



Reno Welcomes WESTT No-Dig Conference

co-sponsored by



As underground utility work continues to be of main interest in the West Coast states, the Western Society for Trenchless Technology (WESTT) will provide invaluable information and solutions for many of these infrastructure needs during its 3rd Annual Western Regional No-Dig Conference & Exhibition to be held Oct. 1-3, at Harrah's Reno Casino & Hotel in Reno, NV. The event is being co-sponsored by *Underground Construction* magazine.

WESTT is organizing the event. This non-profit organization was established in 2004 and includes the following states: Arizona, California, Nevada and New Mexico. WESTT is a regional chapter of the North American Society for Trenchless Technology which is affiliated with the International Society for Trenchless Technology. The mission of WESTT, NASTT and ISTT is to promote education and development of trenchless technology for public benefit.

This year, attendees are sure to experience the quality educational program and exhibits they have come to expect from the WESTT No-Dig Conference, plus all the excitement, outdoor activities, and close proximity to Lake Tahoe that make Reno well known as the "Biggest Little City in the World."

Enjoy all the benefits of a national conference program in a smaller forum with a personalized touch. Come to exciting, progressive Reno, NV, and learn about the latest in trenchless technology from industry experts through an informative technical program and product exhibit area.

Leading manufacturers and suppliers are slated to fill the exhibit area with the latest technologies, products and services.

"Attendees will have plenty of time to meet with the 20 sponsors who will be exhibiting to discuss in greater detail the current technology and products they have to offer," said Samuel Ariaratnam, chairman, WESTT board of directors, Arizona State University. "There are a potpourri of trenchless methods being offered that include pipe bursting, lining, directional drilling, and much more."

Special Course Offerings

Attendees can participate in more than 16 hours of educational sessions designed especially for public officials, engineers,

utility company personnel, designers and contractors who are involved with constructing, rehabilitating and managing underground utilities. In addition to an outstanding technical paper program, the conference will offer two new post-conference seminars: The Infrastructure Management Course and The New Installation Methods Good Practices Course.

The Infrastructure Management Course (Oct. 2) is a new course presented by the City of Reno Sanitary Engineering focusing on the "basics" of developing an infrastructure management system. The course will provide an in-depth overview of newer hardware and software tools available to collect, categorize and manage data, as well as review the history and evolution process of the city of Reno.

The New Installation Methods Good Practices Course (Oct. 2-3) will provide an understanding of what simpler, less expensive trenchless methods are available to owners and engineers such as: auger boring, pipe ramming, pipe jacking and the pilot tube method. The key to any successful project is using the right construction method based on the project conditions and requirements. The course is sponsored by NASTT.

"The WESTT Conference is unique in that speakers are careful about not including commercialization in their presentations," said Ariaratnam. "These presentations are geared towards projects and case histories, not products or a particular technology."

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) also are available through the conference. Credits are earned based on the number of hours completed.

In addition to the presentations and exhibits, meet face-to-face with industry leaders in a fun and relaxed atmosphere at two networking opportunities – a sponsored luncheon and reception.

"Oftentimes municipalities don't have the resources to send personnel to the national conference," explained Ariaratnam. "This regional conference offers attendees the same quality of technical paper, peer-reviewed presentations, but at the local level that applies to their regional issues. Also,



for those who did attend the national conference and may have found it difficult to attend the many presentations offered, they now will have the opportunity to attend this conference in a more convenient format."

Value Added

If registered prior to Aug. 31, the conference, including two full days of presentations, a sponsored luncheon, reception and refreshments, CEU credits and a CD of the proceedings are priced at just \$225 for NASTT members and \$175 for subsequent persons from the same organization (who also must be NASTT members). Non member conference fee is \$275 and \$225 for subsequent persons from the same organization.

After Aug. 31, the conference registration fee is \$275 for NASTT members and \$250 for subsequent persons from the same organization (who also must be NASTT members). Non member conference is \$325 and \$300 for subsequent persons from the same organization.

The special courses are offered for an additional fee.

For hotel reservations at the Harrah's Reno Casino & Hotel, call (888) 726-6311 or (775) 786-3232 or visit the Website at www.harrahreno.com.

Refer to the Western Regional No-Dig Conference Code "S7WESTT" to receive the special rate of \$59 for single/double accommodations (\$10 per person extra for 3rd/4th person in same room).

Reservation must be made prior to Aug. 31, to receive the special discount.

For program questions, contact Sam Ariaratnam (480) 965-7399 or Mike Stram (775) 334-2584. For general conference registration questions, contact Mike Stram, Jan Gould (775) 334-2437 or Jennifer Boyd (661) 387-6203 or go online at nastt.org/westt. ■