PVC PIPE: AT THE FOREFRONT
AS NEW FORCES RESHAPE THE MUNICIPAL PIPE MARKET

46TH ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 12-14, 2018
CASA MARINA, KEY WEST, FLORIDA • A WALDORF ASTORIA RESORT
Each year Uni-Bell PVC Pipe Association members come together for the Annual Meeting - the largest gathering of PVC pipe and fittings manufacturers in the world. Our guest speakers cover topics ranging from market assessments for PVC pipe, vinyl resin and related chemicals, to sustainability, technology, legislative affairs and product certification. The participants come from around the world, and their ranks include pipe and fittings manufacturers, resin and additive providers, equipment manufacturers, affiliated associations and non-profit certification agencies.

**PRESENTATION TOPICS**

- The latest on PVC resin and pipe markets in North America and Europe;
- A review of the durability and reliability of large diameter HDPE and PVC pipes;
- How open competition for water and sewer piping has benefited the City of Gulfport, MS;
- Exposing the increased costs of closed bidding processes for water and sewer piping;
- Understanding the $532 billion underground pipe market and the opportunities for PVC;
- A look at America’s water crisis and what to do about it;
- What the Trump Administration’s economic platform means for infrastructure;
- Addressing misinformation from the fiberglass pipe industry;
- How self-cleaning pipe networks are safer and more cost-effective;
- Update on the remarkable reductions in vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) levels in PVC resins;
- How field testing of sewer pipelines can provide insights into pipe material performance;
- A review of Utah State University’s groundbreaking 2018 water main break study;
- A look at how the PVC Pipe Association is positioning the PVC pipe industry for growth;
- and much more...
UNI-BELL’S MAJOR GOALS

MARKET SUPPORT
Identify, analyze and capitalize on opportunities to preserve and expand markets for PVC pipe.

ISSUES MANAGEMENT
Monitor and influence public issues that affect Association members.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT
Collect, interpret and disseminate technical information on industry products and their applications.

EDUCATION
Enhance knowledge and awareness of groups and individuals responsible for the promotion and use of PVC pipe.

STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS
Promote and assist in the development of standards, specifications and practices that encourage proper use of PVC pipe.

ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS
Maintain cooperative relationships and activities with allied organizations in pursuit of Uni-Bell’s mission.

INDUSTRY STATISTICS
Lawfully gather, consolidate and disseminate industry sales, marketing and production data.

NETWORKING AND FORUMS
Encourage member interaction and understanding of issues and trends affecting the industry.

ORGANIZATIONAL COMPETENCY
Maintain an organizational structure that reflects the highest levels of volunteer and professional staff competency.
For many years the water industry’s top concern has been the renewal and replacement of aging water and wastewater infrastructure. Some 25 percent of utilities feel they are not able to cover these expenses and 47 percent of their customers want them to cut costs. These and other factors are contributing to their continuing decline. However, PVC pipe provides a clear solution to the many issues and concerns facing municipal lawmakers and utility officials across the country.

PVC pipe is ideally suited to meet the significant challenges in the water and sewer industry today and stands to gain the largest share of utility spending as new forces reshape the municipal pipe market. PVC is at the forefront as the pipe material that will reduce utility costs, improve water delivery, ensure water quality and address environmental justice and sustainability issues. It is also the preferred solution when asset management and life cycle costing are applied.

Financial pressures along with water quality and reliability issues associated with old technology iron pipes will continue to drive local decision makers to consider safer, more cost-effective and durable PVC pipe, for both new and rehabilitation projects. A significant decrease in federal funding for water utilities – which has fallen from $16 billion in 1976 to $4 billion in 2016 – passes the burden onto states, municipalities, and finally ratepayers. Though water and sewer rates have increased 5.7 percent annually over the past five years, outpacing average annual inflation of 1.9 percent, their impact is expected to continue falling short of infrastructure needs – so utilities will increasingly be forced to look for ways to save more money.

Staying ahead of 1.2 million miles of water pipes across the country and an equal span of sewer pipelines, much of which are nearing or have reached the end of their lifespans, represents the most significant financial challenge facing America’s utilities today. The cost to replace these pipes is estimated at $2 trillion over the next 20–25 years.

Efforts by the PVC Pipe Association and its partners to educate federal, state and local lawmakers and other stakeholders on the benefits of competitive bidding are ongoing. Regrettably, some localities continue to adhere to old specifications that prevent modern pipe materials like PVC from competing. The future, however, clearly favors PVC because of its cost-effectiveness, longevity and proven environmental attributes.

