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

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

**(Issue #317 – 20 April 2017)**

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**1.   SWIMLocal workshop 29-30 May 2017**

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***qldwater*** is holding a free workshop on the fully licenced version of the SWIM*Local* data management system at our Brisbane Offices on May 29 and 30.

The workshop will be fairly flexible and look at a variety of topics like:

* the new functionality of the software (e.g. SMS/email alerting, mobile data entry)
* help people set-up/fine tune their individual system
* get feedback on what works well and any additional user needs
* exchange ideas all round

If you are interested in attending, or in what the SWIM*Local* data management software can do to help you please contact David Scheltinga (dscheltinga@qldwater.com.au).

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**2.   Nominate your outstanding operators for the 2017 Queensland Operator Awards**

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Nominations for the ***qldwater***-sponsored water industry operator awards are now open, so recognise your high performing operators and nominate them for an award. Established in 2010 by ***qldwater*** in conjunction with the Water Industry Operators Association of Australia (WIOA), these awards recognise the achievements of operational staff employed in the Queensland water industry.

The two categories available for nomination are for the Queensland Young Operator of the Year and the Operator of the Year (Civil / All Rounder). Note that AWA also have an award for Operator of the Year, which is presented at the same conference.

The awards aim to encourage outstanding operational performance of Queensland water industry employees and will be presented to operators who showed excellent performance, initiative and all round attention to detail.

All employers are encouraged to nominate their operators for these awards. As well as being recognised by your peers, the winners each receive an award and great prize.

Nomination is easy - [download the application form here](http://www.wioa.org.au/awards/queensland.htm).  Nominations close on 5 May. (Note that AWA also have an award for Operator of the Year, which is presented at the same conference.)

The award winners will be announced at the WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition being held in Logan on 7 - 8 June 2017.

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**3.   WIOA Queensland Conference and Exhibition Logan 7 & 8 June**

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Registrations for the WIOA Queensland Conference and Exhibition are now open – the registration form and program can be downloaded from the WIOA website at <http://www.wioaconferences.org.au/qld_delegates.htm>.

With the support of ***qldwater***, Reece Civil, Ixom, Logan Council and Gold Coast Water & Waste, a Mains Tapping Competition has been introduced to the 2017 WIOA Queensland conference program for the first time. Up to 8 teams will fight it out in a timed competition on the Wednesday, to determine the Queensland winner.   For details on how to enter and more information (including photographs of last year’s competition) please visit the [***qldwater*** website](http://www.qldwater.com.au/Queensland_Live_Mains_Tapping_Competition).

In conjunction with the Taste Test Sponsors, Ixom and the NSW and Queensland Water Directorates,  the Ixom Water of Origin Taste Test will also be held at the WIOA conference.  The Queenslandwinner, Toowoomba Regional Council’s Mt Kynoch Scheme takes on the NSW/ACT winner Icon Water, with judging to be undertaken in a blind tasting format. With Queensland leading 3 to 1 in the head to head competition, ironically the NSW hopes rest with the ACT to try to close the margin.

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**4.   National Water Reform Productivity Commission *qldwater* Response**

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As noted in our eflash #312 (2 March) submissions to the Productivity Commission National Water Reform Inquiry were due this week.  The Commission released an issues paper outlining the scope of the inquiry which is available here:  <http://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/water-reform/issues/water-reform-issues.pdf>.

Submissions to the Productivity Commission have now closed and ***qldwater*** has lodged a submission on behalf of our members.  The submission can be read [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/ReviewDocuments).

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**5.   International WaterCentre Online Training**

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The International WaterCentre is currently offering two online courses: Foundations of Water Stewardship (certified by the Alliance for Water Stewardship) and Introduction to WASH for Development.

The Foundations of Water Stewardship course commences 7 June; more information is available on the IWC [online training page](http://www.watercentre.org/training/online-courses/foundations-of-water-stewardship/foundations-of-water-stewardship) and register [here](https://watercentre.wufoo.eu/forms/z1iuigh80ttddpd/).

Introduction to WASH for Development commencing 2 May; more information is available on the IWC [online training page](http://www.watercentre.org/training/online-courses/WASHintro) and register [here](https://watercentre.wufoo.eu/forms/z19nb3xw1614q55/).

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**6.   QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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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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