



RehabZone® Builds On Past Success

by Jeff Griffin, Senior Editor



The popular RehabZone will again be a focal point at the annual UCT show (Underground Construction Technology International Conference & Exhibition) for information about pipeline rehabilitation.

The 2009 UCT event with the 'Zone will be January 20-22 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, TX.

The RehabZone, sponsored by NASSCO (National Association of Sewer Service Companies), is a no-selling area on the UCT exhibit floor. It includes special displays and presentations that provide generic information about water and sewer rehabilitation technologies without referencing product brands. It is a unique, one-of-a-kind industry event.

"The no-selling format is very important and has been a key to the RehabZone's continuing success," said David Kozman, who is event chairman for the second consecutive year. "The 'Zone is an educational area that allows participants to learn more about the industry without being pressured to buy. We have technical experts that work the floor and are available to answer any questions, which further adds to the value of the Zone and its no-sales' approach."

The RehabZone has been a part of UCT since 2002 and its layout and content have

evolved over the years. Technologies represented will include assessment, engineering, pipeline rehabilitation, laterals, man-holes, grouts, vacuum excavation, chemical treatments and root control, personnel training and safety.

Expanded display area

Kozman said the general layout will be similar to past events, but the footprint will be much bigger to allow for additional displays plus more room to navigate through the various stations. Graphic elements of displays received a major update for the 2008 show, and the appearance of displays in 2009 will continue to be updated and expanded. The Pima County, Arizona Historic Sewer and Pipe Artifacts Exhibit documenting the history of pipes, tools, and equipment of the past will again be a key element of the RehabZone.

"In the early years, planners felt they needed to make changes and add something new for each show," observed Irv Gemora, event coordinating chairman and executive director of NASSCO. "Now the RehabZone is established as a major industry event within the UCT show, and it isn't necessary to make changes simply to make

changes. We do make adjustments and refinements every year, but we have a format that works."

Indeed, many displays will have new materials in San Antonio, said Kozman.

"Our goal," he added, "is to make the 'Zone more visible to UCT attendees and enhance its overall impact. Our hopes are that participants will learn more about the industry and available technologies, as well as have the desire to return in 2010."

Gemora said it is important to recognize that the RehabZone is made possible by the financial support of its sponsors and the time and effort of many volunteers who plan each year's exhibits and staff the stations during show hours.

"That organizations and personnel participating in the event put aside competitive issues is a credit to their dedication to the industry," Gemora added.

Cooperating with NASSCO in the RehabZone are the American Society of Civil Engineers Trenchless Installation of Pipelines and Pipeline Infrastructure Systems technical committees, the Water Environment Federation's Collection System Committee and *Underground Construction* magazine.

Networking Receptions

Spend some time with us at the Opening Day Cocktail Reception, Tuesday, Jan. 20. Enjoy premium beer and cocktails while meeting with exhibitors the first afternoon. Bars will be open from 3:30 p.m. to the close of the exhibit hall.

Turn your after-hours into quality time! The UCT Networking Reception, held Wednesday, Jan. 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, provides excellent networking opportunities with the

people you want to meet. This popular event is complete with an open bar and great tasting hors d'oeuvres. All attendees, exhibitors, moderators and speakers are welcome to attend.

Several exhibitors host privately-sponsored parties too. And, since there's so much to see and do in San Antonio, your choices for entertainment are only limited to what you can fit into one evening!

