

# Operations Forum

Vol. 9, No. 12

Water Environment Federation

December 1992



**FIRST PLACE • Virginia's Pink and Black Attack**

## Operations Challengers

### The Cream of the O&M Crop

- ▶ Effective Scheduling: That's a 10/4
- ▶ A Baffling Question



**SECOND PLACE • Georgia's S.W. A.T.**



**THIRD PLACE • Virginia's A.S.A. Rookies**



As always, the crowd-pleasing pump maintenance event gave each participant a chance to test their skill and speed.

# Virginia Team Takes Third Challenge in a Row

## Hats off to Hampton Roads Sanitation District

Could this be a dynasty in the making? For the third year in a row, a team from the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) in Virginia took top spot in the national Operations Challenge, this time at the 1992 WEF Annual Conference in New Orleans. The HRSD team, the Pink & Black Attack, continued what has become a tradition by winning the overall competition. The last 2 years were won by another HRSD team, Ches-Eliz Lightening. This year's winner proved that you don't have to be spectacular in any single event; you just have to be steady.

"We didn't win a single event," said team captain Donnie Cagle. "Our key

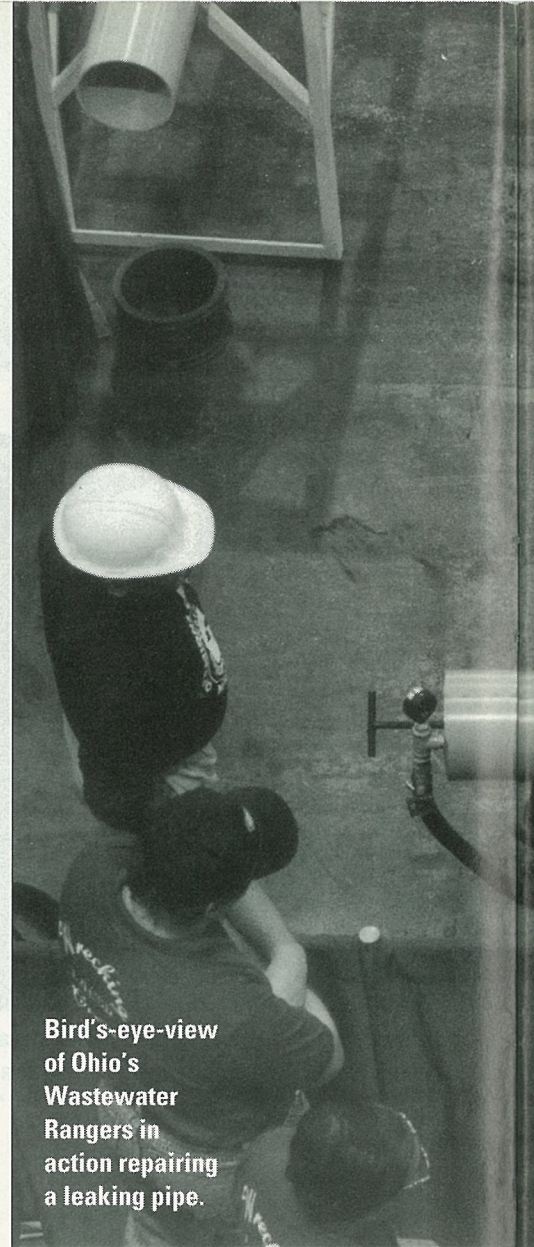
was consistency. We were well focused throughout the competition."