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make pipelines more sustainable, transparent data is needed. This will also help with asset management and life cycle costing for underground piping, enabling design engineers to make fully informed decisions. A new benchmark study provides the first comprehensive environmental and performance review of drinking water and sewer pipes in North America. PVC pipe was shown to generate the best long-term savings for pipelines because of its superior pumping efficiency and corrosion resistance. Old technology ductile iron and concrete pipes require more pumping energy over time due to corrosion, leaks and internal degradation.

Of the competing pipe materials PVC pipe is the most favorable alternative when considering energy consumption and carbon footprint from cradle-to-grave in a public water system. Sixty-six percent of water supply pipes in the U.S. are 8-inches or smaller. Nationally, using PVC instead of ductile iron pipe in this size range could save $21 billion in pumping costs over 100 years. If PVC were used instead of HDPE pipe, $37 billion could be saved over this time period. Recycled material is also shown to be only a single attribute of a pipe’s life cycle environmental impacts and not necessarily green. For example, more
energy is required to process the recycled metals to manufacture ductile iron pipe than the energy used in PVC pipe production. As well, producing iron pipe with recycled scrap iron emits more toxins than pipe made from virgin iron ore.

Water utilities are not sacrificing safety, longevity, or system performance when they choose PVC pipe—in fact, they are getting the biggest bang for their buck when they do. Join us as we explore the new trends reshaping the North American municipal pipe market and discuss how PVC pipe is capturing the greatest share of utility spending in North America.

With best regards,

John Britton
CHAIR

Bruce Hollands
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

ANTITRUST GUIDELINES

Antitrust laws prohibit agreements or understandings between two or more individuals or businesses to regulate prices or quantities of goods or services, to allocate customers or territories, to hinder or limit a competitor or potential competitor’s operations, or otherwise unreasonably restrain business activity. Discriminatory pricing or servicing is also prohibited, as well as monopolization or attempts to monopolize.

Violation of antitrust laws is a felony and convicted individuals can be and have been imprisoned for up to three years. Corporations are subject to heavy fines. Violation of antitrust laws can also lead to civil actions which can result in treble damages and attorneys’ fees. Every individual should, therefore, follow these rules:

- **DO NOT** discuss your prices or competitors’ prices with a competitor (except when buying from or selling to that competitor) or anything which might affect prices such as costs, discounts, terms of sale or profit margins.
- **DO NOT** agree with competitors to uniform terms of sale, warranties or contract provisions.
- **DO NOT** agree with competitors to divide customers or territories.
- **DO NOT** act jointly with one or more competitors to put another competitor at a disadvantage.
- **DO NOT** try to prevent your supplier from selling to your competitor.
- **DO NOT** discuss your future pricing, marketing or policy plans with competitors.
- **DO NOT** discuss your customers with your competitors.

WITH RESPECT TO ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

- **DO NOT** make statements regarding prices or matters affecting prices at Association meetings.
- **DO NOT** make statements about your future plans regarding pricing, expansion or other policies with competitive overtones. Do not participate in discussion where other members do.
- **DO NOT** propose or agree to any standardization which will injure your competitor.
- **DO NOT** assume you are protected by informal advice from a government official.
- **DO** consult with the Association’s legal counsel before speaking for the Association.
- **DO** alert Association staff and legal counsel to anything inaccurate or improper. This includes a position the Association has taken or intends to take or a meeting or activity of which you have learned.
- **DO** consult your own legal counsel or the Association’s legal counsel before raising any matter which you feel might be sensitive.
- **DO** send copies to an Association staff member of any communications or documents sent, received or developed by you when acting for the Association.
- **DO** alert every employee in your company who deals with the Association of these guidelines.
- **DO** leave any meeting where any of the foregoing topics are being discussed – and state why you are leaving.
- **DO** be conservative. If you feel an activity might be improper, do not do it.
AMERICA’S WATER CRISIS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

