

IGWA Bulletin

UPDATES FROM THE IGWA

Once again I have been putting off my newsletter article to the very end. You might say procrastination is my middle name, but there is a reason to my madness. I wanted to wait to be sure that the new IGWA virtual interactive website (www.igwa.info) was up and running before the newsletter was published. Completing the website has been an ongoing project and struggle since January, 2010. I am happy to say that the website is now up and looks great. It is our hope that the creation of the new website will serve many purposes and people. For our members, it will be an excellent way to easily access news, information, upcoming events, regulatory and policy issues, and newsletters. For the general public, it will serve as an informative site to learn about the importance of ground water issues in Idaho and a mechanism to learn about Continuing Education. I encourage you to go check it out.



Roger Buchanan, IGWA President

After you have seen the new and improved IGWA website, I also encourage you to take a few minutes and check out the Idaho Department of Water Resource's new locator tool on their website (www.idwr.idaho.gov). The locator tool provides a great deal of information. I really want to express my appreciation for all of the hard work that went into the creation and completion of this project. I am sure we will all find it a valuable resource.

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly technology can change and how it changes the way we do business. Who could have imagined even 5 years ago that well drillers and pump installers would be hosting a website? Lately, so many things seem to be changing quickly in our industry. A great way to keep on top of all of the changes is to attend our National Ground Water Convention in December in Las Vegas. I always learn so much from attending the convention. The classes and exhibits are always interesting and informative, but I often learn the most from discussions I have with other members in the industry as we try to solve the common challenges we face.

Another great convention around the corner is our IGWA Winter Convention (January 26-28, 2011, at the Double Tree Riverside in Boise). We have pushed the convention to the latter part of January to avoid the busyness of the holiday season and to accommodate the hotel's busy calendar. We have tried to trim some of the program while still keeping it fun and informative. This year we will be forgoing the banquet and Casino Night to save on expenditures. Instead, we will have a social evening sponsored by some of our manufacturers and suppliers. The night will be a fun and informal way for members and suppliers to network. We will also be holding a raffle for our new Crisis Fund. Raffle tickets will be available at your local suppliers, inside the IGWA Winter Convention

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correspondence mailer, and at the Winter Convention prior to the drawing on January 28. We are hoping to have a tremendous number of tickets sold because the prizes are great and it is for a *really* good cause. A list of prizes is located on the IGWA website. The monies will be used for the Crisis Fund, which helps members and families in serious need. In addition, we will, of course, have an excellent and varied class offering for Continuing Education opportunities. It is shaping up to be wonderful event and I hope to see you there.

By Roger Buchanan, IGWA President



LICENSING RULE CHANGES

Idaho Department of Water Resources, in a collaborative effort with the Idaho Ground Water Association (IGWA), has proposed updates to IDAPA 37.03.10, Well Driller Licensing Rules to be implemented through the negotiated rulemaking process. A public negotiated rulemaking meeting was held on Friday, July 9, 2010 at the State Office of Idaho Department of Water Resources. Representatives from IGWA were present at the meeting and discussed potential changes to the Driller Licensing rules with the Department. IGWA with concurrence from the Department wishes to reduce the continuing education credits required for license renewal from the current 16 units to 14 units, to coincide with the number of credits available through the various seminars and workshops. Definitions in the Driller Licensing Rules have been updated to be consistent with those found in IDAPA 37.03.09, Well Construction Standards Rules, updated in 2009. For example, the definition of bottom hole temperature, GPS, and start card which were previously not defined in the licensing rules, have been included in the new revision and the term well abandonment has been changed to decommissioning. Application requirements relating to compliance history of the applicant renewing or obtaining a license will be updated consistent with Idaho Code. Negotiated rulemaking efforts have concluded and the proposed changes will go before the 2011 Legislature for consideration. A line-strike version of the document showing proposed changes will be made available on our web page, http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/WaterManagement/WellInformation/DrillerLicensing/dl_default.htm.

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FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IGWA's Virtual Interactive Website: A Tool Designed to Help the Industry

As President Roger Buchanan stated in his newsletter article, the Idaho Ground Water Association has diligently worked over the past year on a virtual interactive website to provide quality information to persons interested in the ground water industry and special privileged information to those who are members of the Idaho Ground Water Association. A virtual interactive website is unique and highly technical compared to most websites because it offers audio, video, panoramas, and many other features not commonly found on association websites.



Roger Batt, Executive Director

This home page of the website (www.igwa.info) may be utilized by anyone who wishes to learn about Idaho's ground water industry and for any driller who wishes to view the Idaho Continuing Education Program (a program designed to set up opportunities to allow drillers to obtain credits for re-licensing). The Continuing Education Program is based on a Legislative mandate that requires the Idaho Department of Water Resources to have authority over the program. IDWR recognizes that this program belongs to industry and annually contracts this program with the Idaho Ground Water Association and its Continuing Education Committee to oversee the program.