Taking second and third, respectively, were Georgia's S.W.A.T. team

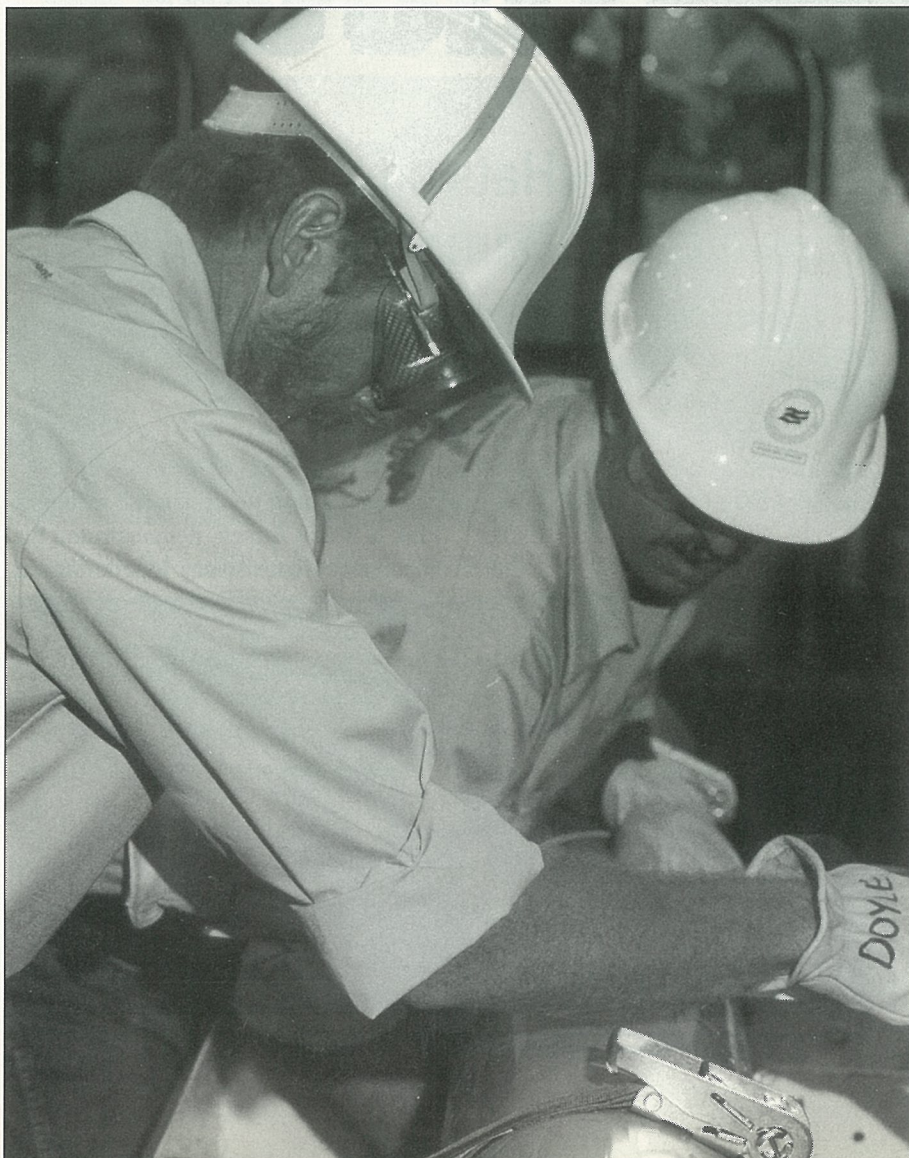
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**This year's first place overall winners, Pink & Black Attack, demonstrated the importance of consistency to performance.**



With hoist in place, participants had to rescue an unconscious victim (dummy) from the bottom of a manhole, and were then required to perform CPR.