Robert Glennon is an internationally renowned policy and legal expert on water resources and author of the New York Times bestselling book, Unquenchable: America’s Water Crisis and What To Do About It. Mr. Glennon argues that we must treat water as a valuable, exhaustible public resource. He offers ideas on how to reclaim and conserve this finite resource and why it’s both a commodity and fundamental human right. Robert believes that protecting our water supply is as much an economic issue as an environmental one and stresses the importance of technology and innovative thinking to solving the problems in the water sector. With his grasp of the scientific, historical, economic and legal issues associated with America’s water predicament, Mr. Glennon shows why a water shortage is imminent and what it will take to save the country’s dwindling supply. With detailed, actionable suggestions, he lays out an attainable vision for a sustainable water future. In 2014, Glennon collaborated with the Brookings Institution to review federal and state laws that are contributing to worsening water shortages in the Western U.S. The groundbreaking report, Shopping for Water: How the Market Can Mitigate Water Shortages in the American West, is viewed by many as a game-changer for water policy. Robert is also the author of Water Follies: Groundwater Pumping and the Fate of America’s Fresh Waters. He’s a frequent contributor to national publications, including the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal, and a guest on television and radio shows. Mr. Glennon serves as an advisor to governments, corporations, think tanks, law firms, and NGOs looking to solve water sustainability and planning challenges.
HOW THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION’S ECONOMIC PLATFORM WILL STIMULATE THE U.S. ECONOMY AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Dr. Arthur B. Laffer is an internationally renowned economist and Chairman of Laffer Associates, a research firm which examines the interconnections between macroeconomic, political and demographic changes and how they affect global financial markets. Dr. Laffer’s influence in triggering a world-wide tax-cutting movement in the 1980s have earned him the distinction as “The Father of Supply-Side Economics.” One of his earliest successes was his involvement in Proposition 13, the groundbreaking California initiative that drastically cut property taxes in the state in 1978. He also gained prominence as a member of Reagan’s Economic Policy Advisory Board from 1981–89. He advised Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on fiscal policy in the United Kingdom during the 1980s. Laffer is best known for the Laffer curve, an illustration of the theory that there exists a tax rate between 0 and 100 percent that will result in maximum tax revenue for governments. He is the author and co-author of many publications. He was formerly the Distinguished University Professor at Pepperdine University and also held the position of Charles B. Thornton Professor of Business Economics at the University of Southern California from 1976 to 1984. Arthur was an Associate Professor of Business Economics at the University of Chicago from 1970 to 1976 and a member of the Chicago faculty from 1967 through 1976. Dr. Laffer received a B.A. in economics from Yale University in 1963 and an MBA and Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University in 1965 and 1972, respectively. He was involved in advising Donald Trump’s successful 2016 campaign for the presidency of the United States.
ADAM ANDRZEJEWSKI is Founder & Chief Executive Officer, OpenTheBooks.com, the world’s largest private database of public spending. He is also Co-Founder of HomePages Directories (1997), a $20 million publishing company. Adam is widely published and was a candidate for Governor of Illinois in 2010.

DENNIS E. BAUER, P.E. is Vice President, Sales & Marketing for Diamond Plastics Corporation where he has worked for the past 19 years. Previously Dennis worked for Extrusion Technologies, Inc. in PVC pipe manufacturing and as an engineer for the PVC Pipe Association, also serving as its Chair. He has published articles on the design and installation of PVC pipe and has served on numerous ASTM and AWWA committees and subcommittees. Mr. Bauer is a registered professional engineer in the State of Texas.

MIRJAM BLOKKER, PH.D. is Principal Scientist at KWR Watercycle Research Institute in the Netherlands. She has an M.Sc. in applied physics and a Ph.D. in civil engineering, both from Delft University of Technology. Ms. Blokker has 14 years of experience in the field of drinking water networks, with a focus on water quality and water demand. Mirjam coordinates “Drinking Water Distribution,” one of the areas of study in a Dutch-Belgian Joint Research Program.

CHUCK CARR is Global Business Director, Chlor-Alkali/Vinyls at IHS Chemical. Mr. Carr joined IHS Chemical in 2006 as Director of Propylene Studies in the Olefins Group and was most recently Sr. Director, Global Olefins. Chuck spent 21 years at Total Petrochemicals USA working in refinery engineering/operations, purchasing, plastics logistics, and olefins commercial activities.

ZORAN DAVIDOVSKI is Vice President, Marketing & Innovation of the Pipelife Group in charge of Corporate RD & CSR and a member of the Management Committee. Zoran has an MA in mechanical engineering and has been working in the plastics industry for more than 20 years. He represents Pipelife at The European Plastics Pipes and Fittings Association (TEPPFA). Mr. Davidovski has been Chairman of the Plastic Pipes PPXIV, PPXVI, and PPXVII conferences and is Co-Chairman of PPXIX 2018 in Las Vegas.

DR. STEVEN FOLKMAN is Director of Utah State University’s Buried Structures Laboratory where he has been involved in buried pipe testing and analysis for over 20 years. He is a registered Structural Engineer and a member of AWWA, the ASTM F17 Plastic Piping Systems Committee and the Transportation Research Board and Subsurface Soil-Structure Interaction Committees. Dr. Folkman is co-author of the widely distributed text, Buried Pipe Design.

MAJOR BILLY HEGES (Gulfport, MS) was first elected in 1992 and represented South Mississippi in the Mississippi Senate for 20 years, serving as President Pro Tempore in his last term. As Mayor of Mississippi’s second largest city, and as a small business owner, Billy uses his considerable skills in business development and team building to maximize opportunities for Gulfport. He has served as National Chairman of the American Legislative Exchange Council, National Co-Chair of the American City County Exchange, and as Chairman of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.
WAYNE E. MILLER, P.E. is Director of Public Works for Gulfport, MS where he has been employed for more than 8 years, starting out as Staff Engineer. Wayne has 13 plus years of experience in civil engineering, working in both the private and public sectors, and is an active member of the American Public Works Association (State Delegate Elect), American Society of Civil Engineers (Vice President, Mississippi Gulf Coast Branch), National Society of Professional Engineers, and the American Water Works Association.

