



New Jersey Section

American Water Works Association

For Immediate Release

For More Information, Please contact:  
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## **DRINKING WATER PROFESSIONALS GATHERED FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

“From Source To Tap...And Everything In Between”

*April 7, 2008, Atlantic City, NJ* – Over 700 drinking water professionals throughout the state gathered in Atlantic City last week for the New Jersey Section American Water Works Association’s 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference. The New Jersey Section is one of 43 sections of the American Water Works Association (AWWA), the largest organization of drinking water professionals in the world. AWWA works to make advances in public health, safety and welfare by uniting the efforts of the full spectrum of drinking water professionals. The Conference featured two full days of concurrent technical sessions on topics involving water supply management, regulations, and drinking water treatment and distribution. This year’s Pre-conference workshop addressed water utility rate structures as well as the legal and financial aspects of running a water utility.

Luis Aguiar, Vice President of the AWWA national organization, greeted New Jersey Section members and addressed those gathered on the importance of succession planning in the water industry and mentoring the next generation of water professionals..

### **New Leadership**

In her final speech as Section Chair, Stacy Fysz of Black & Veatch reflected briefly on highlights of her term, including the importance of passion, volunteers, leadership and her mentors. Fysz encouraged members to spread enthusiasm for the Section. She also expressed gratitude to the chairs and members of the New Jersey Section committees and welcomed the Section’s next chair, Mark Tompeck of Hatch Mott MacDonald.

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Tompeck spoke about education and how it is the foundation of NJAWWA. Tompeck intends to continue the focus on interconnectivity and collaboration between NJAWWA and sister organizations, raising the profile of NJAWWA and redesigning the website during his term.

### **Awards and Honorees**

This year's award recipients received a myriad of honors for their contributions in engineering, leadership, years of distinguished service, new eager professionals, and volunteerism. The recipients were as follows:

**Next Generation Award** was bestowed upon Teresa Peterson of Gannett Fleming. This award is given to a member who is a young professional (under the age of 35) and who is actively participating in the Association's activities and programs. This award has been developed to encourage young professionals to become active in New Jersey Section AWWA and to encourage employers to allow their young professionals to participate.

The **Fresh Ideas** award was given to Michael Johnson of Buck Seifert & Jost. In conjunction with AWWA's Fresh Ideas initiative, New Jersey Section AWWA selects the best paper by a young professional based on originality, topical interest, content, speaker's knowledge of topic, use of audio-visual elements, and overall presentation. The Fresh Ideas winner receives \$300 and the opportunity to submit a poster to the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition.

**Harold V. Florence, Jr. Meritorious Operator Award** for distinguished service in water operations was awarded to Fred Schindler for his work at the Gloucester City Environmental Utilities Department.

**George Warren Fuller Award**, which recognizes distinguished service in the water supply field was bestowed upon Richard Russo of Hatch Mott MacDonald. The Fuller Award – one of the most prestigious awards AWWA bestows -- is given to an individual for their sound engineering

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skill and constructive leadership, qualities exemplified by George Warren Fuller, one of America’s most eminent engineers.

**Public Service Award** – Gene Golub, of Freehold Township, was recognized for his extensive resume in education and leadership in the water community. The Public Service Award was established in 1951 in honor of Harry E. Jordan, AWWA Secretary from 1939 to 1959, and is presented in recognition of distinguished Public Service.

**Kenneth J. Miller Award** – Sandy Kutzing of CDM, was recognized for her volunteer work with Water For People. Water For People, a nonprofit organization, is dedicated to helping people in developing countries improve their quality of life by supporting the development of locally sustainable drinking water resources, sanitation facilities and health and hygiene education programs.

### **NJ Section Announces New Incoming Officers**

During the Conference, NJAWWA announced its officers the coming year (2008-2009):

Section Chair, Mark Tompeck (Hatch Mott MacDonald)

Vice Chair, Lindsey M. Lento (American Water)

Past Chair, Stacy Fysz (Black & Veatch)

Director, John S. Young, Jr. (American Water)

Trustee, Laura Cummings (Passaic Valley Water Commission)

Trustee, Neil Goldfine (Atlantic City MUA)

Trustee, Carol Storms (Aqua America)

Trustee, Ken Garrison (Borough of Fairlawn)

Secretary-Treasurer, Dave Ern (Gordon’s Corner Water Company)

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Carrie D. Feuer (Metcalf & Eddy)

For more information about NJAWWA, please visit our website: [www.njawwa.org](http://www.njawwa.org) or call Mona Cavalcoli, Section Manager, at (866) 436-1120.

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