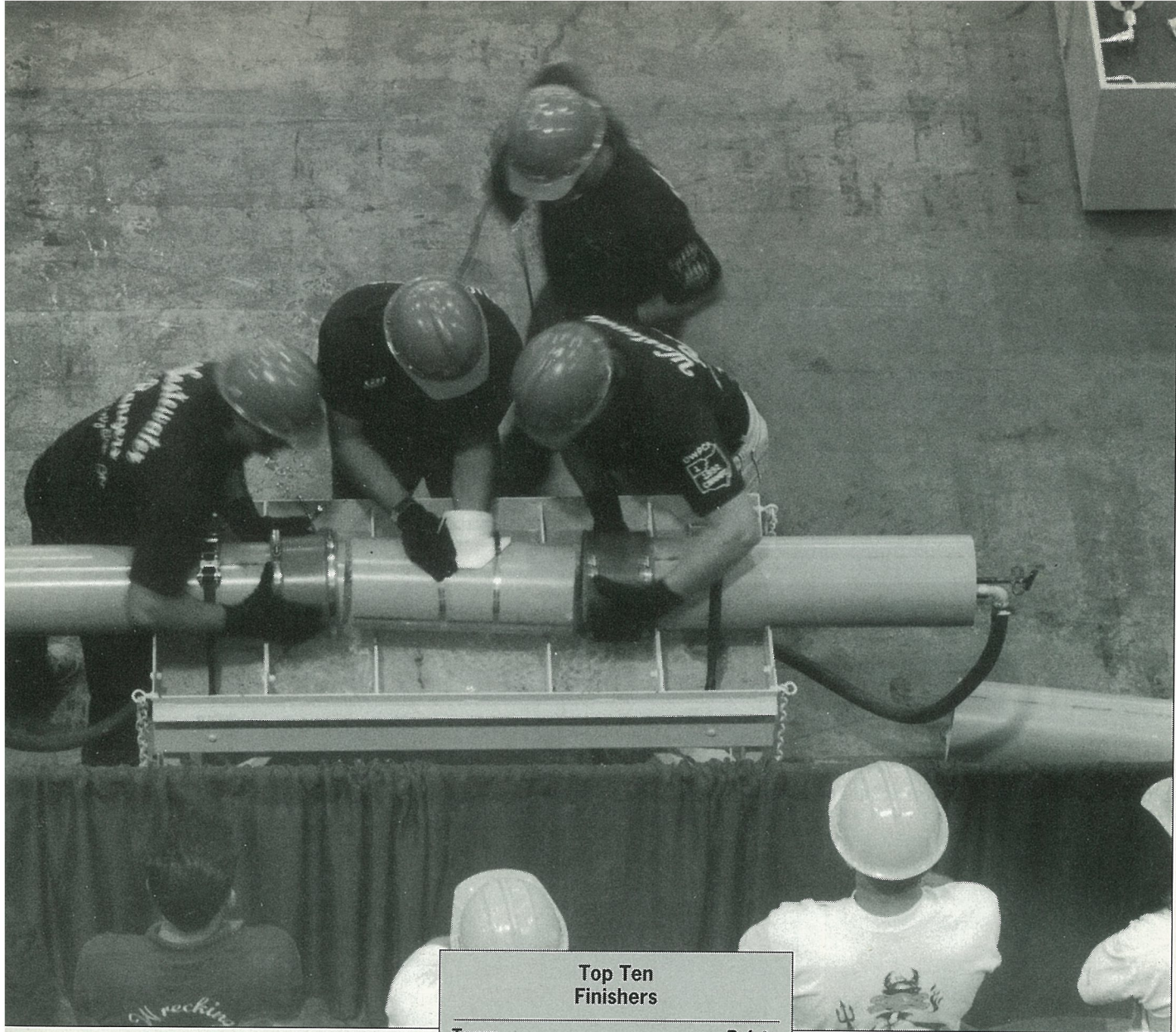
Bird's-eye-view of Ohio's Wastewater Rangers in action repairing a leaking pipe.



A.S.A. Rookies. A total of 35 teams competed in the Challenge.

The competition consisted of five events: collection systems, a reformatted safety event, pump maintenance, laboratory practice, and process control. The latter consisted of solving several problems as determined in a pre-competition meeting. These included problems involving industrial pretreatment, activated

Concentration and teamwork are required for the collection systems event. This year participants repaired an 8-in. PVC pipe instead of clay pipe.