BOB PARADIS is a consultant for Formosa Plastics Corporation who has worked in a technical capacity for the PVC industry for over 40 years and has been responsible for new applications, process and product R & D, technology, etc. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts as a Chemical Engineer in 1961.

DR. MOHAMMAD NAJAFI is Director of the Center for Underground Infrastructure Research and Education (CUIRE) at the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Texas at Arlington as well as Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the ASCE Journal of Pipeline Systems. He is an author and co-author of many publications and manuals of practices as well as a consultant and expert witness for trenchless technology pipeline design and construction.

REESE TISDALE, President of Bluefield Research, has an extensive background in industry research, strategic advisory and environmental consulting in the power and energy sectors. Prior to co-founding Bluefield, Mr. Tisdale was Research Director for IHS Emerging Energy Research, a leading research and advisory firm. Reese also has experience in groundwater remediation for oil & gas companies as an environmental scientist and as an international market analyst for ThermoFisher Scientific. Mr. Tisdale spent three years in El Salvador, where he led water supply and agriculture projects immediately following the civil war.

BRUCE HOLLANDS is Executive Director of the PVC Pipe Association. Bruce has worked on underground infrastructure issues with municipalities, water utilities and related state/provincial and federal agencies in North America for more than 20 years. He has extensive experience in association management, public policy and has consistently advocated for cost-effective solutions for water and sewer systems.

ANDRÉ NIJLAND is Area Sales Manager, Technology Licensing for Asia-Pacific and North America with WAVIN, a European company which delivers systems for drinking water supply, wastewater discharge and storm water management, and licenses its technologies to partners around the globe.

KENT H. MAJOR is President of Major & Sons, Inc. and has over 47 years of experience in testing, leak repair and quality control for piping used in major underground infrastructure systems, including extensive testing of subdivision and gravity pipelines, across 23 states. He is a certified diver and has inspected and repaired pipes used for dams, underwater reservoirs and in the mining sector.
SUNDAY 3/11/18
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM @ Grand Ballroom Patio
Pre-Meeting Reception
Sponsored by

MONDAY 3/12/18
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
General Meeting Session
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM @ Keys Ballroom Patio
Spousal Orientation
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Meeting of the Associate, International & Certification/Testing Member Committee
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM @ East Beach
Welcome & Networking Reception
Sponsored by

TUESDAY 3/13/18
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
General Meeting Session
12:30 PM – 6:00 PM @ Hotel Lobby
Uni-Bell Golf Tournament at Key West Golf Club

WEDNESDAY 3/14/18
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
General Meeting Session
12:15 PM – 4:00 PM @ Plantation Key
Board of Directors’ Meeting & Luncheon
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM @ Hotel Lobby
Closing/Wrap-Up Reception: Sunset Sail
Sponsored by

Note: Attire is business casual/slacks unless specified otherwise.
Badges must be worn at all social events and presentations.

*Breakfast is available daily for delegates from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM in the Keys Ballroom Patio and is included with registration.
SUNDAY, MARCH 11
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Pre-Meeting Reception
@ Grand Ballroom Patio
Sponsored by

MONDAY, MARCH 12
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM
Breakfast
@ Keys Ballroom Patio

8:00 AM – 8:15 AM
Joint Meeting of Pipe & Resin Producers, Associate, International & Certification/Testing Members
Brad Corbett, Jr., Uni-Bell Board Member, S & B Technical Products, Inc.
Introduction of attendees, new members and discussion of international travel.

8:15 AM – 8:30 AM
Chair’s Remarks
John Britton, Uni-Bell Chair, Diamond Plastics Corporation

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
How Safe, Cost-Effective and Environmentally Friendly PVC Pipe Benefits the City of Gulfport, Mississippi
Mayor Billy Hewes and Wayne E. Miller, P.E., Director of Public Works
City of Gulfport, MS
Competitive procurement policies for water and sewer piping have been in place in the City of Gulfport, MS for many years. As a result, Gulfport has been able to include safe, cost-effective and sustainable PVC pipe, which has a service life in excess of 100 years and outlasts all other pipe materials, in the renewal of its underground infrastructure. Gulfport is currently utilizing its inflow and infiltration crew to undertake smoke tests, dye testing and videos in older parts of the City, enabling it to assess the condition of its existing pipes and to determine if they need replacing. The City issued a $20 million bond in 2013 to help fund the replacement of its deteriorating underground pipelines and to provide new pipes for unserved areas. Gulfport’s Public Works Department is the 118th agency nationally accredited by the American Public Works Association (and the only municipality in Mississippi to receive this designation).

