



Innovation is the topic for the March 16 meeting

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Mazzei Injector Corporation relies on creativity, innovation, and product development as a strategy to maintain growth and profitability. President Angelo Mazzei will discuss how a need inspires a solution through innovation and product development.

Angelo L. Mazzei will discuss Innovation as a Pathway to Success. Angelo is the founder and president of Mazzei Injector Corporation of Bakersfield, California which was formed in 1978. Angelo, a 1966 graduate of Fresno State University with a BS Degree in Industrial Technology, holds twelve U.S. patents and several foreign patents for water-related equipment. Mazzei Injector's product line focuses on agricultural irrigation, wastewater aeration and drinking water treatment. Mazzei Injector markets its proprietary products and systems worldwide.

Innovation is often difficult in a small business. New ideas or strategies may be met with skepticism as people can be resistant to change. As a follow on to the presentation

by Angelo Mazzei Glenn Patch, CEO of the *Central Valley Business Incubator* will present Innovation's Role in Business Development. The presentation will discuss the importance of continuing to grow your business in a global economy and the difficulties dealing with the changes required to make this happen.

Glenn Patch has been an entrepreneur and consultant for the past 25 years and is currently a principal in ITL Industries and ITL Technologies, Inc., two companies serving the global transportation industry.

Irrigation technology focus at World Ag Expo

The *International Center for Water Technology* is partnering with the *Irrigation Association* and the *World Ag Expo* to host irrigation and water technology seminars at the 2006 World Ag Expo in Tulare, California. The brand new **Irrigation Seminars Center** will be the location of fifteen seminars to be held during the show from February 14-16. Located just south of Pavilions A and B on the International Agri-Center show grounds, the Irrigation Seminars Center will be the hub for water and irrigation exhibitors located in and around Pavilion B. The Center is a joint effort of the World Ag Expo, the Irrigation Association and the International Center for Water Technology.

"Water technologies and irrigation are a top concern for many visitors attending World Ag Expo," said 2006 World Ag Expo Chairman, Erin Ferguson. "In California's Central Valley, it is a number one issue facing agriculture, and we felt it was time to focus on this issue at our show, providing a location for seminars on the latest water and irrigation news." "We agree that the many issues surrounding water use are very important to most World Ag Expo visitors," said International Center for Water Technology Director, David Zoldoske. "We are excited to help bring information on these important topics to the World Ag Expo attendees."

For more information or for the event schedule see www.icwt.net or www.worldagexpo.com

CIMT 2006 summer internship program taking shape

The Careers in Manufacturing Technology (CIMT) is currently recruiting community college students and companies to participate in its summer 2006 internship program. CIMT was developed to assist students in preparing for jobs in manufacturing and provide skilled, well-trained employees for manufacturing companies. The program originally focused on water cluster companies. In its second year, the program was broadened to include other manufacturing companies, and during the third year companies involved in water, manufacturing, and food processing are being invited to participate. During the summer 2005 program, 18 students were placed; for the summer 2006 program, the goal is to place 25 students.

Companies will host students from the Applied Technology programs at Fresno City College and Reedley College. The program is structured to allow students to work 40 hours a week in their field of study during the

summer months. Interns will have both faculty and host company mentors. The interns will receive a scholarship provided by the host company during the time of their enrollment in the program. Course credit will be given to the interns by completing the five-session Training Academy concurrently with the internship. The Academy is a mandatory component of the internship, and the five sessions will cover a variety of topics related to employment readiness. Faculty from the community colleges will facilitate the classes and industry leaders will participate as guest speakers.

To participate in the summer program, companies must complete the Host Company Application by March 24, 2006 and return them to the CIMT Program, c/o Office of Community and Economic Development, California State University, Fresno, 2743 E Shaw Avenue, Suite 107, Fresno CA 93710. For further information, please call the CIMT Coordinator at 278-6888.

CIMT Career Expo and Supervisor Training March 16

The Careers in Manufacturing Technology (CIMT) program will host the third annual Career Expo on March 16, 2006 at the Piccadilly Inn Airport. Students from Fresno City College and Reedley College, industry supervisors, and industry cluster members will come together for the Expo events.

Approximately 90 students from the Applied Technology Divisions at Fresno City College and Reedley College

are expected to attend the Career Expo. Workshops will include Resume Writing Techniques, CIMT Opportunities for Students, and How to be Successful on the Job. A new component added this year will provide students an opportunity to participate in mock interviews with Human Resources professionals. This component will include one-on-one resume review. For further information, please call the CIMT Coordinator at 559-278-6888.

Export Development Program update



ICWT received a \$310,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce to develop the ICWT Export Development Program to support the water technology industry in increasing their exports to Chile and Mexico. Part of the grant will offset a portion of members travel and accommodation expenses to attend authorized trade shows. In January 2006, the ICWT Export Development Program participated at the Expo Agro Sinaloa 2006. The show provided our members an opportunity to

exhibit their products and services and interact to an international audience. In addition to participating in the Expo, the ICWT Export Development Program provided an import seminar for Mexican's trying to import from the U.S. followed by a networking reception between prospective Mexican buyers, government officials and U.S. companies.

