

# IGWA Bulletin

## IDAHO LEGISLATURE APPROVES WELL CONSTRUCTION RULES

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Over the last 2 1/2 years, the Idaho Ground Water Association and the Idaho Department of Water Resources have been diligently working on a new set of Well Construction Rules for the Industry. There were a total of 17 Negotiated Rulemaking sessions that took place. The IGWA also held 32 individual Board meetings (usually on Monday evenings from 6-9 PM) to review and discuss the most current issue or draft of the Rules. Needless to say, these Rules had been hammered and put through the sausage grinder before a compromise was reached.

The IGWA Board of Directors approved the July 9, 2008 draft of the Rules by a measure of 6-2 with one absent and one abstaining vote. Members of the IGWA Board testified in front of the Water Resource Board on July 17th in Coeur d' Alene in support of the Rules, which were adopted by the Water Resource Board.

Most recently, members of the IGWA and the Industry (through an outstanding team effort) helped the Rules pass through the Idaho State Legislature. The vote in the Senate Natural Resource Committee was 8-1 in favor, in the House Resource & Conservation Committee 5-1 in the sub-committee, and 18-0 in the full Committee.

I want to personally thank the members of the IGWA Board of Directors (Henry Baker, Roger Buchanan, Tom Richardson, Steve Baker, Rob Dawson) and others in the Ground Water Industry (Mark Hiddleston and Sylvan Adamson to name a few) for taking the time away from your businesses and homes to attend the hearings and speak in support of these Rules on behalf of your interests and on behalf of protecting our precious Ground Water Resource during the 2009 Legislative Session. Without your message to the Legislature, these Rules would not have been approved.

I also want to personally thank the Idaho Department of Water Resources (Director Tuthill, Gary Spackman, Tom Neace, Chad Hersley and Rob Whitney) for listening to our Industry's needs and concerns throughout the process and for their continued support of our Association and our Industry.

The IGWA will be placing the New Rules for Well Construction Standards on our upcoming Workshop and Convention agendas to provide you as an Industry with the knowledge to successfully follow the new regulations and learn what is in the new requirements.

*Roger Batt – Executive Director*



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## IGWA SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

This is the time of year we start thinking of higher education and scholarships. The Scholarship Committee would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to all of IGWA's members (past and present) for their hard work and dedication to the IGWA Scholarship Fund. Without you, this Fund would not exist and we would not be able to award monies to deserving applicants.

Last year, an article suggested that we might need to go in a different direction to raise monies for the Scholarship Fund and whom to award the funds to. The IGWA's by-laws were changed to add the Scholarship Committee as a Standing Committee of the IGWA. With that being stated, we are looking for ideas and input from you. One suggestion that has been made is to give scholarships only to students who are taking courses pertaining to the Ground Water Industry. Another is to award those presently in the Industry monies for Continuing Education towards their careers (Mud Schools, Screen Schools, Drilling Schools, etc.). Oregon has this type of program and it seems to have worked for the most part.

Please put your thinking caps on and let me, the other Committee members (Marie Teague, Gloria Harden & Louise Duspiva) or one of the IGWA Board members know if you have any ideas or suggestions to make this program more effective. The monies donated to this Fund have the capability to train new folks that may have an interest in our Industry to make it continue to prosper.

Thank you for your years of generosity to the program. I look forward for your input to move this program into a higher level.

*Gary Duspiva*  
Chairman



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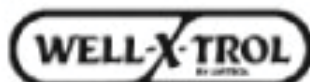
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## ROCKMORE ANNOUNCES MULTIPoint — THE NEXT GENERATION OF CARBIDE INSERTS FOR THEIR BUTTON BITS

Rockmore International, a global manufacturer of rock drilling tools, has developed a revolutionary new carbide insert design for their button bits, the MultiPoint.

In percussion drilling, penetration rates depend on efficient crack propagation. With a conventional hemispherical insert, there is a single tangent point striking the rock, resulting in the rapid development of wear flats. Rockmore's exclusive new carbide insert design provides multiple strike points for more efficient rock fracture and longer insert life.

Extensive rock-drilling trials showed that Rockmore's button bits with MultiPoint inserts last up to 20% longer than the standard hemispherical design, and increased penetration rates by 10%. Wear flats appeared slower and later in the insert life than with hemispherical inserts. Testing also revealed that the MultiPoint inserts provided smoother bit rotation and advancement.