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Testing and Locating Leaks in Sewer Pipe Networks
Kent H. Major, President, Major & Sons, Inc.
A discussion of how proper field testing methods for sewer pipelines can help detect and determine the cause of most leaks, with emphasis on why low pressure air testing is a critical step before the acceptance of a new system. Includes a review of air, joint and acceptance testing, pipe repair techniques, contractor error, and other quality control methods for years of trouble free infrastructure. Insight into the performance of different pipe materials will be provided.

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM
PVC: Key Drivers and Trends, Feedstock’s Outlook and Worldwide Economic Factors
Chuck Carr, Global Business Director, Chlor-Alkali/Vinyls, Chemical Market Services, IHS Chemical
A look at capacity and demand in the global and North American thermoplastics marketplace.

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM
Break

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM
Update from the European Plastic Pipe Market
André Nijland, Area Manager Technology Licensing, Asia-Pacific and North America, Wavin Technology & Innovation
Status and outlook on PVC pipe in Europe, an update from the European Plastic Pipes and Fittings Association (TEPPFA), and new developments in PVC.

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Results of a Water Research Foundation (WRF) Research Project on Durability and Reliability of Large Diameter HDPE Pipes and Comparison with PVC
Dr. Mohammad Najafi, Director, Center for Underground Infrastructure Research and Education (CUIRE)
A review of a WRF study on the durability and reliability of large diameter HDPE and PVC pipes, which includes an introduction and background to the project, details on the industry workshops and utility survey, how fatigue testing was undertaken, and the results and recommendations for HDPE and PVC pipe.
MONDAY, MARCH 12 CONTINUED

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Positioning PVC Pipe for Growth
Bruce Hollands, Executive Director, PVC Pipe Association (PVCPA)
A look at how PVCPA is positioning PVC pipe for growth in the water and sewer sector through groundbreaking independent third party reports, hard-hitting technical documents, its regional engineer program and by working with industry stakeholders. PVC is now at the forefront as the pipe material that will reduce utility costs, improve water delivery, ensure water quality and address environmental justice and sustainability issues. It is also the preferred solution when asset management and life cycle costing are applied.

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Meeting of the Associate, International & Certification/Testing Member Committee
Brad Corbett, Jr., Uni-Bell Board Member/Committee Chair, S & B Technical Products, Inc.
Review of previous minutes and discussion of Committee activities.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM  @ Keys Ballroom Patio
Spousal Orientation
Overview of hotel amenities, local activities and surrounding attractions. Includes mimosas, pastries, refreshments, and sightseeing tour by trolley in Old Town Key West. Tour starts at 9:45 AM.

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  @ East Beach
Welcome & Networking Reception
Sponsored by

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM  @ Keys Ballroom Patio
Breakfast

8:00 AM – 9:15 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Executive Director’s Report
Bruce Hollands, PVC Pipe Association

Technical/Market Development Committee Reports
Steve Cooper, PVC Pipe Association

Regional Engineer Reports
Steve Cooper, Kyle Wroblewski, Jay Parvez, PVC Pipe Association

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Self-Cleaning Networks: An Innovative Concept Leading to More Cost-Effective Pipe Networks Without Water Quality Problems
Mirjam Blokker, Ph.D., Principal Scientist - Water Infrastructure, KWR Watercycle Research Institute
In the Netherlands 50 percent of the installed drinking water network is PVC pipe. All new pipelines are constructed according to the self-cleaning concept: branched towards the end with pipe diameters that ensure enough pressure and regularly high enough shear stresses to prevent material accumulation in the network. The results are shorter pipe lengths, a significant reduction in discoloration complaints and no need for flushing of the network. These pipeline systems provide both supply security to customers and the pressure needed for required fire flow demands.

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Large Diameter Sanitary Sewer: Addressing Misinformation from the Fiberglass Pipe Industry
Dennis E. Bauer, P.E., Vice President, Sales & Marketing, Diamond Plastics Corporation
In the large diameter sanitary sewer pipe market fiberglass (FRP) has had more than twenty years to build and expand its relationships and establish a defensive perimeter. They have spread misinformation about PVC’s technical attributes and developed a biased specifications strategy to thwart PVC pipe’s growth. Pipe specifications which misrepresent PVC pipe’s performance and FRP’s longstanding relationships have made it challenging in some cases for PVC to compete. Find out how a targeted, cohesive strategy can help PVC pipe prevail.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM  @ Keys Ballroom Patio
Break

