

## TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS - SUMMARY

### April 1: Central Maryland

#### **Seminar**

Steve Cooper provided an overview of PVC gravity and pressure pipe to a group of 7 staff engineers at a local utility. The presentation request came from the utility, which is installing both PVC and ductile iron pipe in a force main project.

### April 1 -2: San Antonio, TX

#### **Meetings**

On April 1, John Houle met with two member company representatives to plan for a session with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. On April 2, the three met with TCEQ personnel from the San Antonio office to discuss specification limitations on PVC pipe.

### April 15 - 17: Indianapolis, IN

#### **ASTM Committee Meetings**

John Houle attended F17 task-group, subcommittee, and main committee meetings. John also met with industry personnel to discuss pertinent issues.

### April 16: Southern Virginia

#### **Public Works**

Steve Cooper discussed the advantages of PVC water mains and the use of larger PVC for gravity sewer applications.

### April 17: Charlottesville, VA

#### **AWWA Condition Assessment Conference**

Steve Cooper participated in an event on underground pipe infrastructure longevity and condition assessment which included ductile iron and concrete interests. There were 40 attendees. Each speaker gave a 20 minute presentation followed by questions and answers. This is a pro-ductile area but one utility complained about early ductile iron failures (unfortunately they are now going to try poly-wrapped DI). Several consultants requested additional information.



Steve Cooper presenting in Charlottesville, VA.

### April 21 - 24: Newport Beach, CA

#### **Annual Meeting**

Steve Cooper, Holly Davies, Bruce Hollands, and John Houle attended the Uni-Bell Annual Meeting in Southern California (See below for details).

### April 24: Northern CA

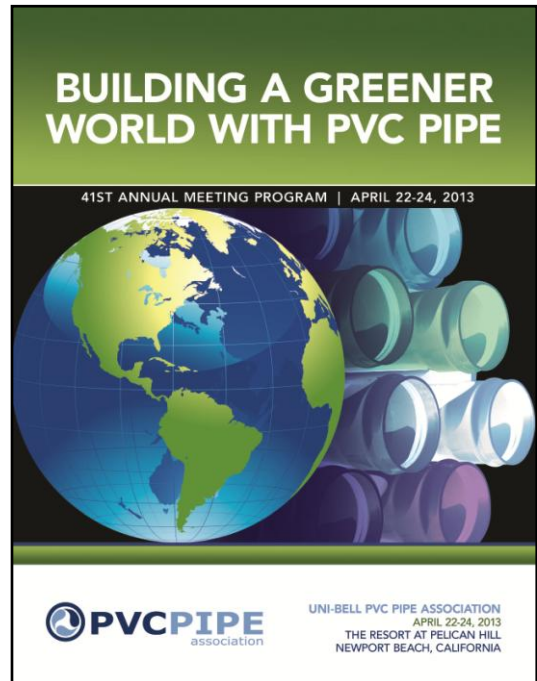
#### **Water Utility**

Steve Cooper met with the chief engineer of a water utility to discuss a possible paper on PVC pipe performance in earthquakes.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in Newport Beach, CA was one of Uni-Bell's largest, with 125 delegates, speakers and spouses. The conference theme, "Building a Greener World with PVC Pipe," was apt given recent attacks by the ductile iron industry about PVC piping products. If not for outdated procurement policies and lack of open competition in some municipalities, ductile iron pipe would have long ago been relegated to the scrap heap of history.

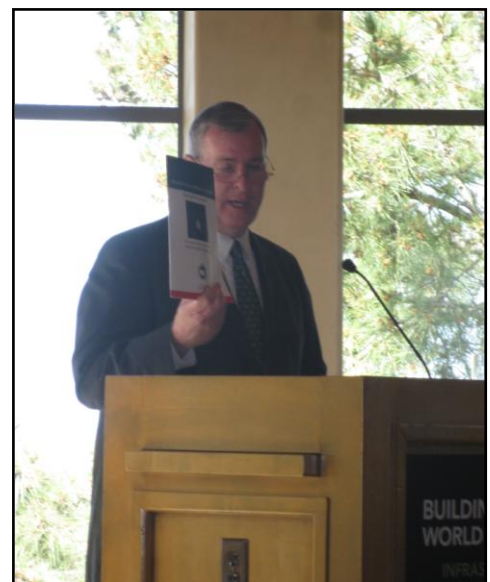
This year's list of speakers ranged from Indianapolis Mayor Gregory Ballard, who is also Chair of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Water Council, Steve Tan, Executive Director, PVC4Pipes, the European equivalent to Uni-Bell, Dr. Neil S. Grigg, Ph.D., Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Colorado State University to public affairs expert Michael Prell, who spoke about the tactics and strategies the PVC pipe industry can use to fight back against its attackers.



