



SPECIAL COMMUNICATION FOR ASSET OWNERS

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WJTA Launches Hands-on Hydroblaster Training

The WaterJet Technology Association (WJTA) is launching a complete Hydroblaster Certification Program for new operators. The purpose of the program is to unify the training and certification of high -pressure cleaning to increase safety and standard practices across the industry. The WJTA appreciates that safety is one of your top priorities and is encouraging Asset Owners to require the new WJTA Hydroblaster certifications of all high-pressure cleaning contractors performing work on your equipment. The program is designed to enable Asset Owners to easily verify the training and competency of industry cleaning contract workers. With your support, the WJTA Hydroblaster Certification Program will be a significant step forward for increasing safety and proficiency in the industry.

The WJTA has partnered with the Houston Area Safety Council (HASC) to develop computer-based and hands-on training modules. The certification has a creditable foundation with the WJTA as the subject matter expert and HASC as a provider of a world-class database and verification system, as well as expertise on craft workforce development. The program is comprised of two credentials. The first consists of a three-hour computer-based training module and 60-question exam (CBT) called Foundational Training (FT) which introduces basic waterjetting safety concepts, recommended practices, and industry terminology. The second credential, Field Verification (FV), consists of hands-on training and skills verification covering safe and effective waterjetting techniques across cleaning applications as well as pre-job inspections, setup and post-job teardown.

The WJTA, as the subject matter expert (SME) has partnered with the Houston Area Safety Council (HASC) to produce the CBT Foundational Training and the hands on Field Verification training. The CBT is already available at the HASC training centers and through Associated Reciprocal Safety Councils (ARSC) across the country. The WJTA is now in the process of recruiting and training instructors to be certified as Trainers and Master Trainers to teach and deliver the Field Verification portion at the HASC and various “user” training sites.

For more information about the WJTA Hydroblast Operator Training and Certification program structure, please see the attached press release, scheduled for March 27th, 2020. {link press release when finalized}.

The ultimate goal is to ensure that both Foundational Training and Field Verification Training are successfully completed before an operator performs hands-on or automated waterjetting. It should be noted that this training and certification has been approved as a best practice by the East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA), comprised of Houston area plant managers, and PetroChem Works which is their associated contractor organization, as well as the Houston Business Roundtable (HBR). As a user of high pressure waterjetting services, you can support the WJTA and HASC’s goal to eliminate waterjetting related injuries and accidents by requiring that all contractors performing high-pressure cleaning at your facility have achieved the WJTA Hydroblaster Operator training and certification credentials. We need your involvement and commitment to help propagate adoption of the program in the US Gulf Coast, and ultimately throughout the US. Please reply to Peter Wright at the WJTA office (wrightp@wjta.org) to express your interest and learn more about how to become involved. Thank you for your support and commitment towards a safer and more productive industrial cleaning industry.

Gary Noto

Vice Chairman and WJTA Board Member