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Breaking Barriers to Plastic Pipes in Europe
Zoran Davidovski, Vice President, Marketing & Innovation, Pipelife Group, Member of the Management Committee
The European Plastics Pipes and Fittings Association (TEPPFA) initiated a new project in 2016 to improve communication and promotion of TEPPFA and its initiatives. The project was divided into two phases, with market research in Phase I through a qualitative survey targeting industry experts in various countries via focus groups and individual in-depth interviews, with the aim of understanding the main barriers and drivers of plastic pipe products. The outcome was that many key characteristics of plastic pipes like lifespan of PVC and HDPE, chemical degradation of plastics, physical ageing of plastics, jetting, performance of the materials, performance of flexible vs. rigid pipes, deflection of pipes and frequency of defects are not fully understood. The second phase was initiated in September 2017 with “Discover Plastics” which provides a different and more focused approach to promotion and answers the questions and issues raised in the survey.

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Water Main Break Rates in the USA and Canada: A Comprehensive Study
Dr. Steven Folkman, Director, Utah State University’s Buried Structures Laboratory
In 2017 a survey was completed focusing on water main breaks and operating characteristics at utilities located in the U.S. and Canada. A similar survey was undertaken in 2011 and a report published in 2012. This presentation will discuss the current survey results and subsequent 2018 report and compares them with the 2012 report and shows once again that PVC water pipe has the lowest break rate.

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM  @ Keys Ballroom Patio
Break

TUESDAY, MARCH 13 CONTINUED
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM  @ Keys Ballroom Patio
Break

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
The Future of Water and Sewer Infrastructure: Emerging Trends and Opportunities
Reese Tisdale, President, Bluefield Research
Increasing financial pressures on municipalities, coupled with the emergence of new technologies and solutions, are reshaping the water and sewer sector. Over the next decade, bottom-up analysis of U.S. municipal utility capital improvement plans indicate more than $532 billion in capital expenditures are proposed to address deteriorating piping networks, combined sewer overflows, and rising population demands for new water supplies. Looking forward, understanding the size of the market and where the opportunities are for innovative solutions, including material selection, condition assessment, and improved analytics will prove to be critical in the evolution of municipal and industrial water.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
America’s Water Crisis and What to do About It
Keynote Speaker: Robert Glennon, Professor of Law and Public Policy, Water Resource Expert, Best-Selling Author
America’s water crisis is self-inflicted. Throughout the U.S., even in places that are not particularly dry or hot, communities, farmers, and factories are struggling to find water, and even running out altogether. Our water woes will get worse before they get better because we are slow to change our ways, and because water is the overlooked resource. From the Vegas Strip to faux snow in Atlanta, from mega-farms to Washington’s love affair with biofuels, heady extravagances and everyday waste are sucking the nation dry. We cannot engineer our way out of the problem with the usual fixes or zany schemes. America must make hard choices, and Glennon’s answer is a provocative market-based system that values water as a commodity and a fundamental human right. Sponsored by

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
12:30 PM – 6:00 PM  @ Hotel Lobby
Uni-Bell Golf Tournament at Key West Golf Club
SHOTGUN & SCRAMBLE FORMAT
Lunch available for purchase.
Meet in hotel lobby at 12:30 PM.
FREE EVENING
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
How the Trump Administration’s Economic Platform will Stimulate the U.S. Economy and What it Means for Infrastructure
Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Arthur B. Laffer, Economist, Political Advisor, Best-Selling Author
Dr. Laffer will both summarize and forecast the state of the U.S. economy with an aim towards informing your business and investment decisions, drawing upon his decades of experience in economic research and politics to add context to today’s narrative. He will discuss some of the current Administration’s proposals and their implications for the general economy as well as for our nation’s infrastructure, specifically. Dr. Laffer will also address the importance of competition in achieving the best economic outcomes, whether this competition plays out between competing countries, states or companies vying for projects through a bidding process. Lastly, he may even share a few Reagan stories. 
Sponsored by

11:00 AM – 11:25 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
The Remarkable Reductions in Residual Vinyl Chloride Monomer (VCM) Levels in PVC Resins
Bob Paradis, Consultant, Formosa Plastics Corp.
In the early 1970’s PVC resin producers faced issues with VCM levels which affected PVC polymerization reactor workers. Vinyl chloride is a chemical intermediate, not a final product. Stricter quality and safety controls coupled with remarkable reductions in VCM levels in the PVC resin industry have enabled PVC to continue to expand its use in construction and infrastructure. This presentation will review the history of VCMs in PVC resin production and how VCM levels continue to be lowered to this day.