### Top Ten Finishers

Team	Points
Va Pink and Black	451.90
Ga S.W.A.T.	447.40
Va A.S.A. Rookies	413.80
Pa Keystone Clarifiers	386.60
NE Maine Force	382.60
Ca Wrecking Crew	377.30
PNW Bad Conduck	371.30
Ca LA Raging Reclaimers	370.10
NY Mean Machine	354.80
Mich Wastewatchers I	349.70

sludge, anaerobic digestion, and sludge thickening and dewatering. They also were required to answer multiple choice questions. The S.W.A.T. team, from the Gwinnett County Department of Public Utilities, performed so well that they had bonus seconds taken off their time.

manhole, pull the dummy out, and perform CPR. The teams also had to check for gas levels using gas meters. Last year's event consisted of rescuing a dummy overcome by leaking chlorine gas, performing CPR on the dummy, and repairing the leak.

### Laboratory

Team	Points	Time
PNW Bad Conduck	100.0	551.0
Va A.S.A. Rookies	98.6	560.46
Ga S.W.A.T.	95.5	580.44
Va Pink and Black	95.4	580.99
Ky Thoroughbreds	94.5	587.22
NE Maine Force	92.7	599.15
Tx Brazos River Regulators	91.0	610.13
Pa Keystone Clarifiers	87.6	632.15
Ca LA Wrecking Crew	86.4	640.00
Fla Sultans of Sludge	85.3	647.21

The A.S.A. Rookies place first in the collection systems event and the S.W.A.T. took third. California's Raging Reclaimers took the safety event, followed by another California team, the LA Wrecking Crew, and the Pink and Black Attack.

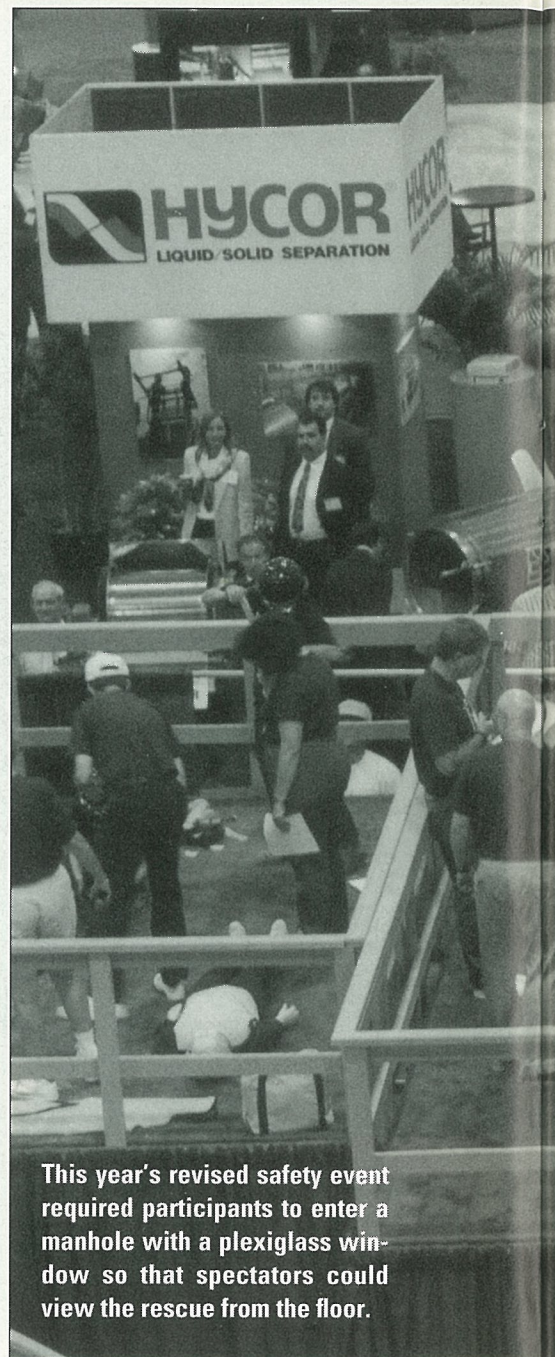
In this year's safety event, a dummy laid at the bottom of a manhole, overcome with noxious gases. The teams were required to rig a hoist over the