As part of this grant, ICWT is co-sponsoring irrigation seminars at the World Ag Expo. Check www.icwt.net/export for upcoming opportunities. Contact Laura Ramos at (559) 278-2066 or lramos@csufresno.edu for details.

\$100,000 grant awarded to the Fresno County Workforce Investment Board

The Fresno County Workforce Investment Board (FCWIB), in partnership with the Regional Jobs Initiative (RJI), and with the assistance of Senator Barbara Boxer has received a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Labor (DOL). The grant will be utilized to implement the Central California Excellence in Workforce Development project, which is a bold and creative initiative to resolve the disparity between employer demands and the available labor pool.

Employment and training studies will be conducted in the following four high-growth industries: (1) construction & trades, (2) healthcare, (3) logistics & distribution, and (4) manufacturing/food processing. The FCWIB will utilize the data from the studies to develop short and long-term community interventions to better serve the workforce development needs of the Fresno region. The results of this study will be available to employers, training

providers, economic and county agencies, community-based organizations, and county residents.

“This study will prove to be a very important economic development tool that will strengthen Fresno County as the issues of employee retention, business expansion and recruitment are addressed throughout the County,” stated D-B Heusser, FCWIB Board member and City Manager of Selma. “This study will not only provide businesses with an overview of the number of individuals trained in areas of most need to employers but it will also show the ‘gap’ in the training and educational areas where the positions needed to meet employment demands are not being produced.”

For more information contact Janis B. Parker at the *Fresno County Workforce Investment Board* at 559-490-7160.

Building update-ICWT partnering with Central Valley Business Incubator

The International Center for Water Technology has teamed up with the *Central Valley Business Incubator* (CVBI) to move construction of the new lab forward. When completed, the building will house facilities for both organizations. Construction is set to begin in April of 2006 and be completed in the fall of 2006.

The partnership between these two organizations is logical. The Central Valley Business Incubator nurtures the development of entrepreneurial companies in the Central Valley. CVBI provides management consulting, business planning, accountability and help in obtaining financing. They have infused \$12 million of capital back into our community.

The ICWT testing lab will provide independent testing and performance certification that can assist in product research and development and marketing. The facility will also be used as an educational learning lab by the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology and the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

CVBI received a \$2.3 million federal grant from the Economic Development Agency. ICWT brings funding totaling \$2.4 million for construction and equipment.

For more information on CVBI, go to their web site at www.cvbi.org.



December meeting wrap up

Presentation by Mr. David Pomaville, Administrative Services Manager for the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control discussed “Managing Urban Runoff and Stormwater Collection Systems to Benefit Future Water Supply.” For over 20 years David has worked with local government on water quality and resource protection issues. For 12 of those years he worked with the local environmental health department conducting inspections of water systems, landfills, and hazardous waste management facilities. He has been with the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District for five years. A copy of his presentation can be found at www.icwt.net.

Presentation by Mr. Leslie Chau, Principal Hydrogeologist, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, San Francisco presented “Surface Water and Groundwater Quality Assessments - Integrated Management of Clean Water and Water Reuse.” Mr. Chau discussed how surface water and groundwater are used conjunctively and how the discharge of exploited waters into surface water is becoming more complex and costly as treatment requirements are ever more stringent to safeguard the quality of the receiving waters for aquatic and downstream usage. Computerized models and mapping techniques now play a vital role in the decision making process for permitting of wastewater discharge, siting of treatment and discharge facilities, storage and recovery of potable water, CEQA compliance, and engineering feasibility studies. Copies of his presentation can be found at www.icwt.net.

International Water Conference

Plans are underway for the first International Water Conference scheduled for April 1-3, 2007. If you have any suggestions on topics, water technology specialists; and industry leaders that should be involved please contact Dan Clawson at dclawson@csufresno.edu.

**To submit articles or for more information contact Laura at 559-278-2066
or by email at Iramos@csufresno.edu**

WATER CLUSTER MEETING

**March 16, 2006
9 – 11 A.M.**

*Piccadilly Inn Airport
5115 E. McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93727*

***Please RSVP to Iramos@csufresno.edu
or (559)278-2066***

FROM THE NORTH

- Take HWY 99 SOUTH TO 180 EAST exit towards KINGS CANYON
- Take CA 168 EAST exit towards CLOVIS/HUNTINGTON LAKE
- Take the MCKINLEY AVE. exit
- Turn LEFT on E. MCKINLEY AVENUE
- GO APPROX. 1.5 MILES—AIRPORT PICCADILLY INN WILL BE ON THE LEFT

FROM THE SOUTH

- Take HWY 99 NORTH TO CLOVIS AVE. exit towards CLOVIS
- Continue on CLOVIS AVENUE APPROX. 8.5 MILES
- Turn LEFT on E. MCKINLEY AVE.—GO APPROX. 1 MILE—AIRPORT PICCADILLY INN WILL BE ON THE RIGHT.