11:25 AM – 11:55 AM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
The Open Government Movement: How Posting Public Spending Online is Transforming U.S. Politics and Public Policy
Adam Andrzejewski, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, OpenTheBooks.com
The Freedom of Information Act and Internet make it possible to post online all spending at the federal, state and local levels. To date, OpenTheBooks.com has captured $4 billion in government spending records, including nearly all disclosed federal spending since 2000, 48 of 50 state checkbooks, and expenditures in 60,000 localities across America. Posting the costs of water and sewer infrastructure projects and the piping used in these projects will help expose the increased expenses related to closed bidding practices.

11:55 AM – 12:00 PM  @ Big Pine Key/Conch Key/Duck Key Ballrooms
Closing Remarks
John Britton, Uni-Bell Chair, Diamond Plastics Corporation

CONCLUSION OF ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATIONS
12:15 PM – 4:00 PM  @ Plantation Key
Board of Directors’ Meeting & Luncheon

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM  @ Hotel Lobby
Closing/Wrap-Up Reception: Sunset Sail Entertainment & Golf Awards
Cocktail/Sports Jacket (Tie Optional)
Meet in the hotel lobby at 5:30 PM
Sponsored by
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR
JOHN E. BRITTON
DIAMOND PLASTICS CORP.
1212 JOHNSTOWN ROAD
GRAND ISLAND, NE 68803
P: 308.384.4400
F: 308.384.9345
JEBRITTON@DPCPIPE.COM

PAST CHAIR
VESO SOBOT
IPEX MANAGEMENT, INC.
1425 NORTH SERVICE ROAD EAST, UNIT 3
OAKVILLE, ON L6H 1A7
P: 289.881.0120 EXT 21502
F: 905.884.1161
VESO.SOBOT@IPEXNA.COM

DICK DOYLE
THE VINYL INSTITUTE
1747 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 825
WASHINGTON, DC 20006
P: 202.765.2280
F: 202.765.2275
DDOYLE@VINYLINFO.ORG

VICE CHAIR
MATT SIEGEL
NA TIONAL PIPE & PLASTICS, INC.
3421 OLD VESTAL ROAD
VESTAL, NY 13850
P: 607.729.9381
F: 607.729.6130
MSIEGEL@NA TIONALPIPE.COM

ANDRE BATTISTIN
NORTH AMERICAN PIPE CORP.
2801 POST OAK BOULEVARD
SUITE 600
HOUSTON, TX 77056
P: 713.963.1526
F: 308.384.9345
ABATTISTIN@WESTLAKE.COM

RICHARD MASON
SHINTECH, INC.
3 EAST GREENWAY PLAZA
SUITE 1150
HOUSTON, TX 77046
P: 713.965.0713
F: 713.965.0629
DMASON@SHIN-TECH.COM

TREASURER
ERIC HOWARD
SANDERSON PIPE CORP./VINYLPLEX, INC.
875 INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD
CLARKSVILLE, TN 37040
P: 931.222.5454
F: 931.221.4830
ERIC-H@SANDERSONPIPE.COM

CHUCK CLARK
JM EAGLE
5200 WEST CENTURY BOULEVARD
10TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045
P: 310.693.8200 EXT 7301
F: 209.983.0883
CHUCKCLARK@JMEAGLE.COM

WAYNE VOORHEES
PIPLEIFE JET STREAM, INC.
17000 SOUTH LINCOLN STREET
PO BOX 190
SILOAM SPRINGS, AR 72761
P: 479.373.6808
F: 479.524.5464
WAYNE.VOORHEES@PIPLEIFE.COM

BRAD CORBETT, JR.
S&B TECHNICAL PRODUCTS, INC.
1300 EAST BERRY STREET
FORT WORTH, TX 76119
P: 817.829.1136
F: 817.923.1339
BRADJR@SBTECHPROD.COM

LEGAL COUNSEL
NED RAHN
SAUL EWING ARNSTEIN & LEHR, LLP
3800 CENTRE SQUARE WEST
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102
P: 215.972.7165
F: 215.972.1855
NED.RAHN@SAUL.COM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BRUCE HOLLANDS
UNI-BELL PVC PIPE ASSOCIATION
2711 LBJ FREEWAY
SUITE 1000
DALLAS, TX 75234
P: 972.243.3902 EXT 1019
F: 972.243.3907
BHOLLANDS@UNI-BELL.ORG

