

USA Chapter Update

From the USA Chapter Committee Chair

We are excited to share key updates and upcoming activities from the USA Chapter of the Institute of Asset Management (IAM-USA). IAM-USA is committed to fostering excellence, collaboration, advancing knowledge, supporting professional growth, and fostering best practices across the global asset management community.

[National Branch Meeting](#) – **Save the Date & Register Today**

Please join us on Wednesday June 11, 2025, for the IAM-USA National Branch meeting.

To be held at 11:00am PDT, 12:00pm MDT, 1:00pm CDT, 2:00pm EDT

The meeting will start off with information on the IAM-USA chapter and branches. Followed by a presentation titled: Moving Up a Level: Charleston Water System's Journey to Update its Strategic Asset Management Plan

This presentation will describe best practices on how to grow and evolve an existing asset management program. This will be shown through the experience of Charleston Water System (CWS). Specifically, it will detail the effort and journey of CWS to update its Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) and plan out its asset management growth over the next five years.

Charleston Waters presentation will be followed by a group discussion/Q&A and conclude to local branch networking.

[IAM North American Conference 2025](#) – **Save the Date**

The IAM North American Conference 2025 will take place in Montreal, Canada, from 16-18 September 2025, bringing together professionals from across industries and sectors to explore the evolving landscape of asset management. This event brings together industry leaders and organizations at every stage of the asset management journey, offering insights, real-world case studies, and opportunities to engage with subject matter experts. Whether you're laying the foundation, striving for continuous improvement, or leading transformation, our conference sessions will provide invaluable knowledge, practical strategies, and inspiration to help you progress on your asset management journey.

Early bird registration ends July 11, register early to guarantee your spot and to receive the best prices. *We look forward to seeing you at the conference including the IAM-USA Meet and Greet.*

IAM Awards – 2024 North American award winners shortlisted for global awards

Join us in celebrating last year's North American conference award winners' advancement to the global award shortlist:

- Eason Digital Innovation Award Nominee: San Jose Water
- Corporate/Organization Transformation Award Nominee: Orange County (CA) Sanitation District
- NxtGen Award Nominee: Abigail Thyer-Ohly, City of Lake Oswego

Winners will be announced at the IAM Global Conference Dinner at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel, London, UK on June 18.

IAM North American 2025 Awards

2025 North American award application will open soon, keep an eye out and submit your application. To celebrate the 2025 North American Awards, a drinks reception will be held at the IAM North American

Conference 2025 on the evening of 17 September, providing an opportunity for networking and recognition of outstanding achievements.

[Call for Volunteers and Contributors](#)

The IAM-USA is actively seeking volunteers to contribute to thought leadership publications, leading local branches, supporting NextGen, providing case studies and many other opportunities depending on your interests. To learn more, visit theiam.org, reach out to one of the IAM-USA Executive Committee Members or your local branch.

Your involvement helps shape the future of asset management in the U.S. and beyond.

Stay Connected

For regular updates, event invitations, and access to IAM's Knowledge Centre:

Visit: <https://theiam.org/events/>

Follow us on LinkedIn: [IAM-USA](#)

IAM-USA Contacts: <https://usa.theiam.org/about/>

We encourage all professionals in the asset management field to stay engaged, participate in upcoming events, and explore the growing resources available through the IAM.

Thank you for your continued commitment to professional excellence in asset management.

Have an impeccable summer and warm regards,

Tammy

Tammy Whipple, AMP
IAM USA Chapter Chair

Asset Management Spotlight – Deniz Varcin

Deniz is an engineer with the Asset Management Branch at the Portland Water Bureau, based in Portland, Oregon. With a strong foundation in environmental and water resources engineering, she brings a decade of consulting and design experience to the public utility sector, focusing on infrastructure sustainability and long-term asset performance.

Deniz holds a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from Middle East Technical University and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Toledo. She has worked across both the U.S. and internationally, delivering projects ranging from water and wastewater system design to stormwater infrastructure and asset management planning.

