

## AFO

The 2002 Winter/Spring schedule for the Aquatic Facility Operator (AFO) pool operator certification program is:

Orlando	January 31- Feb 1, 2002
W Palm Beach	February 21-22, 2002
Jacksonville	March 7-8, 2002
Naples	March 21-22, 2002
Tampa	April 4-5, 2002
North Miami	April 18-19, 2002
Key West	May 2-3, 2002
Orlando	May 16-17, 2002

Interested in sponsoring a course in your area? Call x110 for more information.

## Q & A - Stabilizer

**Q.** I have an active municipal pool, and a limited chemical budget. Your tech services department has recommended a small amount (10-15 ppm) of stabilizer be maintained in order to cut my chlorine consumption, but my current test kit cannot measure less than 30 ppm. What are my options?

**A.** You're right. This are not many test kits that accurately measure stabilizer at a high resolution, and we have not found a standard kit that will measure less than 30 ppm. There is a new electronic kit that offers reliable testing of not only stabilizer, but pH, free chlorine and combined chlorine as well. The Palintest Pooltest3 offers instantaneous digital readings using EPA approved testing methods for a moderate price of \$345. These kits use inexpensive and long lasting foil tablet reagents and have the same accuracy and resolution as the Palintest Pooltest25 laboratory models at a fraction of the price. The stabilizer results display accurate results from 0-100 ppm. For an active municipal, camp, or water park pool, holding 10-15 ppm of stabilizer consistently will cut chlorine consumption by up to 30-40%, while still allowing high ORP (HRR) levels in excess of 700 mV. Call for more information or a free trial.

## Employee of the Year

CES is proud to announce that Larry Guest has received the 2001 Employee of the Year award. Larry joined CES nearly 3 years ago as the Warehouse Supervisor. He quickly developed a strong understanding of the technical

aspects of control and chemical feed systems. In 2000 he was promoted to a service technician and began working on all types of systems, both in-house and in the field. Larry soon became a US Filter factory authorized technician, and later became certified as an ECS technician. He then became a factory authorized technician for Aqua Products vacuums. Earlier this year, Larry completed factory training for EPD Filters and Marlow pumps. Larry has taken charge of all in-house and factory repairs on controllers, chemical feeders, vacuums, and a wide array of parts and accessories. Several months ago, Larry was named Lead Service Technician. In that role, he supports the field technicians and coordinates both factory and in-house training. He also provides in-field technical and water management services for many of our local customers. His thoroughness and cheery disposition has made him a favorite with CES customers. Please join us in extending our congratulations to Larry for a job well done.

## New Products Entrapment Avoidance

Body and limb entrapment is probably the most serious hidden danger in pool operation today. From 1978-1996 the US Consumer Products Safety Commission reported 49 incidents which ended up in serious injury or death. Court-awarded damages and awards for the victims and their families have reached up to \$31 million dollars on a single claim. Drowning deaths due to main drain suction entanglement or entrapment can, however, be prevented. CES is proud to introduce a proven package of safety items designed to reduce the probability of these catastrophic events. The package consists of three items and has been used in hundred of hotels, motel, and condominium pools or spas in the last few years alone.

The Stingl Switch is an electronic blockage detection system that continually monitors the vacuum (suction) readings of the main circulating pump and will immediately disable the pump in the event of a quick elevation of the pump vacuum level (normally caused by an obstruction of the main drain). It will help

prevent suction entrapment caused when a human body is "pinned" to the main drain by the powerful suction force of the circulating pump. At the first sign of danger, the unit interrupts electrical power to the pump - shutting it down - and triggering audible and visual alarms. The installation is simple and only requires some basic electrical connections and a simple hydraulic connection from the unit to the circulating pump.

The Anti-Hair Snare Plus™ is a round main drain cover with a patented design that helps prevent hair entanglement. The hi-low step design prevents patrons from vacuum-sealing the drain with their buttocks thus helping prevent evisceration and suction entrapment. This design also will prevent toe and finger entrapment of younger children. Pool toys will also not pass through the grating. The universal fastening design of the cover allows it to be retrofitted onto every known circular main drain.

The Emergency Shut-Off Switch offers yet another layer of protection. This low-voltage, outdoor-rated switch connects directly to the Stingl Switch and provides instantaneous shut-off of the circulation pump in the event of an emergency. This switch should be located adjacent to the pool or spa in plain view and will prevent emergency poor response time due to locked gates or doors, and remote or hidden pump rooms.

Who needs these devices? Any customer with direct suction (no surge tank) on a pool or spa should strongly consider installing a Stingl Switch with or without the emergency shut-off switch. Any pool or spa with a circular main drain fitting should also consider the installation of an Anti-Hair Snare Plus drain. This relatively inexpensive drain fitting will provide added protection against hair entrapment - one of the causes of several high profile entrapment deaths in the past few years. In order to install the Stingl Switch or accompanying devices, CES will assist you in filing a Department of Health (DOH) pre-installation form that must be accompanied by an engineered drawing (courtesy of CES). The CES entrapment avoidance package is one of the most popular safety programs available today. Call your sales rep or CES customer service representative for an information package and proposal.