With the new Rockmore MultiPoint design, there is better transfer of energy, imparting more effective rock fracture. Button wear is reduced and overall bit life enhanced in even the most abrasive and hardest rock conditions.

The MultiPoint design is currently available in 1/2" to 3/4" (12 – 19mm) diameter carbide inserts, in Rockmore's DTH and top-hammer bits, 3.5" to 10" (89 – 254mm) diameter.

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## NANOPARTICLES OFFER PROMISE IN GROUND WATER REMEDIATION, SAYS RICE UNIVERSITY RESEARCHER

LAS VEGAS—Nanotechnology, the science of matter on the atomic scale, offers much promise for making water clean and safe for the world's citizens, but care also should be taken to study possible unwanted environmental side effects, says researcher Vicki Colvin, Ph.D., of Rice University. Colvin's presentation, "Nanotechnology in the Environment: Clean Water from Small Materials," explored the emerging science of nanotechnology at the National Ground Water Association's Ground Water Expo and Annual Meeting.

A "nanoparticle" is 1 to 100 nanometers in diameter—a nanometer being one billionth of a meter in length. While some nanoparticles occur naturally, nanotechnology has resulted in the development of nanoparticles that have very specific properties. In the context of remediating contaminated water, two such properties are:

- Sequestration, where the nanoparticle locks up a contaminant to where it's not harmful, and
- Reaction, where a nanoparticle reacts with another substance to render it harmless.

"The real benefits to ground water are all related to the surface area of nanoparticles. A gram of nanoparticle material might have the surface area of a football field. Nanoparticles have huge surface areas for reaction and sequestrations," Colvin said.

Another advantage to nanoparticles is that they are so small they do not settle in water but are a part of the water flow, thus facilitating their ability to react with or sequester contaminants.

Colvin said the ability to design and produce nanoparticles to do very specific things is so good that "you can make a nano-anything these days."

"The field of nanotechnology is projected to be a \$1 trillion business in the next five to ten years. They are in many consumer products from deodorants to sunscreen and car tires to golf clubs, crossing many industries," Colvin said. "The question is, do they find their way into aquifers and are they going to be part of drinking water systems?"

The same qualities that make nanoparticles so useful and effective can also present dangers to the environment. "Small amounts in mass could be huge amounts in surface area so that you could moderate and change environmental processes drastically," she said.

Among the potential issues:

- Nanoparticles could facilitate the transport of contaminants
- The reactive properties of some nanoparticles could create unwanted byproducts
- At its atomic-scale size, nanoparticles could invade and affect biological organisms in ways larger particles cannot
- They could persist in the environment for a long time.

"For all those reasons, we want to be cautious with them. The science of application of nanoparticles has been around for 10 years or longer. What's newer and less evolved is the science of how to deal with the unwanted consequences," said Colvin. This evolving science is complicated by the fact that it can be difficult to differentiate between naturally occurring and manmade nanoparticles.

"My take-home message is that nanoparticles are already out there in nature. People already are dealing with them and don't know it," she said. "And, we don't want to make the same mistakes as in the past by introducing technologies that create problems."

For more information about NGWA, visit [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org).



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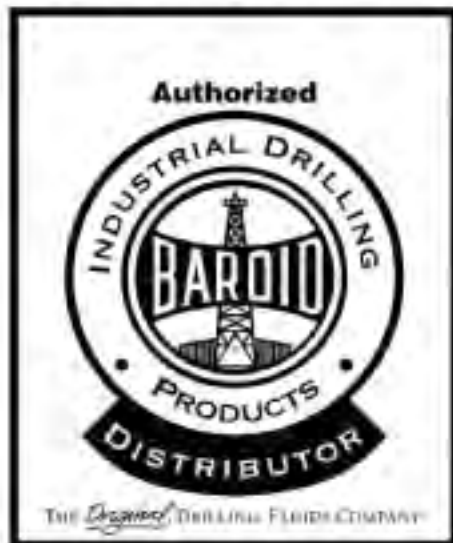
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Well Construction Financial Report