Her introduction to asset management began in 2017, during an internship at a civil engineering firm in Michigan while completing her master's degree. It was there that Deniz discovered her passion for transforming raw data into meaningful insights to support strategic decision-making. Although her career path initially led her into broader roles in water and environmental engineering, she always felt drawn back to the long-term planning inherent to asset management.

In her current role, Deniz is focused on advancing the bureau's asset management initiatives by developing and implementing strategies that support informed decision-making and sustainable service delivery. Her goal is to optimize infrastructure investments through data-driven planning and risk-based methodologies.

In addition to her technical and strategic work, Deniz is passionate about engaging and empowering the next generation of asset management professionals. She is currently a part of the IAM USA's NxtGen committee.

Deniz can be reached at deniz.varcin@portlandoregon.gov.



Words from the Knowledge Center

The Knowledge Management group is continuing its work on building a library of case studies on asset management. We plan for these to be short easy to read artifacts that address the challenge, the actions taken, and the lessons learned. We are planning to hold a webinar in July around one of the case studies developed. We are looking for additional examples from all industries, all areas of asset management, and importantly all levels of maturity and progress on your asset management journey so if you have something that you might want to share please reach out to Tom Myers (tom.myers@usa.theiam.org) or myself.

Ahmet Ozman, MIAM

IAM USA Executive Committee
Co-Chair, Knowledge Development

Ahmet.Ozman@usa.theiam.org

The IAM Discussion Forum

Do you have a question about Asset Management? Are you seeking some free advice on an issue you have encountered? Better yet, do you like to share your expertise with others in the profession who may not have your level of experience? The IAM Discussion Forum needs you!

The Forum is the IAM's interactive knowledge base, permitting anyone who is registered with the IAM website to post a question – or answer one. There are hundreds of topics out there, and hundreds of asset management professionals who have taken the time to share opinions, ideas, and solutions that might just help you solve your problem. Check it out! And become a regular contributor.

<https://forum.theiamdiscussion.org/>

SMRP Reciprocal Benefits

The Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals are our asset management cousins, and they offer reciprocal benefits to IAM members. This means that if you are a paying member of the IAM, you have free membership to SMRP. And if you are a paying member of SMRP, you have free membership to the IAM. If you would like to take advantage of this benefit, contact your Branch Leader. If you are not affiliated with one of the USA branches, feel free to contact me.

Joe Mooney (Joe.Mooney@USA.TheIAM.org)

IAM USA Academia Committee

The Academia Committee is comprised of seven volunteers balanced between academia and asset management industries. Recently, a few more academia professionals across the US have expressed interest in participating or contributing on this committee. At the 2024 IAM North American Conference, the committee presented the current discovery efforts and sought a broad range of input from attendees. With this additional input, we will be conducting a small series of sessions beginning on May 6 to identify the IAM's role in academia.

The academia committee sees a vested interest in bringing a greater asset management awareness to students through their discipline of studies whether it be at the university, community college or trade school level. Asset management in academics connects with the IAM's NexGen program as young aspiring professionals begin to see the asset management opportunities abound with their first employer. Building upon their asset management academic experience with new work opportunities enables former students to share stories with their peers in the NexGen program. The academia committee and NexGen programs leverage the USA IAM DEI group to help grow a community of diverse and inclusive asset management professionals to serve in a ubiquitous world of assets.

If you have interest in participating or believe you can contribute based on your expertise, please contact

Mark DeClercq (Mark.Declercq@USA.TheIAM.org)

NxtGen USA News

I'm excited to share that we now have a formal Diversity, Inclusion (DI) and NxtGen Committee in place for our US Chapter! This is an important step in advancing our goals around inclusion, professional development, and next-generation leadership within the organization.