A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the Thomas E. Torokvei Lifetime Achievement Award to Paul J. Graddon of IPEX Management Inc. The caption on Paul's award read, "To a man of action, unimpeachable integrity and exceptional business acumen- for over 30 years of outstanding contributions to the PVC pipe industry." Congratulations Paul!

Also noteworthy was the presentation of Uni-Bell's Sustainable Community Award to Indianapolis Mayor Gregory Ballard for his community's extensive use of sustainable PVC water and sewer pipe. Mayor Ballard explained how water main breaks declined 2.5 times compared to traditional pipe materials through the use of green, durable and cost-effective PVC pipe, realizing significant savings for ratepayers.

A number of reports were discussed, including a study by the American Legislative Exchange Council on the need for open procurement for piping used in underground infrastructure, and two others (from the National Taxpayers Union and the U.S. Conference of Mayors) arguing for similar reforms in pipe procurement in the U.S. Finally, presentations were made on an upcoming Life Cycle Analysis report on PVC pipe and dig ups of PVC water pipe by Utah State University.



Mayor Gregory Ballard

Stay tuned for information on Uni-Bell's upcoming 2014 Annual Meeting.



Paul J. Graddon receiving his award with Bruce Hollands.



Michael Prell addressing delegates.

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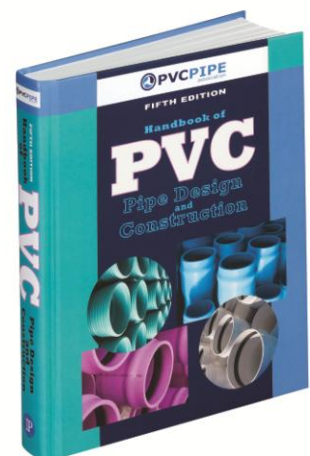
## NON-TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS

- Alberta: John Houle provided information on the suitability of spacing between two pressure lines in a common trench.
- Georgia: Steve Cooper worked with a large city on revising backfill requirements for PVC.
- Hawaii: Steve Cooper assisted a contractor with pressure testing PVC water main.
- Kentucky: Steve Cooper assisted a consulting engineer with a C905 forcemain design.
- New Brunswick: John Houle supplied information on large-diameter taps in C905 pipe.
- New York: Steve Cooper provided information on deep-bury sewer pipe.
- Ohio: Steve Cooper reviewed PVC options for sliplining with a utility.
- South Carolina: Steve Cooper assisted a consulting engineer with trench-width questions.
- Texas: John Houle revised literature per a request by a member company.
- Texas: Steve Cooper worked with a utility on the design of a 24" water transmission main.
- Washington: John Houle assisted a member company with a question regarding AWWA Manual M23.
- Wisconsin: John Houle assisted a designer with information on insertion depth to be used for fittings.

## PREVIEW FUNCTION NOW AVAILABLE FOR HANDBOOK ON UNI-BELL WEBSITE

Preview now! Free one-time download of up to three chapters.

Uni-Bell now offers free, one-time access to the *Handbook of PVC Pipe* for those interested in learning more about PVC pipe or who would like to preview it or apply some of its contents before ordering their own copy. Ideal for specifications development or project design needs. [Click here](#) .



## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

In April, staff responded to 41 queries from consultants, specifiers, government agencies and member company representatives. Pressure pipe accounted for the majority of the market queries and design questions were the dominant type.

### 2013 April Technical Support Request Summary Table

	<u>SOURCE</u>			<u>MARKET</u>			<u>TYPE</u>			
	Utility	Consult	Member	Water	Sewer	Force	Design	Install	Op/Maint	Material
SUMMARY	9	13	19	29	10	2	20	10	6	5

TOTAL REQUESTS = 41

#### Legend:

##### Source

Utility: city, county, district, authority, or company operating a system; contractor installing a system

Consultant: consulting engineer/firm

Member: Uni-Bell member/manufacturer's rep/distributor

##### Market

Water: water pipeline

Sewer: non-pressure sewer

Force: sewer force main

##### Type

Design: system design

Install: system installation

Op/Maint: system operation or maintenance

Material: pipe/fitting material performance

## UPCOMING EVENTS/TRAVEL

May 14: BH – CEI Capitol Hill Briefing, Washington, DC

May 15-16: BH – Congressional Fly-In, Washington, DC

May 29: SC – Water Main Pipe Material Seminar, Chicago, IL

June 6: SC – Finger Lakes WWC Conference, Canandaigua, NY

June 9 – 13: SC, BH, JH – AWWA Annual Conference, Denver, CO

June 23 – 26: SC, BH, JH – ASCE Pipelines Conference, Fort Worth, TX

July 9 – 11: BH, JH – AWWA C906 appeal hearings, Denver, CO

July 14 – 17: SC – AWWA Kentucky/Tennessee Section, Louisville, KY

July 17 – 19: JH – Municipal utilities/contractors, VA