Emerging Professionals in the Onsite Industry



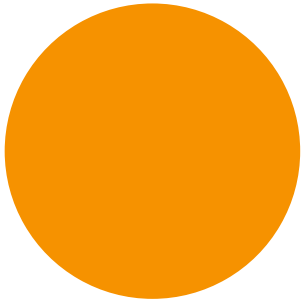
A Panel Discussion

NOWRA's Disclaimer: The materials being presented represent the speaker's own opinions and do NOT reflect the opinions of NOWRA.

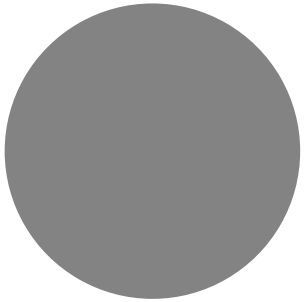
Panel Outline



INTRODUCTIONS
(~5 MINUTES)



PANELIST
REFLECTIONS AND
DISCUSSION
(~25 MINUTES)



AUDIENCE
REFLECTIONS AND
DISCUSSION
(~10 MINUTES)

Why Workforce Development Matters for Emerging Professionals

- A generation of experienced operators is nearing retirement, creating strong demand for new talent in the wastewater industry.
- Advanced treatment technologies require new skills, giving emerging professionals opportunities to build specialized expertise.
- Training, apprenticeships, and workforce programs help prepare the next generation of water leaders.
- Attracting and developing young professionals is critical to protecting public health, the environment, and essential infrastructure for the future.

Water Infrastructure Sector Workforce | US EPA

NOWRA's Emerging Professionals Committee

- Newest NOWRA Committee (2021)
- Mission Statement:
  - ***Committee is dedicated to workforce development, recruitment, and advocacy on behalf of young and early career professionals in the onsite wastewater treatment sector***
- Interest from throughout the sector on recruiting and developing young professionals
- Funded eight (8) scholarships for emerging professionals to continue growing within the onsite wastewater industry.

Call to Action

- What is one way in which each of us can bring awareness to the onsite wastewater industry and make an impact?



CPOW Progress with EPs

- Technical education and training
- Networking opportunities
- Mentorship and professional development
- Encouragement of participation in industry discussions and leadership
- Access to NOWRA membership

Panelists



Jon Kaiser (Moderator)

Manufacturing / Engineering



Lucas Caldwell

O&M Provider/Installer



Junko Munakata Marr

Professor



Ashley Donnelly (Moderator)

Manufacturing



Emily Godi

Engineer

Panelist Reflections and Discussion

- What is your biggest misconception about the industry when you first entered it?
- What opportunity or person most influenced your career trajectory?
- What's one lesson you learned the hard way?
- What advice would you give someone entering the industry today?

Audience Reflections and Discussion

What is the biggest challenge with gaining emerging professional interest in the onsite industry?

What is one thing our industry does exceptionally well that we should promote more aggressively?

What one action could NOWRA take over to the next year to better support emerging professionals?

Call to Action

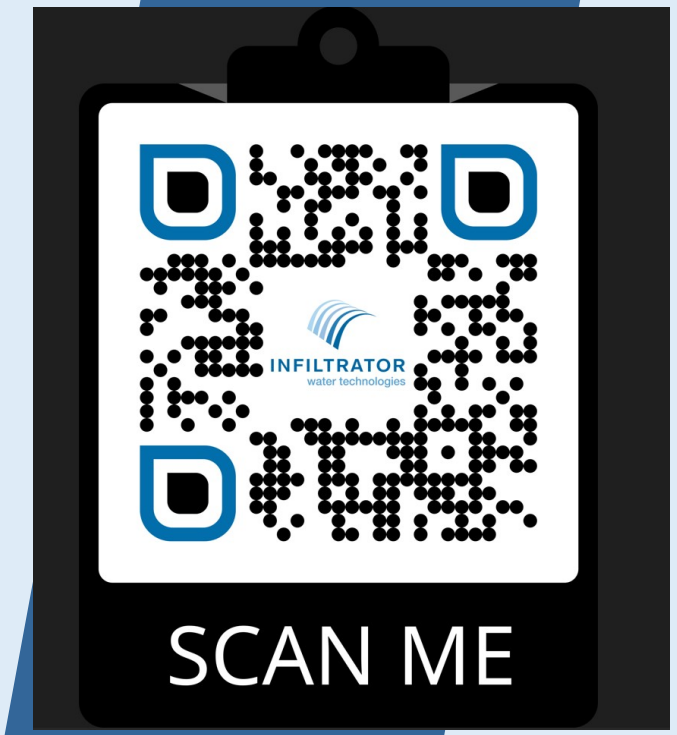
- What is one way in which each of us can bring awareness to the onsite wastewater industry and make an impact?



Please Scan

Looking forward to your responses!

Thank you








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Questions?
Thank you!

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