The City of Mesquite, Nevada requested bids on December 21, 2001 to furnish approximately 16,000 linear feet of 30-inch irrigation pipe as well as 640 feet of 12-inch, 15-inch, and 18-inch irrigation pipe.

This seemed like a reasonable and routine request. However, there was an additional requirement. All of this material had to be delivered to the project by January 14, 2002. Delivery was extremely important, as it was an absolute necessity to have minimal downtime for the water supply.

Water (27,000 gallons per minute) was being delivered in an open channel ditch and used for irrigating three golf courses in the Virgin Valley in Mesquite. The City of Mesquite and the Regional Transportation Commission of Nevada were funding the project to enclose this open channel, convey the irrigation water in a pipeline, and then build a road above it. Bulloch Brothers Engineering, Inc., of Mesquite was hired to design, receive bids, and oversee construction of this important project. The irrigation water source was the Virgin River with a 60-inch diameter pipe delivering 60 cubic feet per second or approximately 27,000 gallons per minute.

The three golf courses — The Oasis, Casa Blanca, and Wolf Creek — were all dependent on this irrigation water supply. In a desert location, these golf courses rely on irrigation year round. While this was the “dormant” time of year, it was critical to get irrigation water back in service quickly, hence the requirement to deliver all of the pipe and accessory materials by January 14, 2002.

FNW/Plumbers Supply Company located in St. George, Utah saw an opportunity to help the City of Mesquite.

GASB 34 – Poised To End Costly Fairy Tales?

Remember how shocked you were to learn the truth about Santa Claus? The Easter Bunny? The Tooth Fairy? Or perhaps even Jack and the Beanstalk or Alice in Wonderland?

Luckily, most of us learned the truth about fairy tales when we were still very young. Our psyches were able to recover from the trauma, and we were able to go on with our lives.

Regrettably, some of the adults in our industry are not so fortunate. They still believe in fairy tales, but they will soon be confronted by reality in the form of GASB Statement 34.

GASB is shorthand for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The GASB is a private, nonprofit body responsible for establishing and improving accounting and financial reporting standards for non-federal governmental units in the United States. As you might expect, these gov-
Profile Pipe
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accompany its objective in the required
time by furnishing dual wall corrugated
profile wall pipe (which will be referred
to as “profile pipe” for shorthand) in
lieu of conventional PVC irrigation pipe
that would not be available by the dead-
time. A call was placed to a Uni-Bell
member company, which confirmed that
30-inch profile pipe was in stock and
available for immediate shipment. The
question asked by the engineer was:
“Could profile pipe meet the job
requirements?” The pipe was to be
installed three-pipes-wide in an open
ditch and be capable of conveying 60 cfs
under a gravity head of six to seven feet.
The pipe would have an average cover
width of ten to fifteen feet.

Dick Sorensen, a member company ter-
ritory representative, noted that the
USDA Soil Conservation Service had a
PVC profile specification 430-JJ in
place with a pressure requirement of 25-
feet of head. The manufacturer submit-
ted compliance with the 430-JJ specifi-
cation and indicated the product could
accomplish its objective in the required
days and allowed the contractor to pro-
ceed as planned.

Flying W Contracting of Las Vegas,
Nevada was awarded a sub-contract
from Wiser Construction Company to
install the 30-inch pipe and the 12-inch,
15-inch, and 18-inch outlet pipe, butter-
fly valves, and diversion boxes. Flying
W’s challenge was to complete the pro-
ject in ten days. The job required the
contractor to dig a trapezoidal trench
fifteen- to twenty-feet deep. The trench
width would be twenty-feet at the bot-
tom and fifty-feet at the top and a mile
long. Mammoth scrapers began work-
ing around the clock to remove soil and
establish grade. The pipe crew began
laying 30-inch pipe (dual marked as
ASTM F949 and ASTM F794) on the
delivery end of the project. Three pipes
were laid abreast at the same time. The
first short day saw over 3,000 feet of
pipe installed.

The task of installing, backfilling, and
constructing outlet structures was com-
pleted in eight working days. Condi-
tions were virtually perfect at this scenic
location in the Virgin River Valley. The
pipeline is functioning perfectly and
accomplishes its objective in the required

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Slings of differing lengths reduced handling time of the triple-barrel installation.

The trapezoidal ditch ranged in depth from fifteen- to twenty-feet deep. The top width was up to fifty feet wide.