



Contact: Ray T. Orvin, Jr.
(864) 299-4045

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For Immediate Release

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority Wins 1st Place in State Competition

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority received first place at the 2006 Operations Challenge competition at the Water Environment Association of South Carolina's Annual Environmental Conference.

The Operations Challenge is an annual competition, which takes place across the country at Water Environment Federation conferences. The event encourages wastewater treatment workers to compete in five events to test their operations skills and abilities. Participating teams compete in process control, laboratory, pump repair, safety, and collection events.

Team "Virtual Velocity" of Western Carolina came in first place in the overall competition, winning first place in four out of five competitions. As a result of placing first overall, the team is guaranteed the opportunity to compete in the National Competition this fall in Washington, D.C.

Members of Western Carolina's team include team coach Jimmy Hunsinger, Maintenance Manager; Ruth Graham, Lead Operator at the Taylors Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); Billy Vaughn, Heavy Equipment Operator; Toby Humphries, Inflow and Infiltration Crew Leader; and David Skyles, an Operator II at the Lower Reedy WWTP.

Western Carolina Regional Sewer Authority celebrates 75 years of environmental stewardship. The organization provides wastewater treatment services to over 400,000 industrial, commercial and residential customers in Greenville County and parts of Anderson, Spartanburg and Laurens Counties. WCRSA operates and maintains 300 miles of major sewer trunk lines and 11 major wastewater treatment facilities.

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