

Bits and pieces . . .

KRWA Participates in EPA VSAT Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Kansas Rural Water Circuit Rider Rita Clary traveled to Washington, DC in early April to provide input on the Environmental Protection Agency's Vulnerability Self-Assessment Tool (VSAT) program. The VSAT software was prepared by the U.S. EPA as an informational tool to assist water and wastewater utility owners in identifying security and natural disaster risks as well as potential security measures to reduce impacts from these potential threats.

VSAT is a risk assessment application for water, wastewater and combined utilities of all sizes. It allows utilities to develop a risk assessment by guiding them through a series of clear and distinct steps. The VSAT risk assessment approach addresses consequences, vulnerability and threat likelihood and provides a quantitative estimate of risk and resilience. Results can be used to assess the effectiveness of current security measures and to support decision-making regarding the implementation of additional measures.

One goal of the new VSAT 6.0 program is to increase accessibility for small systems by providing a more intuitive software interface. Specifically, the New Analysis Wizard is a feature that was added to help walk small systems step by step

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The J100 Standard was also a major upgrade to the VSAT system. What is the J100 Standard? The J100 Standard was developed by ASME Innovative Technologies

Institute, LLC (ASME-ITI) and AWWA to provide a consistent and technically sound methodology to identify, analyze, quantify, and communicate the risks of specific malevolent attacks and natural hazards against critical water and wastewater systems. The J100 standard provides a significant update to the methodologies applied in response to the Bioterrorism Act requirements by establishing an all-hazards risk and resilience assessment and management process. The standard supports decision-making needs for prioritizing resources allocations to reduce risk and enhance resilience through countermeasures and mitigation strategies.

To make the VSAT tool compatible with the AWWA J100-10 Risk and Resilience Management of Water and Wastewater Systems standard; the following enhancements were made:

- The use of quantitative risk metrics, including value of statistical life and injury to monetize risk
- Inclusion of resilience metrics
- Prioritization of assets
- Proxy method for threat likelihood
- Addition of ice storms, wildfires and dependency threats to the standard threat listing

KRWA's Clary assists many small systems throughout Kansas with Emergency Response and Risk Assessment Plans using the SEMS Technologies program. The security software is a free downloadable program from www.semstechnologies.com. Any system with a USDA Rural Development loan is required to have an Emergency Response and Risk Assessment Plan as part of the compliance of the USDA Rural Development loan agreement. Kansas Rural Water Association now plans to assist systems with their Risk Assessment Plans by using the VSAT version 6.0. Kansas Rural Water Association helped hundreds of cities and water systems in the state complete their vulnerability assessments.



Paul Froelich, Superintendent of Utilities at the City of Enterprise and KRWA Director, presented on the topic of valve installation at a training session in Enterprise on Tuesday, June 3. The training also included a regulatory review including these Safe Drinking Water Act rules: Total Coliform Rule (including revisions); Lead & Copper, Ground Water Rule; Stage 2 DBP; LT2; Radionuclides and Arsenic; Consumer Confidence Report Rule and Public Notification as well as Record Retention. A segment of the training was devoted to a field exercise with the installation of a valve, line tapping and valve exercising. Other presenters were KRWA staff Monica Wurtz and Greg Metz.



Calendar & Registration

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For a .pdf brochure containing further information about the session, click on "Details" next to the session. If you do not have Acrobat Reader, you can download it free from this link. To Register, select the "register" button. You may register for more than one session at a time. To complete all your registrations, select "checkout." Use our Interactive Searchable Calendar...

Table with 7 columns: Dates, Course, Location, View Brochure, Operator Credits, Cost, and a register button. Rows include sessions like 'Making Excel Work For You (Topeka)', 'Collection System: Lift Station Maintenance', 'Programmable Logic Controllers: Application, Function & Benefits - Hiawatha - Day 1', etc.

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