



# DRINKING WATER ACADEMY BULLETIN



Summer 2004

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**NEW UIC COURSE AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENT LINKS ON THE DWA WEB SITE**

**ESS PROJECT PROCEEDS ON SEVERAL FRONTS**

**DWA SOLICITS INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL WORK GROUP**

**DRINKING WATER ACADEMY CONTACTS**

**TRAINING COURSE SCHEDULE**

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE: USING PDAS AND TABLET PCS TO ENHANCE WATER SECURITY AND SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT IMPLEMENTATION

On May 26 and 27, 2004, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) and EPA’s Drinking Water Academy (DWA) sponsored a national conference in Austin, Texas, on using personal digital assistants (PDAs) and Tablet PCs to enhance water security and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) implementation.

Approximately 75 state staff, federal agency staff, and contractors attended. They represented three areas of interest:

- ◆ The Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) Program.
- ◆ The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program.
- ◆ Water security.

Conference speakers provided insights on the development and implementation of software programs to enhance SDWA implementation. The Electronic Sanitary Survey (ESS) tool provides field

inspectors with a PDA—or Tablet PC-based—tool to record their findings in the field, upload the data to an intermediate database, generate inspection reports, and provide analytical data.

The UIC program has developed two tools for primacy and direct implementation states to use in conducting Class V inventory and other inspections. These tools increase consistency and efficiency in conducting inspections, reduce the likelihood of errors, and provide flexibility to the users.

Speakers also raised the audience’s awareness of how these tools can be used to support water security activities, and they discussed issues related to the security of the hardware and of the data collected by users.



Speakers representing the U.S. Forest Service and Florida’s Volusia County gave presentations that expanded the horizons of technology use to support water programs.

Participants were also given an opportunity to brainstorm about how technology could be used to support their programs, to network during an evening reception and breaks, and to participate in working sessions on the ESS and UIC software.

Door prizes—PDAs—were awarded to two lucky attendees. ◆

## NEW UIC COURSE AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENT LINKS ON THE DWA WEB SITE

A second technical Underground Injection Control (UIC) training course, *Underground Injection Control Pressure Fall-off Testing*, was recently added to the DWA Web site. (The address is [www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/electronic/ematerials.html#UIC](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/electronic/ematerials.html#UIC).)

In addition to the training slides for this latest UIC course, the site has links to two related guidance documents: *The Nuts and Bolts of Fall-off Testing* and *Pressure Fall-off Testing Guideline*.

UIC pressure fall-off tests provide information on the response of the injection zone when injection is temporarily

stopped in a well. The test is important in determining the efficacy of UIC regulations when applied to deep injection wells.

Like the first technical UIC course made available on DWA's Web site, *Underground Injection Control Pressure Fall-off Testing* is the result of a collaboration between the DWA and the UIC Technical Work Group. That first effort, *Introduction to UIC Permitting*, is also available at the DWA Web site. The UIC Technical Work Group intends to add to the site other technically sophisticated courses as well.


ExxonMobil has agreed to provide the UIC Technical Work Group with training materials related to remote sensing technology. This technology is used to characterize the geology of the underground environment surrounding injection wells and to determine the wells'

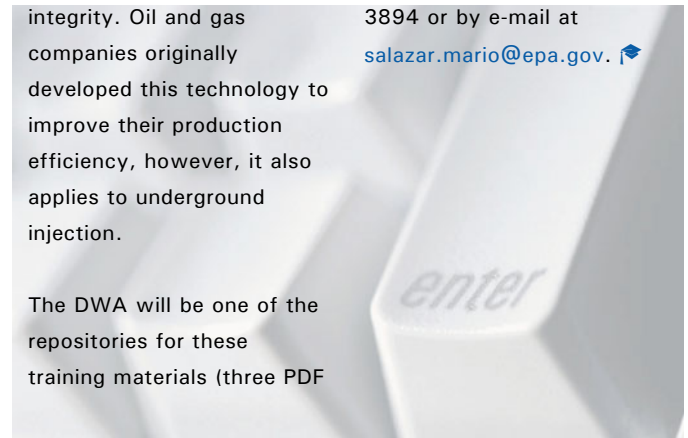
integrity. Oil and gas companies originally developed this technology to improve their production efficiency, however, it also applies to underground injection.

The DWA will be one of the repositories for these training materials (three PDF

files of approximately 40 MB each).

The Academy also will make the files available on a CD.

Anyone who is interested in obtaining the training materials should contact Mario Salazar at (202) 564-3894 or by e-mail at [salazar.mario@epa.gov](mailto:salazar.mario@epa.gov). 



## ESS PROJECT PROCEEDS ON SEVERAL FRONTS

The DWA continues to enhance the Electronic Sanitary Survey (ESS) software and improve its accessibility.

### Tablet PC Version


A version for Tablet PCs is now available. The Tablet ESS software is similar to the desktop ESS software, without the PDA references and the ability to create a new survey. One new feature of the Tablet ESS software is the ability to add a survey component (e.g., source, treatment) while in the field.

### Massachusetts ESS

After working with the ESS software in the field, staff at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection identified a number of changes to tailor the software to their needs. State

staff developed a revised and reduced question set. They are now mapping the questions to the state database. The DWA is assisting the state in its customization efforts.

### SDWIS/STATE Bridge

The DWA is also supporting the building of a "bridge" from the ESS software to the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS). This bridge will allow data to be transferred in both directions: from SDWIS to the ESS and from the ESS to SDWIS. Work on this project is expected to be complete by late summer. 




