

Tim Fredericks

ASIC 2016 REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Southeast, Southwest, Northeast, & California

American Society of Irrigation Consultants

ASIC 2016 – Northeast Regional Conference Pay Me now or Pay Me Later



Pay me now or Pay me later

Challenges in Owner understanding how to ascertain true nature of costs at the beginning of the project generally lead to dissatisfaction at the end of the project in either the Owner, Vender, and/or the Manufacturer

Irrigation Consultant is not listed as being dissatisfied

Owner Dissatisfaction

- Irrigation system not reliable and/or underperforming
- The effects of "Value-Engineering"
- Additional restoration costs
- Earlier than anticipated costs due to failures in hardware
- Poor relationship with Contractor/Distributor and/or Manufacturer

Contractor Dissatisfaction

- Did not make anticipated profit on job
- Poor reference upon completion
- Damaged relationship with Owner, Consultant and/or Vendor/Manufacturer
- Longer time to completion causing loss of future revenue

Vender/Manufacturer Dissatisfaction

- Did not make anticipated profit on job
- Poor reference upon completion
- Damaged relationship with Owner and Consultant
- Soft" costs of having to ensure Owner is "happy" with the system once Contractor is gone – feel the effects of budgets for long after the project is completed

Budgeting Landmines effecting Actual Costs/Results

- Owner does not provide clear criterion to Consultant
- Owner cannot answer expected longevity question
- Ignoring the premise that Contractors/Suppliers need to make a reasonable profit
- Contingency is for once the digging starts
 "Value Engineering" is not a direct synonym for "reducing-costs"

In 2015, an irrigation upgrade is best thought of as an installing reliable cost-effective infrastructure that delivers water at constant pressure









Establishing an understanding that there is balance between the system cost and longevity of the hardware









Pay Me Now or Pay Me Later General Components of Irrigation System

- Central Irrigation Computer
- On-site control (Satellites/Decoders)
- Piping (Mainline and Laterals)
- Valves (Isolation and Drain)
- Wire (High Voltage, Communication, Field Control)
- Fittings and Restraints
- Sprinklers and Electric Valves
- Pumpstation, Wells, and Transfer Pumps
- Hard structure Pumphouse, Intake, and Wet Well
- Weather Station and Sensors
- As Built/Baseplan Drawing

Components of a System Possible Life-spans

Expected # of Years	Item				
2	Solar radiation and RH on WS				
3	Central Support and Warranty Service				
3-5*	Irrigation Central Computer (OEM)				
5*	comprehensive Base Plan/As-Built update				
5*	handheld radios				
10	central irrigation software package				
10-15*	pump turbine removal and over-hall				
12-20*	possible nozzle replacement				
15-20*	rotor gear drive replacement				
20-25	Satellite update and or replacement				
30-35*	sprinkler body replacement				
25-40*	Lateral pipe (3" and smaller) replacement				
25-40*	pump station replacement				

What is considered excessive or "not in the our budget?"

50 year old fitting being "re-installed"!

Factors/Choices Effecting Cost vs. Reliability Thrusting and Restraints Choices









Factors/Choices Effecting Cost and Life Expectancy

The Wide World of Valves

- Choose correct valve type (C515, C509, Resilient wedge, brass gate, swivel)
- Know the different type of valve connections (MJ, Push-on, PE HDPE)
- Use correct restraints with valves
- Make sure valves are supported
- Ensure valve is accessible
- Understand your water conditions
- Plan for phasing (type and location)
- Understand that with valves you get what you pay for

Factors/Choices Effecting Costs vs. Reliability Examples of Valving Choices









Factors/Choices Effecting Cost vs. Reliability Examples of Valving Choices









Factors/Choices Effecting Cost vs. Reliability Examples of Valving Choices









Future of Mainline Valving Choices



While lighter, better corrosion protection, easier to install but do you get what you pay for?

Longevity vs Budget Examples of Costly Decisions









Budgeting Strategy "Don't" Your only costing Yourself!

- Do not tell Contractor, Distributor, and/or any Vendor any budget expectations
- Do not forget who the Owner is purchasing the system from and its implication on budget
- Do not re-prioritize budget based "Other" influences
- Do not use neighbouring Club's project costs act as benchmark of a valid quote or bid
- Do not "budget" based on playing multiple Contractors against each other at the same time

Actions that can ensure costs are accurately reflected

- Get price to install system at agreed upon criterion and then set budget
- Have clear understanding of how cost reductions effect longevity and performance
- Banish concept of "value engineering" from discussion
- Understand what a reasonable profit represent to all parties (see example next slide!)

