



Clemson-NASTT Student Chapter

Annual Report – 2013



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1. Establishment of Clemson-NASTT Student Chapter

The Clemson student chapter affiliated with NASTT was founded in February of 2013 and it was very well received by students and faculty in the civil engineering department at Clemson University. The purpose of the student chapter is to promote trenchless education and provide networking opportunities within the general field of trenchless technology. A recruitment meeting was held early in the fall semester and some great student members were recruited. We had a great year of out-of-class activities including trenchless seminars, case study discussions, conference visit, and jobsite visits.

2. A Graduate-level Course on Trenchless Technologies

A graduate-level course called “Underground Construction” was developed and taught for the first time ever at Clemson University and it was very well received and appreciated. The content of this course is divided into three parts: a) Design considerations for buried pipelines, b) Underground infrastructure construction methods, and c) Underground infrastructure rehabilitation methods. Several trenchless installation and rehabilitation methods were taught as part of this course.

3. Clemson-NASTT Logo Competition

A logo competition was conducted to kick-start the year of student chapter activities. Student members were invited to participate in the competition by submitting logo designs for the Clemson-NASTT student chapter. The following logo submitted by Ms. Sepideh Yazdekhashti was selected as the winning submission.



4. No-Dig 2013

Two graduate students from Clemson University traveled to Sacramento on 2nd March, 2013, to attend the NASTT's annual No-DIG conference. Students attended technical sessions, served as volunteers helping the conference organizing team, and networked with several trenchless professionals. They had an amazing experience at the conference and they look forward to attending the 2014 conference in Orlando, FL.

5. Jobsite Visits

Students attended two field trips to gain a more practical experience of underground infrastructure and construction methods.

a. Underground Utility Tunnel Visit in Clemson, SC



b. Pipe Bursting/Pipe Fusing Field Trip in Spartanburg, SC



6. Trenchless Guest Lecture Series

Clemson-NASTT student chapter hosted five trenchless seminars over the past year. We invited industry professionals to speak about different topics related to underground infrastructure management. The speakers for 2013 year include:

- a. **Mr. Tony Putnam, Director of Utility Services, Clemson University.** He spoke about campus utility infrastructure systems focusing on asset management issues.
- b. **Mr. Mark Kwilinski, President, Marco Industrial, South Carolina.** He spoke about horizontal directional drilling (HDD) and risks involved with it.



- c. **Mr. Jeff Wage, Vice President, McLaughlin Group, South Carolina.** He spoke about trenchless equipment selection focusing on Auger Boring.



- d. **Mr. Richard Bowles, General Manager, Miller Pipeline, South Carolina.** He spoke about auger boring and discussed few case studies.



- e. **Mr. Brian Hunter, Carolina Area Manager, TT Technologies, South Carolina.** He spoke about pipe bursting and discussed two case studies focusing on why pipe bursting was chosen as the best method.



7. Future Activities Planned

We had an eventful student chapter year at Clemson University in 2013. We plan to recruit more students in the coming year and involve them in trenchless research and educational activities, and also focus on fund raising and other social activities. We will also encourage students to attend the 2014 No-Dig conference in Orlando, FL, from April 13th to 17th.