Other general information about drilling, pumping, ground water quality and the resource and courses offered for industry will be on the home page of this website. IGWA has already had footage on Mud Rotary Drilling shot and edited for the website. In the summer of 2011, IGWA will meet with licensed drillers to obtain footage of Air Rotary and Cable Tool Drilling as well as segments of the pump industry. This audio/video interaction will provide a useful and valuable education tool for those who wish to learn about Idaho's ground water industry and the resource.

For Idaho Ground Water Association members, the website will offer the aforementioned plus many additional features including access to current political and regulatory information (e.g. Well Driller Licensing Rules changes), an online Membership Directory, newsletters, industry and association updates, listings of members including Contractor, Associate, M&S and Technical, online registration for workshops and conventions and being placed onto a membership list based on region for Idaho citizens to be able to contact you directly for potential jobs.

Once an entity has paid its membership dues to the IGWA, the IGWA's office will contact the entity to setup a user ID and password. The member then can utilize the entire IGWA website and have access to the additional membership benefits described above. The IGWA website will also provide a calendar of events for members to see what events are scheduled throughout the calendar year.

The IGWA's virtual interactive website was designed partially to make the association a stronger, more valuable, and informative member-friendly association. It is the IGWA Board of Directors' belief that this website will place Idaho's ground water industry at the pinnacle of education and outreach to the public while providing a valuable tool to IGWA members that is easily accessible and navigable. More information about the IGWA's virtual interactive website will be available at the Annual IGWA Winter Convention on January 26-28, 2011.

By Roger Batt, Executive Director



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- +Driller and helper platforms
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Includes base rig specifications plus the following options:

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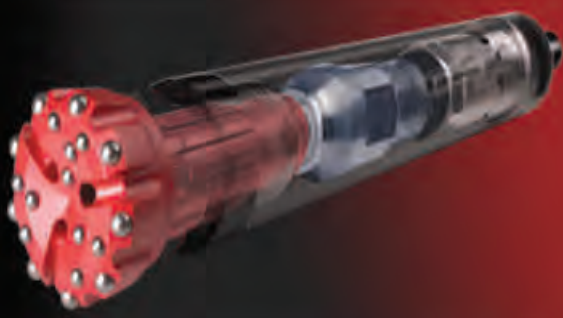
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IN THE NEWS

How can we better serve you? 

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Introducing the New XR32 Thread Design for Drifting and Tunneling Operations



Rockmore International has announced a revolutionary new thread design, XR32, to improve precision and efficiency in drifting and tunneling operations, and to extend thread life.

This new thread design is the product of Rockmore's in-house R & D and manufacturing facility, in response to demand from underground drillers for a stronger and more powerful drill string. Extensive lab and field testing has demonstrated the effectiveness of the

XR32 thread system in providing more efficient energy transfer, higher bit penetration rates, and longer thread life for both bit and rod. The new XR32 thread is employed at the bit connection end for hex drifting and tunneling rods, and is used for both male and female components - both tunneling bit and rod. The other end of the rod, connected to the coupling or shank adapter has a standard thread such as R38 or T38. That means smooth integration into your existing drill string. [More](#)

MultiPoint - The Next Generation of Carbide Inserts for 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 percussive 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. [More](#)



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INSPECTORS AND SEAL PLACEMENT



Rob Dawson. IGWA Board Member

Some drillers are going to extremes to avoid having an inspector on their job-site during seal placement. This may be because they aren't sure of what they are doing (and don't want to know) or they just flat out refuse to co-operate. The 4-hour notice is exactly that. Call 4 hours before we are going to seal a well. Yes, we can do other work. It does not mean we have to sit idle for 4 hours, just that we don't call at 8:30 A.M. on a given day and place the seal at 10:00 A.M. on that same day. We would need to start seal placement at 12:30 P.M. on that day, or if we are for some reason not going to be ready, to let someone at the department know that. I have worked in regions that required 24-hour notice, and I've heard of areas

with 36- or 48-hour prior notice. It is usually not that difficult to arrange. It has come up that some folks are sealing only on weekends, calling in on Friday night after 5:00 P.M., then sealing whenever they want. If we are having difficulty with proper sealing procedures, we need to ask someone for some helpful hints.

The regional managers from IDWR are not trying to put us out of business but rather to protect the resources so we will always have a clean source of water to drill for. They have seen just about every situation and can help when we need help. If it's all contaminated, we won't have a business or a job. An improperly placed seal does not affect just the well we are working on. That hole (not a well if poorly constructed) is a conduit for contaminants to reach the same aquifer the rest of the users rely on.

Yes, some of the requirements are overkill and don't protect the resource any more than a lesser amount might provide. The new language is only minimally different than what it was before. It just got to the point that something had to be done because only a few drillers were placing a seal deeper than 18 feet. The rules have some poor requirements, such as a few of the setbacks from canals and sewer or affluent lines, waivers for sealing less than 38 feet in a well with the water bearing portion extending from 30 to 45 feet etc. These can and will be looked at in the near future and may be eligible for a rule modification by the department. This is not a sure thing, but something we can talk with them about.

Proper procedures should be the normal method of operation, not the exception. It's not the end of the world, and it's not going to save the world, but it could save our livelihood.

By Rob Dawson, Rob Dawson Drilling