### Pump Maintenance

Team	Points	Time
NY Mean Machine	100.0	525.00
Va Pink and Black	87.9	677
Ark OMI Sludge Hawgs	81.3	759
Va Ches-Eliz Tornadoes	81.0	763
Pa Harrisburg Spoilers	80.6	768
Mich Wastewatchers I	79.1	787
Pa Keystone Clarifiers	75.5	832
Ga S.W.A.T.	74.6	843
PNW Bad Conduck	74.3	847
Ohio Wastewater Rangers	72.9	865



**Georgia's S.W.A.T team from Gwinnett County Department of Public Utilities dominated the process control event and ultimately finished second overall.**



**This year's revised safety event required participants to enter a manhole with a plexiglass window so that spectators could view the rescue from the floor.**

#### Collection Systems

Team	Points	Time
Va A.S.A. Rookies	100.0	87.71
Va Pink and Black	86.9	111.00
Ga S.W.A.T.	86.2	112.10
Pa Keystone Clarifiers	81.2	121.00
Ky Urban Assault	72.8	136.00
PNW Bad Conduck	72.2	137.00
NE Green Mt .Boys	71.1	139.00
Ca LA Wrecking Crew	70.3	140.44
NE Maine Force	69.8	141.25
Va Ches-Eliz Tornados	68.2	144.00

#### Safety

Team	Points	Time
Ca Raging Reclaimers	100.0	169.97
Ca LA Wrecking Crew	95.5	199.10
Va Pink and Black	95.1	201.44
Fla Sultans of Sludge	94.5	205.21
Pa Keystone Clarifiers	94.5	205.33
SC Hazardous Waste	94.4	205.89
Ga S.W.A.T.	91.1	226.87
NE Maine Force	91.1	227.25
Ark OMI Sludge Hawgs	87.3	251.44
PNW Bad Conduck	86.0	259.79

