

COMPETITIONS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10–THURSDAY, APRIL 11



OPERATIONS CHALLENGE™

Operations Challenge

See full event schedule on page 29

Wednesday, April 10, 8 am–

Thursday, April 11, 2:45 pm

Watch the nation's best operators and maintenance staff compete in the Operations Challenge Competition. This multi-day competition challenges utility teams to test their knowledge in different aspects of their day-to-day responsibilities. Operations Challenge is composed of five individual events that carry over to nationals. Texas has also created additional events to provide other opportunities for teams to compete. The competitions include:



Freese and Nichols Process Control Event

Teams will complete a written test consisting of short math and process scenario questions, electronic multiple-choice questions and process simulation.



Hartwell Environmental Laboratory Event

Analyzing and determining total suspended solids, conductivity / TDS and performing solids mass balance across a treatment system.



Walter Chiang Maintenance Event Sponsored by STV

The purpose of this event is to test the skills of a maintenance team to respond to trouble at a wastewater lift station that has resulted in an alarm and replace a Vaughan pump impeller.



AECOM Collection System Event

Teams are required to cut out a section of an 8-inch PVC wastewater pipe with water flowing through it, drill and install a 4-inch service saddle in the replacement pipe, cut and install the replacement section with couplings.



Carollo Safety Event

Teams will be required to rescue an unconscious worker from a lift station. Team members will set up a retrieval system, perform a permit required confined space entry and rescue the downed worker.

Gupta Electrical Event

A race to troubleshoot a lift station control panel and power supply.

Seepex Exhibition Event

Competitors will race to replace the stator and rotor in a seepex Smart Conveying Technology (SCT) pump.

Victaulic Exhibition Event

A race to put together a style 31 coupling tree arrangement using Victaulic couplings, pipes and impact drivers.

Garver Fastest Saw Cut Event

3 pm–5 pm, Exhibit Hall, Ops Challenge Area

Who is the fastest draw on cutting a piece of 8-inch SDR 35 pipe with a hand saw? It's time to show who really has the quickest hands in Texas at the annual Texas Fastest Saw Cut. This competition is designed to demonstrate elements of the Operations Challenge's Collection event. The event is open to all. The \$5 entry fee proceeds go to Curtis Smalley Memorial Fund. First place in all events will receive a plaque. Contact Grace Sober at gdsobor@lan-inc.com for more information and to sign up.

YP Process Control Competition Event

Test your knowledge out on the plant process simulator that our operations challenge teams complete. Sign up to compete in the Young Professionals Open Competition during the day Wed., April 10 from 9:30 am–2 pm OR Thurs., April 11 from 9 am–1 pm. This challenge includes 15 minutes in the process simulator and one written scenario. Teams of two YPs are eligible to compete. Find information on the event: https://www.rmwea.org/docs/2024.01.31_OpsChallenge_2024_ProcessEvent.pdf

Operations Awards Ceremony

Awards for the Operations Challenge Competition, Biosolids Beauty Contest and other operations-focused awards will be handed out at the Operations Awards Ceremony at 2:45 pm in Ballroom C.

5S Awards

New Utility Member of the Year

WEF Laboratory Analyst Excellence

Susan B Heir Award for Excellence in Education and Licensing

Ronald B. Sieger Biosolids Management

Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year

Bill Tatum Operations Excellence

Emerging Leader

Outstanding Operator of the Year

Clean Water Service

Philanthropy

Hydrant Hysteria

Wed., April 10 & Thurs., April 11, 9:30 am–4 pm, Exhibit Hall

Hydrant Hysteria is a fast-paced competition where two member teams assemble a specified hydrant as quickly as they can. The Section winners will compete at AWWA ACE24 in Anaheim, CA, in June.



Texas Water 2024
Water Environment Association of Texas
Operations Challenge Events Schedule

		Wednesday, April 10				Thursday, April 11			
		Process Controls Event	Laboratory Event	Exhibition Event	Walter Chiang Maintenance Event	Safety Event	Collection System Event	Electrical Event	Exhibition Event
#	Team Name	Freese and Nichols	Hartwell Environmental	Victaulic	STV	Carollo	AECOM	Gupta	Seepex
1	City of Surprise Turdologist	8:00 AM No Spectators	11:00 AM	12:45 PM	9:30 AM	8:15 AM	1:30 PM	9:45 AM	11:00 AM
2	Trinity River Authority of Texas TRAILblazers		10:00 AM	1:15 PM	11:15 AM	8:45 AM	1:00 PM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM
3	Metro Water Recovery Elevated Ops		10:30 AM	9:00 AM	12:45 PM	9:15 AM	12:00 PM	10:45 AM	1:15 PM
4	North Texas Municipal Water District Centrifugal Force		2:30 PM	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	9:45 AM	11:30 AM	8:45 AM	12:45 PM
5	Trinity River Authority of Texas River Guardians		2:00 PM	10:00 AM	8:45 AM	10:15 AM	11:00 AM	8:15 AM	9:30 AM
6	Englewood Colorado Commode Commandos		12:45 PM	11:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:45 AM	10:30 AM	9:15 AM	8:30 AM
7	San Antonio Water System Flying SAWSers		1:30 PM	9:30 AM	11:45 AM	11:15 AM	10:00 AM	12:45 PM	9:00 AM
8	City of Houston Microbe Masters		11:45 AM	10:30 AM	1:45 PM	10:45 AM	9:30 AM	1:15 PM	12:00 PM
9	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts LA Wrecking Crew		9:15 AM	1:45 PM	10:30 AM	12:45 PM	9:00 AM	11:15 AM	10:00 AM
10	Austin Water Basin Bandits		8:45 AM	12:00 PM	2:15 PM	1:15 PM	8:30 AM	11:45 AM	10:30 AM

OPEN TO ALL
 Texas Fastest Saw Cut Competition Sponsored by Garver, Wednesday April 10th at 3:00 PM
 Operations Awards Ceremony, Sponsored by Stantec, Thursday at 2:45 PM



Fastest Saw Cut Competition Schedule of Events:

3 – 4:15 p.m.
Utility Management Tournament

4:15 – 5 p.m.
Traditional Head to Head Sawcut

All events are open to
all TX Water attendees.

Proceeds benefit the
**Curtis Smalley
Memorial Fund**

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Entry Details:

\$5 per entry · All equipment provided

Pre-Registration + Questions:

For pre-registration (recommended, not required)
and additional information, contact:
Grace Sober · gdsobor@lan-inc.com

Which division title will you take home?

Women · Ops Challenge Competitor · Men



Water Environment
Association of Texas

SPONSORED BY:

