



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER TECHNOLOGY CLUSTER

August 14, 2003, 9-11 a.m.
Central Valley Business Incubator
2555 Clovis Avenue, Clovis

Welcome and Self-Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. Self-introductions were made.

Update on International Center for Water Technology. During a PowerPoint presentation David Zoldoske provided information on the ICWT facility, 2003 and 2004 federal funding, and requested participation in the next steps for the ICWT overall fundraising campaign for Phase 2. (See email attachment for presentation slides.)

- It was agreed that a meeting of water cluster members will be held after October 1 to discuss the use of anticipated funds to be received for 2004.
- Normally, only two federal funding requests are submitted; however, due to the importance of water issues, a third request will be submitted.
- Dave was contacted by Texas A&M University regarding a possible partnership with the ICWT.
- Significant progress: A year from now (or less) the ICWT will be doing certifications.
- An advisory board has been established to oversee the ICWT, California Water Institute, and CIT. A meeting of this group will be held October 25.
- Discussion of the Kern County meeting to bring oil interests into the water cluster.

Brainstorming Session – What short-term programs and services can be offered to water technology companies to add value to cluster participation?

- Overview of current programs and services
 - CIT Testing and Certification
 - Export Development Support
An MOU has been signed between ICWT and the Commerce Department for exporting assistance. This agreement will fund trade missions and reverse trade missions.
 - SBIIR Training
Funds are available from the Small business Innovative Research program for assistance to small businesses. Applications are time consuming, but assistance can be provided.
 - Workforce Development Program

First group of internship students have completed training. The program was very positive for both employers and students.

- Agricultural Efficiency Programs.
Areas outside of agriculture such as golf courses, cemeteries, and other users of large amounts of water can benefit from efficiency programs in pumping and pump management.
- Suggestions for additional programs and services.
 - “Collaborative R&D” forums
 - Topics for training sessions
 - “New Technology” working groups.
 - Suggestions/discussions
 - Water technology conference focusing on R&D – “New Horizons”
 - Identify 5-6 water-related problems and bring in consultants.
 - Materials
 - Water
 - New technology for sewage treatment
 - Work with food processors/end users.
 - Survey membership regarding new programs needed.
 - Synthesize available information and present to cluster

Committee Reports

- Industry Advocacy Committee
 - Don Thompson is no longer in the area and Jolene Polyack has agreed to be interim chair of the committee.
 - Discussion of marketing strategies and development of non-profit corporation and PAC (political action committee).
 - The Committee will schedule a meeting in the near future to develop plans and report back to the cluster.
- Workforce Committee
 - The Careers in Manufacturing Technology program has completed its first summer internship program.
 - Seven (7) students were enrolled in the internship with five companies; students worked 40 hours per week and had 20 hours of classroom instruction.
 - Two CDs have been developed which will be given to high school students, students enrolled at a community college, and incumbent workers.
 - Next steps include an evaluation of the program/performance review

Update on Marketing and export Development Programs.

- Dan Clawson gave a report on the export development program.
- The CALIFT export program purchased booth space at the following annual events:
 - International Mining Convention and Exhibit, October 21-25, 2003, in Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico

- Expo AgroAlimentaria 2003, November 13-16, 2003, in Irapuato, Guanajuato, Mexico
 - ExpoAgro 2004, January 29-February 1, 2004, in Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico
- Booth space is limited, but available to cluster members at no cost.

Wrap-Up/Next Steps/adjournment

- The date for the next meeting has not been set. Notices will be sent to all cluster members in advance.