**Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*)** ***e-*flash**

**Information for Water Industry Managers and Practitioners in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #362 – 20 July 2018)**

**1.   Gas or hypo or something else?  New publication available**

**2.   SWIM Annual data reporting for 2017/18 now open**

**3.   Bundaberg Conference – Early Bird Close on July 26!**

**4.   Water Quality/Aqua Card Course now available for members**

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**1.   Gas or hypo or something else?  New publication available**

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Our “Gas or hypo or something else” discussion paper is now available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=242379).  It is a collection of information for water service providers to support management decisions on disinfection options.

Having spent a lot of time touring the state, it’s obvious that there are many different preferences for water disinfection methods and not always consistency in the reasoning behind those preferences.  The paper does not set out to say one particular technology is better than another, rather explore the options and the situations for which they might be more appropriate.  The title refers to the most commonly used chlorine gas and sodium hypochlorite – perfect examples of competing benefits and risks with tradeoffs between safe handling and chlorate production.

The paper also attempts to examine less commonly used technologies including electro-chlorination and calcium hypochlorite.  While the underpinning chlorine production processes have been around for a long time, advances in automated dosing and other innovations have seen a growing uptake in some places.

It is a discussion paper, and as such we are happy to receive any feedback on the assertions made in it.  Our intention was simply to build awareness of the options so that decision makers could hopefully make smart choices around safety, capital and operating costs for their schemes.

Should you have further queries, please contact Dave Cameron (dcameron@qldwater.com.au).  The work including a small survey conducted a couple of months ago has given us a much better idea of what systems exist state-wide, and the ***qldwater*** network is typically keen to share experience and advice.

Thanks to Alan Kleinschmidt for his efforts in compiling this publication.

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**2.   SWIM Annual data reporting for 2017/18 now open**

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It is that time of year again when annual water data is collated by Water Service Providers across the State and sent to BoM, NPR, ABS and the Qld Govt (DNRME KPIs) via SWIM. There has been some minor changes in terms of indicators this year with DNRME changing some of their NPR requirements (only affecting utilities with >10,000 water connections). So, in reality there are no new indicators from what has been reported previously.

***qldwater*** has been sending your SWIM representative information regarding accessing and using the SWIM/SWIM*Local* system. If you have had staff changes and the SWIM reporting person from last year is no long working in this position please contact David so he can help set up new contact details so important information can be supplied to your organisation.

If you have any questions regarding SWIM and your water and sewerage data reporting please contact David Scheltinga (dscheltinga@qldwater.com.au or 0415 881 195).

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**3.   Bundaberg Conference – Early Bird Registrations Close on July 26!**

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[Early Bird Registrations](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-seq-bundaberg/seq-conference/ExtraContent/ContentPage?page=1) for the ***qldwater*** South East Queensland Regional Water Conference in Bundaberg close on 26 July.

***qldwater's*** final regional conference for 2018 will be held in Bundaberg on Thursday 9 August 2018, with an optional tour and dinner on Wednesday 8 August.  Due to popular demand, the Rubyanna Wastewater Treatment Plant visit will be followed by an opportunity to visit the **Bundaberg Rum Distillery.**

As always, we acknowledge the kind support of Principal Event Sponsor Aqseptence Group, along with gold sponsors Royce Water Technologies Aquatec Maxcon and Hydramet, Water Connections Tour Sponsor Dial Before You Dig and Taste Test Sponsor Ixom.

If you are interested in remaining sponsorships, please email Diana Kislitsyna at dkislitsyna@qldwater.com.au or Dave Cameron (dcameron@qldwater.com.au).

Please make sure to book your accommodation soon as the availability in Bundaberg is **limited.** We’ve negotiated discounted rates with Sugar Country Motor Inn (07 4111 1622) and Takalvan Motel (07 4132 6999).In order to access the discount you must book direct with the hotels and mention “Queensland Water”.

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**4.   2018 Water Quality/Aqua Card Course now available for members**

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After many months of development, we are pleased to be able to release [Water Quality – an online course for people working on or around water infrastructure](https://www.qldwater.com.au/water-quality). It is a simple overview of what contaminants are, the risks they pose, how they can enter a drinking water system and the responsibilities of those working on infrastructure to reduce that risk. It includes practical guidance – how to operate within work sites including good housekeeping and disinfection practices. It complements our existing online offerings - the industry induction package, legislation and risk management.

Those who have attended ***qldwater*** presentations in recent times would be aware of the plan to develop this course. The version available at the above link is provided to ***qldwater*** and Water Skills Partnership members free of charge for internal use. You just need a ***qldwater*** web account, if you don’t have one already click [here](https://www.qldwater.com.au/users/account) and complete the registration and provided is using a member organisation email address, it will be approved directly.

It is still intended to use the “Aqua Card” title referred to previously for a fee for service course targeting contractors servicing Queensland utilities. The content will essentially be the same, but is likely to include a larger pool of questions and at the end of the course, a statement of completion will be generated. Some members are considering whether to mandate the course as part of service contracts and we looking into the additional necessary technologies and processes.

We would particularly like to acknowledge the following people for their assistance and feedback in the development of the course: Alan Kleinschmidt (for the first detailed version of the content), Brian Hester, Shannon McBride, Jill Busch, Dave Barry, Trevor Dean, Laura Shiels and Palith Siriwardana. Thanks also to the ***qldwater*** members who have kindly contributed photographs.

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