Material Description	Quartity	Unit	Manufacturer	Venden/Manufacturer Part Number	Unit Phong to Supply Network	Total Unit Supply and Initial Prov (cillibe referred to for addition purposes only)	Total Unit Supply and Install Price (cill be used for deletion purposes)
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MWU 10/2 wire - 6 ladk only		line ar metre					
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MWU 6/2 wire - black only		line ar metre					i
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Questions?



Brian Vinchesi

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Pay Me Now or Pay MeLater?

or Forever?

Brian E. Vinchesi, FASIC, EIT, LEED-AP, CID, CIC, CLIA, CGIA, CWM-L



ADDITIONAL COSTS

Consultants tend to use better products that cost more money that many contractors and cost estimators miss.

- For example:
 - Pressure Regulation
 - Flow Control
 - Isolation
 - Mainline, Lateral, Valve
 - Quick Couplers
 - Single Strand Wire



WIRE CONNECTORS

 Lots of choices but are the choices all the same?
 UL 486D Listed



Not Enough/None



VALVE BOXES





CONTROLLERS

Conventional

- Features
- Smart
 - Climate or Soil Moisture Based
- Costs
- Surge Protection Grounding





SOIL MOISTURE SENSORS

Safety

• Off Switch

Adjustable Moisture Level
 Monitor and Tracking
 Water Management
 LEED





URBAN TREES

Typically tree irrigation has been done with spray sprinklers or bubblers which use large amounts of water. Drip rings have also been used. Newer technologies include drip stakes which do a better job of applying water directly to the root ball at lower application rates.



DRIP IRRIGATION UNDER PAVEMENT

- Drip tubing in aeration pipe
- Stakes zoned
 separately from future
 root propagation area
- Additional benefit of adding air and fertilizer
- No run-off
- Little impact on existing roots
- Rarely costed correctly

Aeration Pipe with Irrigation



PLACE SOIL MOISTURE SENSOR IN THE SAND-BASEL STRUCTURAL SOIL, APPROXIMATELY 24-INCHES BELOW FINISH GRADE.



Can add considerable cost to the system for :

- Better products
- Smart Technology
- Higher Installation Costs
- Alternative water Supplies
- Logic



ODD SYSTEMS



LARGE SYSTEMS

Larger systems require more expensive components: • Material, Size, Life Expectancy, Installation Installation Expertise



ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCES



Various sources:

- Rainwater
- Storm Water
- Waste Treatment
- Need to minimize contaminants
- Treatment is Expensive!!
- A place that everyone likes to VE but not a place you can/should do it
TANKING

- A place to make lots errors
 - Sizing
 - Material
 - Installation
- Logic





TANKING

COST!











BUDGETING

Commercial irrigation system budgeting is usually done in a vacuum.

The cost estimator or General Contractor gives it a number based on square footage that is usually way too high or way too low.

Then when they get the pricing they wonder why the Contractor is so high.



BUDGETING

A typical Contractor's traditional practice is to use the cost of materials times a multiplier.

 Higher end Contractors may look at actual material, labor, equipment and overhead costs.

Professional cost estimators have a tendency to use square footage rules but many don't have a clue.



COSTS

Us wh	se square foot nen no design	t pricing	
Per Square Foot			
•	Conventional	\$1.50	
•	More Intense	\$2.,50	
•	Under Paver	\$3.00	
•	Green Roof	\$3.50	
Use material take offs			
with multiplier when			
have design			
Use sprinkler multiplier			
for golf plus all other			
costs			



VALUE ENGINEERING

UGH! Consultants hate it! Manufacturers hate it! Many Contractors embrace it or promote it.

Owners' don't understand it!

> "Include Nibco T-113 gate valves with Matco or equiv. (Sizes 1, 1 1/2, 2 only), after above reduction in valves."

"I'm sending you this note to hopefully explain why the butt fused pipe that is spec'd for the irrigation mainline is unnecessary......"

I have been in the irrigation industry for 18 years installing systems from a 20 head residential to a 1000 head plus commercial system drawn and spec'd by professional design firms and have never been asked to install butt fused pipe. The butt fused pipe option is rarely, if ever required for irrigation, at least in New England. So, the equipment and expertise is not necessary to be a successful irrigation contractor in New England.

INSTALLER QUALIFICATIONS

- The installer selected plays a large role in the long term costs of the irrigation system.
- Many times specification installer qualifications are not enforced.
- This is especially an issue with public work.
- Submittals are a "sign" of what is to come.
- Hard to assign a \$ figure to poor installation.