DICK DOYLE
THE VINYL INSTITUTE
1747 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
SUITE 825
WASHINGTON, DC 20006
P: 202.765.2280
F: 202.765.2275
DDOYLE@VINYLINFO.ORG
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Godwin</td>
<td>American Maplan Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:godwin.p@battenfeld-cincinnati.com">godwin.p@battenfeld-cincinnati.com</a></td>
<td>McPherson, Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Bauer</td>
<td>Diamond Plastics Corp.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dauer@dpcpipe.com">dauer@dpcpipe.com</a></td>
<td>Grand Island, Nebraska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John E. Britton</td>
<td>Diamond Plastics Corp.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbritton@dpcpipe.com">jbritton@dpcpipe.com</a></td>
<td>Grand Island, Nebraska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Kaiser</td>
<td>The Dow Chemical Company</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:rdkaiser@dow.com">rdkaiser@dow.com</a></td>
<td>Naperville, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernad Grégoire</td>
<td>Hamilton Kent, LLC</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bernard.gregoire@hamiltonkent.com">bernard.gregoire@hamiltonkent.com</a></td>
<td>Toronto, Ontario, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirjam Blokker</td>
<td>Honeywell International, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mirjam.blokker@kwrwater.nl">mirjam.blokker@kwrwater.nl</a></td>
<td>Nieuwegein, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Arthur B. Laffer</td>
<td>Laffer Associates</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@laffer.com">info@laffer.com</a></td>
<td>Nashville, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Hall</td>
<td>General Shale, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:andy.hall@generalshale.com">andy.hall@generalshale.com</a></td>
<td>Johnson City, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Clark</td>
<td>JM Eagle</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckclark@jmeagle.com">chuckclark@jmeagle.com</a></td>
<td>Los Angeles, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen Kibbe</td>
<td>Kibbechem, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:gkiibbe@kibbechem.com">gkiibbe@kibbechem.com</a></td>
<td>Elkhart, Indiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Durrenberger</td>
<td>Honeywell International, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:fred.durrenberger@honeywell.com">fred.durrenberger@honeywell.com</a></td>
<td>Columbia, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamerly Howard</td>
<td>Honeywell International, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jamerly.howard@honeywell.com">jamerly.howard@honeywell.com</a></td>
<td>Morristown, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrin Brody</td>
<td>The International Group, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@igiwax.com">info@igiwax.com</a></td>
<td>Oxford, Mississippi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Marston</td>
<td>Milacron</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:brian.marston@milacron.com">brian.marston@milacron.com</a></td>
<td>Batavia, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Newhart</td>
<td>Milacron</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:tim.newhart@milacron.com">tim.newhart@milacron.com</a></td>
<td>Batavia, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt &amp; Nancy Siegel</td>
<td>National Pipe &amp; Plastics, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:msiiegel@nationalpipe.com">msiiegel@nationalpipe.com</a></td>
<td>Vestal, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Sinowitz</td>
<td>National Pipe &amp; Plastics, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jsinowitz@nationalpipe.com">jsinowitz@nationalpipe.com</a></td>
<td>Vestal, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Thompson</td>
<td>City of Gulfport</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mayorsoffice@gulfport-ms.gov">mayorsoffice@gulfport-ms.gov</a></td>
<td>Gulfport, Mississippi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Miller</td>
<td>City of Gulfport</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:wmiller@gulfport-ms.gov">wmiller@gulfport-ms.gov</a></td>
<td>Gulfport, Mississippi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Chase</td>
<td>ColorMatrix Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:chris.chase@colormatrix.com">chris.chase@colormatrix.com</a></td>
<td>Berea, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramiro Mata</td>
<td>ColorMatrix Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ramiro.mata@csagroup.org">ramiro.mata@csagroup.org</a></td>
<td>Berea, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Deininger</td>
<td>Formosa Plastics Corp., U.S.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:rdeininger@fpcusa.com">rdeininger@fpcusa.com</a></td>
<td>Livingston, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Heinle</td>
<td>Formosa Plastics Corp., U.S.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:dheinle@fpcusa.com">dheinle@fpcusa.com</a></td>
<td>Livingston, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Paradis</td>
<td>Formosa Plastics Corp., U.S.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:rparadis@fpcusa.com">rparadis@fpcusa.com</a></td>
<td>Livingston, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd &amp; Tammy Horne</td>
<td>Galata Chemicals, LLC</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:todd.horne@galatachemicals.com">todd.horne@galatachemicals.com</a></td>
<td>Rock Hill, South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Hall</td>
<td>General Shale, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:andy.hall@generalshale.com">andy.hall@generalshale.com</a></td>
<td>Johnson City, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Smith</td>
<td>General Shale, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:charles.smith@generalshale.com">charles.smith@generalshale.com</a></td>
<td>Johnson City, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Williams</td>
<td>Honeywell International, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ykees2a2@verizon.net">ykees2a2@verizon.net</a></td>
<td>Morristown, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirjam Blokker</td>
<td>Honeywell International, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:mirjam.blokker@kwrwater.nl">mirjam.blokker@kwrwater.nl</a></td>
<td>Nieuwegein, Netherlands</td>
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<td>JM Eagle</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuckclark@jmeagle.com">chuckclark@jmeagle.com</a></td>
<td>Los Angeles, California</td>
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