## DWA SOLICITS INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL WORK GROUP

Working to revitalize the DWA’s efforts to bring training to non-English-speaking audiences at home and abroad, Mario Salazar is seeking participants to join representatives of the DWA Advisory Board from EPA Regions 2, 4, 6, and 9 and from the Border States on the Advisory Board’s international work group.

The DWA Advisory Board formed the workgroup to advise on training issues related to speakers of languages other than English in the United States and abroad. The group initially worked to have the DWA translate two courses into Spanish and present them in Puerto Rico.

Recent DWA activity in this area includes completing the Spanish translation of two

courses, *Introduction to the Public Water System Supervision Program* and *Introduction to EPA’s Source Water Protection Programs*. When complete, they will be put on the DWA Web site. In addition, Puerto Rico has requested a presentation of the *UIC Inspector Training* course, which will require updating the Spanish language version.

Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact Mario at (202) 564-3894 or [salazar.mario@epa.gov](mailto:salazar.mario@epa.gov). 

## DRINKING WATER ACADEMY CONTACTS

Contact	Location	Telephone	E-mail
Jackie LeClair	EPA Region 1	(617) 918-1549	<a href="mailto:leclair.jackie@epa.gov">leclair.jackie@epa.gov</a>
Norma Ortega	EPA Region 2	(212) 637-4234	<a href="mailto:ortega.norma@epa.gov">ortega.norma@epa.gov</a>
Rick Rogers	EPA Region 3	(215) 814-5711	<a href="mailto:rogers.rick@epa.gov">rogers.rick@epa.gov</a>
Janine Morris	EPA Region 4	(404) 562-9480	<a href="mailto:morris.janine@epa.gov">morris.janine@epa.gov</a>
Bill Spaulding	EPA Region 5	(312) 886-9262	<a href="mailto:spaulding.william@epa.gov">spaulding.william@epa.gov</a>
Bill Davis	EPA Region 6	(214) 665-7536	<a href="mailto:davis.williamh@epa.gov">davis.williamh@epa.gov</a>
Stephanie Lindberg	EPA Region 7	(913) 551-7423	<a href="mailto:lindberg.stephanie@epa.gov">lindberg.stephanie@epa.gov</a>
Dan Jackson	EPA Region 8	(303) 312-6155	<a href="mailto:jackson.dan@epa.gov">jackson.dan@epa.gov</a>
Barry Pollock	EPA Region 9	(415) 972-3563	<a href="mailto:pollock.barry@epa.gov">pollock.barry@epa.gov</a>
Bill Chamberlain	EPA Region 10	(206) 553-8515	<a href="mailto:chamberlain.william@epa.gov">chamberlain.william@epa.gov</a>
Mark Anderson	Virginia	(804) 786-5569	<a href="mailto:manderson@vdh.state.va.us">manderson@vdh.state.va.us</a>
James Weddell	Texas	(512) 239-4798	<a href="mailto:jweddell@tnrcc.state.tx.us">jweddell@tnrcc.state.tx.us</a>
Stew Thornley	Minnesota	(651) 215-0771	<a href="mailto:stew.thornley@health.state.mn.us">stew.thornley@health.state.mn.us</a>
Murlene Lash	EPA HQ	(202) 564-3818	<a href="mailto:lash.murlene@epa.gov">lash.murlene@epa.gov</a>
Mario Salazar	EPA HQ	(202) 564-3894	<a href="mailto:salazar.mario@epa.gov">salazar.mario@epa.gov</a>
James Bourne	EPA HQ	(202) 564-4095	<a href="mailto:bourne.james@epa.gov">bourne.james@epa.gov</a>

## TRAINING COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Radionuclides Rule	State personnel, technical assistance providers, and system operators	Aug. 4, 2004	Web Conference	State coordinator
Arsenic Rule	State personnel, technical assistance providers, and system operators	Sept. 15, 2004	Web Conference	State coordinator
Introduction to EPA's Drinking Water Source Protection Programs	State source water protection staff	Sept. 15, 2004	Web Conference	<a href="mailto:dwaweb.conference@epa.gov">dwaweb.conference@epa.gov</a>
Introduction to the Safe Drinking Water Act	EPA and state drinking water staff	Sept. 29, 2004	Web Conference	<a href="mailto:dwaweb.conference@epa.gov">dwaweb.conference@epa.gov</a>
Arsenic Rule	State personnel, technical assistance providers, and system operators	Oct. 20, 2004	Web Conference	State coordinator
Introduction to the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program	EPA and state UIC staff	Oct. 20 – 27, 2004	Web Conference	<a href="mailto:dwaweb.conference@epa.gov">dwaweb.conference@epa.gov</a>
American Government Roles	New federal employees	Nov. 2 & 3, 2004	Washington, DC	Jamie Bourne (202) 564-4095 <a href="mailto:bourne.james@epa.gov">bourne.james@epa.gov</a>
Security Considerations When Conducting a Sanitary Survey	State sanitary survey inspectors	Nov. 10, 2004	Web Conference	<a href="mailto:dwaweb.conference@epa.gov">dwaweb.conference@epa.gov</a>
Overview of the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act	New federal employees	Dec. 7 – 9, 2004	Washington, DC	Jamie Bourne (202) 564-4095 <a href="mailto:bourne.james@epa.gov">bourne.james@epa.gov</a>

DWA courses may be presented as requested. See the course catalog on the DWA Web site for more information ([www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/course.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/dwa/course.html)).