|                              | 2000       | 2001       | 2002       | 2003       | 2004       | 2005       | 2006       | 2007       | 2008       |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Fees Collected               | \$ 372,025 | \$ 337,966 | \$ 384,520 | \$ 414,884 | \$ 439,230 | \$ 440,545 | \$ 454,120 | \$ 406,290 | \$ 341,550 |
| Expenditures                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Personnel Costs              | \$ 426,447 | \$ 450,199 | \$ 464,081 | \$ 467,691 | \$ 468,475 | \$ 454,838 | \$ 474,913 | \$ 429,092 | \$ 449,672 |
| Printing & Binding           | \$ 683     | \$ 1,126   | \$ 1,025   | \$ 1,260   | \$ 1,923   | \$ 222     | \$ 52      |            |            |
| Supplies                     | \$ 5,351   | \$ 532     | \$ 27      | \$ 4,750   | \$ 145     | \$ 6,278   | \$ 4,586   | \$ 1,652   | \$ 1,013   |
| Publications & Subscriptions | \$ 691     |            | \$ 214     | \$ 223     | \$ 495     | \$ 93      | \$ 30      |            |            |
| Training                     | \$ 1,727   | \$ 1,290   | \$ 1,092   | \$ 464     | \$ 525     | \$ 1,430   | \$ 2,120   | \$ 735     | \$ 724     |
| Equipment Services           | \$ 213     |            |            | \$ 279     | \$ 350     |            |            |            |            |
| Photographic Services        | \$ 11      | \$ 102     | \$ 8       |            |            |            | \$ 400     | \$ 77      | \$ 17      |
| Field Supplies               | \$ 48      | \$ 699     | \$ 16      |            | \$ 72      |            | \$ 154     | \$ 40      | \$ 50      |
| Maps                         | \$ 107     | \$ 20      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| License Tags & Plates        | \$ 23      | \$ 165     | \$ 11      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Travel                       | \$ 5,401   | \$ 4,969   | \$ 3,449   | \$ 1,938   | \$ 7,646   | \$ 3,758   | \$ 6,512   | \$ 11,745  | \$ 5,024   |
| Meeting/Conf Room Rent       | \$ 740     | \$ 20      | \$ 11      |            |            |            | \$ 87      | \$ 8       |            |
| Non-State Employee Reimb.    | \$ 683     | \$ 681     |            |            |            |            |            |            | \$ 2,015   |
| Capital Purchases            | \$ 834     |            |            |            | \$ 871     | \$ 3,535   | \$ 875     | \$ 612     | \$ 8,070   |
| Equipment Non-Capital        | \$ 858     | \$ 445     |            |            | \$ 229     | \$ 420     | \$ 69      | \$ 258     | \$ 77      |
| Express Mail                 |            | \$ 54      | \$ 12      |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Phone/FAX Long Distance      |            | \$ 808     |            |            | \$ 334     |            |            |            |            |
| Memberships                  |            | \$ 199     | \$ 300     | \$ 295     |            | \$ 290     | \$ 290     | \$ 95      |            |
| Software                     |            | \$ 225     | \$ 409     |            | \$ 115     |            |            |            | \$ 297     |
| Minor Tools                  |            | \$ 139     |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Professional Services        |            | \$ 3,563   | \$ 26,423  | \$ 3,000   |            |            | \$ 9,534   | \$ 71,676  | \$ 7,469   |
| Postal & Mail                |            |            | \$ 13      | \$ 364     |            |            |            | \$ 26      | \$ 145     |
| Photocopying Services        |            | \$ 150     | \$ 377     |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Vehicle Services             |            |            | \$ 2,149   | \$ 14      | \$ 6       | \$ 64      | \$ 898     | \$ 58      |            |
| Cellular Phone               |            |            |            | \$ 178     | \$ 447     | \$ 457     | \$ 19,020  | \$ 298     |            |
| Video Conference Calls       |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Computer Hardware Management |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            | \$ 83      |
| Advertising/Legal Notices    |            |            |            |            |            | \$ 163     |            |            |            |
| Total Expenditures           | \$ 443,817 | \$ 461,693 | \$ 474,398 | \$ 505,603 | \$ 486,665 | \$ 471,830 | \$ 500,143 | \$ 536,489 | \$ 475,440 |
| Balance                      | (571,792)  | (5123,687) | (589,868)  | (890,719)  | (847,435)  | (531,285)  | (525,230)  | (5130,199) | (5133,890) |



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## WATER WELL CONTRACTORS, SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS FORM DREAM TEAM WHEN IT COMES TO WELL LOGS, SAYS MCELLHINEY LECTURER

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LAS VEGAS—What used to be the somewhat routine, rudimentary well log report filed by water well contractors has become an increasingly important tool to ground water scientists, engineers and contractors, said 2009 William A. McElhiney Distinguished Lecturer, W. Richard Laton.

