams complete a safe work method statement prior to commencement of competition.

-        The 2 person team installs the tapping band and ferrule on the 100mm pipe, then tap the water main, install 1 metre of poly pipe and then install a ball valve on the end of the poly.  When completed the ball valve is turned off, tools returned to tool box, and when the box is shut the time stops.

-        The tapping is inspected for any leaks, if no leaks occur the time is recorded.

-        There are likely to be two heats and one final. The fastest time recorded will be the winner.

Check out [our webpage](http://www.qldwater.com.au/Queensland_Live_Mains_Tapping_Competition) with photos from last year’s eventful challenge!  More photos are available [here](https://qldwater.smugmug.com/Events/Innovation-Technical-Tour-2016/). The competition promises to be a conference highlight.

A warning – the 2016 winners are coached by a current Australian champion, so practice will be essential to topple them.

**A bit more about the WIOA event**

The [42nd Queensland Water Industry Operators Conference and Exhibition](http://www.wioaconferences.org.au/qld.htm) will be at the Logan Metro Sports Centre on 7 & 8 June.  It includes great paper and poster presentations from operators from around the state, significant prizes and competitions, functions and networking opportunities and a very large trade exhibition involving suppliers of equipment and services from across the urban water and sewerage industry.  Entry into the tapping competition does not include entry into the Conference, although access to the trade exhibition is free.

**What you need to do to enter the competition**

Please respond to hgold@qldwater.com.au with:

-        A “clean” name for your team (which includes the organisation you are representing)

-        The names of the 2 competitors, and contact details

-        The name and contact details of your approving authority

-        Details of your preferred charity.

Travel and accommodation to and from the event is the responsibility of the entrants/ their employers.

Spots will be allocated on a first-in-best-dressed basis.  Entries will close on 19 May.

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**2.   *qldwater* CQ Conference, Yeppoon 22 March - Register Now!**

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[Register now](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-cq-conference-yeppoon/cq-conference)  for the ***qldwater*** Central Queensland Regional Water Conference to be held at the Yeppoon Town Hall in Yeppoon on 22 March 2017.

The conference presentations will take place in the morning, followed by a great Technical Tour hosted by Livingstone Shire Council visiting the Woodbury Water Treatment Plant.

Please register promptly to secure your spot and to take advantage of the Earlybird rate which finishes on 8 March.

The conference event will be a great opportunity to network with your peers in the region and hear some excellent technical presentations.   The ***qldwater*** conference is being run in conjunction with the IPWEAQ CQ Branch Conference in Yeppoon on 23-24 March.  IPWEAQ and ***qldwater*** members are invited to attend either or both conferences and take advantage of the reciprocal member rate.

Our event sponsors for this and all ***qldwater*** 2017 regional conferences are: Principal Sponsors Aqseptence Group with Gold Sponsors Lonza Water Technologies, Royce Water Technologies and Suez Australia and New Zealand.  We would like to thank all the sponsors for helping make this event possible.   Again in 2017, Dial Before You Dig are sponsoring our Water Connections Tour which includes regional events and Water Connections Week and IXOM are sponsoring the Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test which includes support for all regional events.

Please visit our [event website](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-cq-conference-yeppoon/cq-conference) for further information and registration.

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**3.   Department of Environment and Heritage Protection “Connect” Digital Platform**

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The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection have launched “[Connect](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/63405/18cq5/1606493/148a310q8q.html)” a new digital platform for online services and transactions. Connect allows you to access services and functions at any time of the day or night, and gives you the opportunity to keep your customer details up-to-date to ensure that the correct person is being contacted by the department.

For more information, please visit the [Connect](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/63405/18cq5/1597843/148a34wjt-1.html) website.

If you have any questions about Connect, departmental officers you regularly engage with can provide you with some assistance, or you can contact the Connect Support Team at connecthelp@ehp.qld.gov.au

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**4.**  **Isle Utilities “IsleChemy” Platform**

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Isle Utilities run the WSAA TAG product and technology evaluation program and has approached ***qldwater*** to offer services to our members with their new “Islechemy” platform.  This is an annual subscription service allowing access to a series of webinars which will be of potential interest to water providers.  The themes for 2017 include, among others:  “from treatment to tap”, “65,000km above sea level”, “large and small treatment”, “every drop matters”.

The platform subscription will be based on number of connections.  This would be applicable to water authorities / councils with less than 20,000 connections (those above 20,000 would need to fit with WSAA tiers as part of Isle Utilities contract with them). Proposed pricing for the IsleChemy Platform would be:

* 10,000-20,000 connections - $1,800/yr + GST
* Less than 10,000 connections - $180/yr per 1,000 connections.

Isle Utilities have indicated they can be flexible on this pricing for a group of subscribers, making it more affordable to smaller councils and water authorities.   For more information please visit islechemy@isleutilities.com

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        The Queensland Police Service have released the latest [Security Forecast](https://thequeenslandwaterdirectorate.worldsecuresystems.com/Counter-terrorism) that can accessed by ***qldwater*** members from the secure area of our website.    Please note these documents are provided on a confidential basis for ***qldwater*** member use only and members must log in the access this information.

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**This message may be passed on to interested individuals and organisations.**

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