#### Process Control

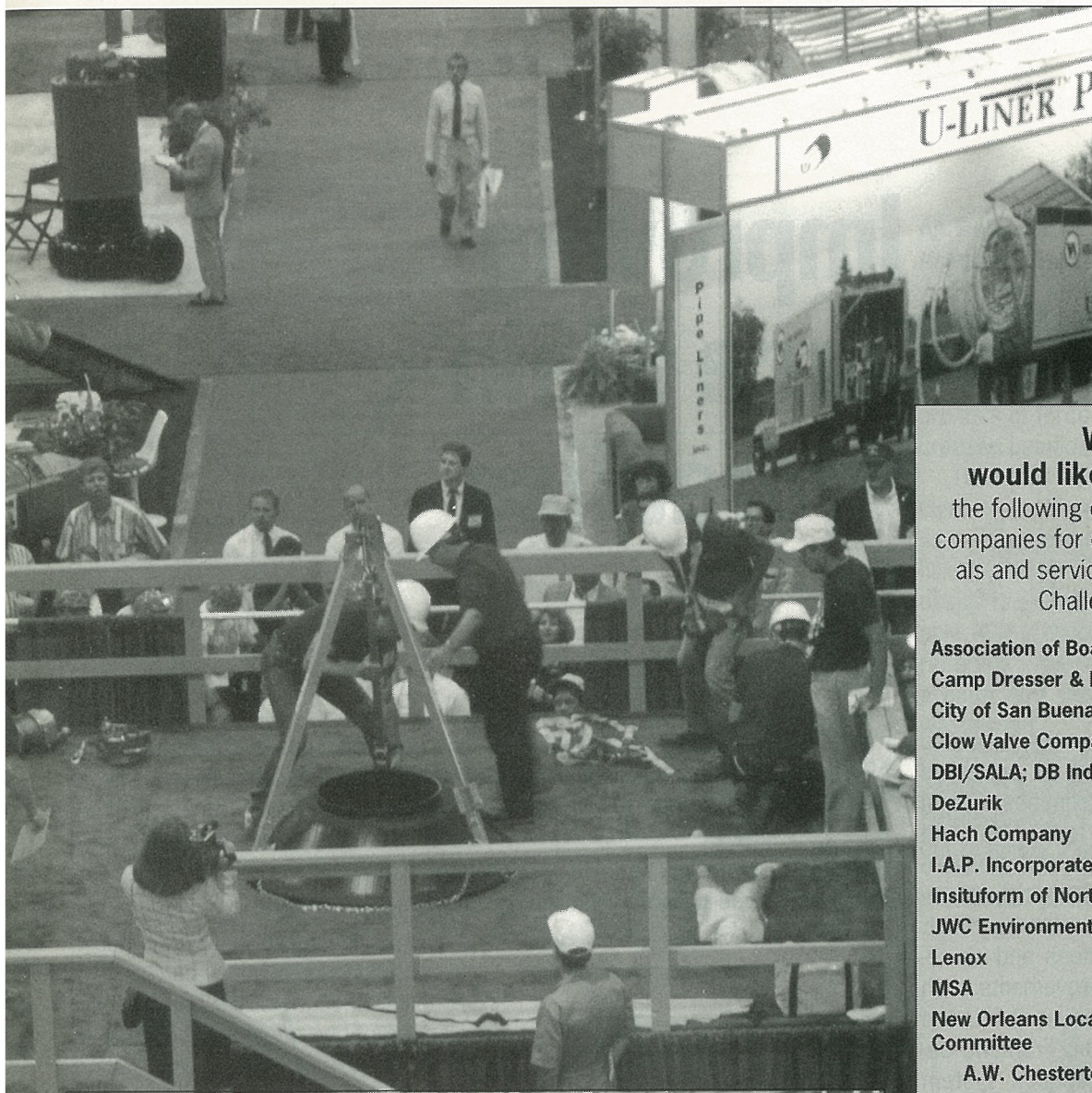
Team	Points	Time
Ga S.W.A.T.	100.0	-234.0
Va Pink and Black	86.6	7.0
Mich Wastewatchers I	83.6	61.0
Ark OMI Sludge Hawgs	77.7	167.0
Ohio Clean Water Act	73.2	247.0
NE Green Mt .Boys	70.0	305.0
Pa Harrisburg Spoilers	67.4	352.0
Ca Raging Reclaimers	64.7	399.0
Va A.S.A. Rookies	61.0	466.0
NE Maine Force	60.6	473.0

New York's Mean Machine took first in pump maintenance with the Pink & Black Attack taking second and the Arkansas OMI Sludge Hawgs third. In addition to performing several operations including replacing the packing on a pump, removing the stator, checking the rotor for wear, and replacing the drive belts, the teams had to inspect and repair a Muffin Monster™

In the laboratory event, Bad Conduck, a team from the Pacific

Northwest Pollution Control Association, the Rookies, and S.W.A.T. took first, second, and third, respectively. The event involved performing four of ten designated laboratory procedures that were determined during a pre-competition meeting.

In the collection systems event, teams cut out and repaired a simulated break in 8-in. PVC pipe. Last year, clay pipe was used but a many teams expressed a preference for PVC this year.



The northern Virginia team, the A.S.A. Rookies, captured third overall and first in the collection systems event.

**WEF**  
**would like to thank...**  
 the following organizations and companies for contributing materials and services to Operations Challenge '92:

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 JWC Environmental  
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 MSA  
 New Orleans Local Arrangements Committee  
     A.W. Chesterton Co.  
     Snap-On Tools  
     Baton Rouge Wastewater Division  
 Mettler Balances  
 Operations Management International, Inc.  
 Pima County Wastewater Management Department  
 Plexco/Spirolite  
 Robbins & Myers, Inc.  
 SIDU Manufacturing  
 TREEO Center  
 Trinity River Authority of Texas  
 Unibell PVC Pipe Association  
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 W.A. Stephenson Mechanical Contractors Limited