Water scarcity and the computer age are helping drive needed change so that well logs are more content rich, uniform in their reporting methodology and accessible, said Laton in his inaugural lecture at the 2008 National Ground Water Association (NGWA) Ground Water Expo and Annual Meeting here. His lecture is titled, "Boring Logs—What's Important and What's Not: A Scientific Viewpoint."

The National Ground Water Research and Educational Foundation sponsors the McElhiney Distinguished Lecture Series in response to invitations from universities, associations, and organizations throughout the world. No fee is charged to attend the lecture. The series is underwritten by Franklin Electric.

"In the past, well logs were something drillers had to turn in, and the logs weren't necessarily full of information. But today, the information in well logs is being used by a lot more people than just the contractor—scientists, health departments and others—to make better maps and planning decisions. Now we often look at well logs as our only chance to get a window into the subsurface," said Laton, a Ph.D., PG, CPG, and associate professor of hydrogeology in the Department of Geological Sciences at California State University.

"What has driven this change is water users who realize they can't drill a well everywhere. There is now more emphasis on water resource management than in the past. Water managers are saying, 'There's a whole lot more information we should be getting our hands on that is valuable,'" Laton said. Additionally, the availability of well logs online has "absolutely made a difference" in driving the demand for well log information.

All this creates what could be a productive symbiosis between water well contractors and ground water scientists and engineers.

"The contractors are the eyes and ears on the ground for us scientists and engineers. We are basically the paper chasers," he said.

Laton believes that more uniform and complete reporting of well log data by contractors creates a win-win situation for all ground water professionals. For instance, more accurate and uniform classification of geological formations would go a long way toward providing the kind of well log information that would be enormously beneficial not just to ground water scientists and engineers but to water well contractors, too.

"One benefit to contractors is that they can better understand how to bid a job, what to expect, where to find a sweet spot, and water chemistry," Laton said. "Contractors are like science people in the field. With better well log information, they can make wiser decisions."

Laton also advocated the use of GPS (Global Positioning System) technology to provide more accurate mapping of well locations. Traditionally, newly drilled wells have been recorded in well logs by a dot within a 40-acre plot. GPS enables contractors to chart the location of a well within 10 feet of its actual location.

Not only does this provide more useful information to ground water professionals, contractors can sync this information with the Web-based Google Earth satellite imagery and use it for marketing their businesses, said Laton, who demonstrated how to do this in his lecture.

For more information about NGWA and the McElhiney Lecture, visit [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org).

New Media: For more information, contact Cliff Treyens at 614-316-0508 or [ctreyens@ngwa.org](mailto:ctreyens@ngwa.org).

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Well fellas, this is another year! Definitely different from what most of us have ever seen in the past. It doesn't seem to be very shiny anywhere you look. I don't have the easy magic pill to solve all the prevailing uncontrollable conditions either. On the surface it looks rather doom and gloomy. However, let's not forget to consider what we do have. There is a bright side that shouldn't be overlooked. We can still decide how we are going to think and how we are going to react to the current conditions.

If you think back, this very nation was founded in a time that looked doom and gloomy. And, it was a minority of the populace that pushed forward hard enough to carry the day and were very successful. At another difficult time during the civil war, President Abraham Lincoln said, "People are just about as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Fellas, it's decision time and we can choose! We all know that facts are facts. But there is a lot more to life than facts. Another major player is attitude. Attitude makes all the difference. As I view the individuals that make up this industry, I am amazed. I know of no other group of people who can turn a problem into a challenge so completely with as much ingenuity, tenacity, independence, dogged determination and persistence as you well drillers. You are successful and can see very little of what you are actually doing. Most of what you visualize happens between your ears. Your abilities are absolutely amazing. You are the proof of what Albert Einstein said. "For every difficulty, there is an opportunity." He was so right! You have difficult jobs and make a living from the opportunities they present.

As we face today and tomorrow, let's put our talents to work. Take a good look at what opportunities our new difficulties have to offer. Discuss those options with positive, enthusiastic, forward thinking people in whom you have confidence. Use your God given talents (don't forget where you got them) and pound something into shape that will keep you successful. You have heard it before. "If you always think what you always thought, you will always get what you always got." Your ability to think is a mystery to most any other person.

Let's look for the opportunities,  
Henry Baker  
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