OTHER COSTS

Water

- How much is saved or wasted?
- Energy
 - How much energy is being used?
 - Alternative water sources are energy inefficient in most cases.

Maintenance

 How much additional maintenance is required based on the materials selected and the design?



















QUESTIONS



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Jeff Bowman & Bob Dobson

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<u>Who's on First?</u> Delineation of Trades Jeff Bowman/Bob Dobson

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Design/Coordination/Construction Gap

- The Responsibility and Limit of Work of the Irrigation Consultant and Irrigation Contractor
- MEP Role
- Plumbers and Electricians Role
- Architect and GC Role
- Who has jurisdiction?

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Examples

- Commercial Buildings
- Green Roofs
- Green Walls/Interior Landscape
- Perimeter Landscape
- Pumping Systems
- Reclaimed Water

Commercial Buildings



Green Roofs





Green Walls



Other??





Perimeter Landscape





Irrigation Pump Systems





Generally Speaking

- Plumbing Work Stops 5-Feet From Exterior Wall
 - Extend beyond the perimeter drain
 - Perceived to be IAPMO jurisdiction from this point inward (into the building)
- All interior plumbing installed by plumber
 - Design by plumbing engineer with close consultation with irrigation consultant















Interior Pumps

- Interior irrigation pumps installed by plumbers and mechanical contractors (Procurement by Irrigation Contractor)
 - Design/specification by irrigation consultant with close consultation with plumbing and electrical engineers
 - MEP does not have the experience in living landscapes and soils

Rain Harvesting/Reclaimed Water

- Interior Storage Tank
- Roof Runoff
- HVAC Condensate
- 2018 Green Construction Code
 - No potable water for vegetative roofs (Model Code)
Rain Harvesting/Reclaimed Water







A Rain Harvesting/Reclaimed Water

- Interior storage tank design recommended to be designed by the MEP Engineers
- Tank sizing by irrigation consultant based on landscape water demand and supply inputs provided by MEP Engineers.

- Best to have the MEP engineers take responsibility for backflow prevention and any primary water meters.
- Secondary irrigation/sub-meters specified by the irrigation consultant
 - Sub-meters often communicate directly with irrigation controllers and/or irrigation pump controls
 - LEED Requirements

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Electrical

- Generally speaking (Massachusetts), all interior wiring conduits/routing by the electrical engineers/designers with input from the irrigation consultant
- Low voltage wiring within the building (in conduit) specified by irrigation consultant
- Plenum rated wire in some instances
- All interior 120-volt and above wiring by electrical engineers/designers

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Electrical

- Irrigation consultant must know all electrical needs of his/her equipment for proper coordination with electrical designers:
 - Pump system power (phase, voltage and current demand)

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- Irrigation controller power
- Irrigation controller low voltage wiring (two wire or individual station wiring) and the destination of all low voltage branch circuits
- Ethernet
 - BAS/BMIS
- Antennas
- Rain/Weather Sensors
- One line diagram is recommended

AASIC

Exceptions





C

×

(V)

3



X







Trade delineations vary by

- State
- Local jurisdiction
- Client



Consultant's responsibility

- Who is to do what?
- Labor source
 - Open shop
 - Prevailing wage
 - Union
- Trades involved
- Permits required

Consultant's responsibility





Contractor's Responsibilities in Preparing Bid

Read the specifications





Contractor's Responsibilities in Preparing Bid

- Read the specifications
- Understanding labor source, what trades are involved and their requirements
- Notify consultant of any problems, errors or unreal expectations

Irrigation Contractor can be:

- Prime Contractor General Contractor
- 1st Tier Sub to General Contractor
- 2nd Tier Sub to Site Contractor or Plumber
- 3rd Tier Sub to Landscaper Contractor

Contractor Responsibilities



Potential Trades Involved

- Surveyors
- Teamsters
- Operating Engineers
- Iron Workers
- Plumbers

- Electricians
- Laborers
- Masons
- Elevator Operators
- Others?

Potential Trades Involved



Potential Trades Involved

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

VOL 1-NO. 1.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, JULY 8, 1889

PRICE TWO CENTS:

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

PUBLISHED shills, waters Davadated and Stock Environmy helidant, at \$15 P.M.

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New Year, July & 1840. A dividend of one and a half per cent.



Landon houses were, however, sellert at the opening, and

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ASIC Contractor's Responsibilities After Award

- Business Agent
- Shop Stewart
- Foreman
- Journeyman
- Apprentice



ASIC Contractor's Responsibilities After Award

- Business Agent
- Shop Stewart
- Foreman
- Journeyman
- Apprentice





Thank You!