Below you find the NxtGen members who volunteered to work this committee. Please take a moment to welcome them when you see them on upcoming webinars or at the conference:



Katterinne Fleming, MIAM
*Director of Diversity & Inclusion
and NxtGen*



Charlotte Tang
Committee Chair



Allenna Wilson
Committee Chair



Jazmin Simpkins
*Member Engagement &
Outreach Coordinator*



Deniz Varcin
Secretary



Sigmund Skinner
Secretary



Shweta Dhansinghani
Social Media Coordinator



Alexandra Sammons
Canada IAM NxtGen Liaison

Katterinne Fleming, MIAM

IAM USA Executive Committee
Chair, Diversity & Inclusion and NxtGen

Katterine.Fleming@USA.TheIAM.org

NxtGen Event: How Artificial Intelligence and Analytics are Transforming Utilities

The main objective of the IAM NxtGen group is to build a supportive community of asset management professionals with up to 5 years of experience in the industry and provide a platform to share knowledge.

The IAM NxtGen hosted their first webinar of 2025 on April 16th. The main theme for the webinar was ‘How Artificial Intelligence and Analytics are Transforming Utilities’ with guest speakers from CEATI, New York Power Authority, Tennessee Valley Authority, Tacoma Power and Chelan County Public Utility District.

The webinar was kicked off by Alexandra Sammons from CEATI with an overview of the emerging data management challenges and opportunities shaping the industry. This was the perfect segue into the following presentations delivered by our guest speakers:

- New York Power Authority (NYPA) - How the organization integrates AI, RCM, and advanced data analytics to optimize maintenance plans and asset health evaluations.
- Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) - How TVA streamlined asset performance management by enabling business analysts to administer databases, reducing implementation time and improving integration efficiency.
- Tacoma Power - Building a comprehensive, GIS-driven platform for asset tracking, inspection, and maintenance planning, leveraging over a century of historical records.
- Chelan County Public Utility District (PUD) – Exploring AI-driven automation for failure code assignment using historical maintenance data spanning 20 years.



The next event will be hosted by the IAM NxtGen on the May 9th and will provide members with the opportunity to meet one of the IAM board members, Mark Knight. Mark will be sharing valuable insights on diversity and inclusion based on his experiences throughout his asset management journey in the United States and United Kingdom. If you would like to get involved in the IAM NxtGen and future events, please get in touch via email: nxtgen@usa.theiam.org or katterinne.fleming@usa.theiam.org

Branch News

Great Lakes Branch

Our first quarter meeting saw 19 attendees from our 5-state region. We have regular attendees from the Michigan Infrastructure Council, Great Lakes Water Authority, Lansing Board of Water & Light, and the Wisconsin Chapter of the Society of Maintenance & Reliability Professionals.

Harry Sellars, long-time asset manager in the steamship vessel industry and Jacob's Engineering maintenance manager for a regional wastewater plant in Traverse City Michigan, presented on "The Fuel that powers your Asset Management Plan". Mr. Sellars spoke on the importance of asset maintenance history in supporting successful results from your Asset Management Plans.

Finally, our branch discussed an Academia Liaison Subcommittee whose role would be to engage and bring awareness of the Great Lakes Branch with our region's universities and community colleges. Our upcoming quarterly meeting will be held on May 14, Aug 20, and Dec 17 from 1-2:30 ET. Our co-chairs are Mark DeClercq, Margaret Gadzic, Jon Schwichtenberg, and Laith Alfaqih.

IAM USA Chapter National Branch Meeting

Topic: National Branch Meeting

Date: June 11

Time: 1400 – 1600 EDT

Location: On-Line – Zoom (See IAM Website for details)

Topic/Presentations: Moving Up a Level: Charleston Water System's Journey to Update its Strategic Asset Management Plan

Our National Branch Meetings are hybrid events. The first hour is an online meeting to bring you up to date on Chapter goings-on. It will also include a presentation from **Charleston Water** on their SAMP.

David Gordon (Asset Management Program Manager) will share insights from Charleston Water System's (CWS) ongoing evolution in asset management. CWS is a public water and wastewater utility serving the greater Charleston area. It is ISO 14001 certified and has maintained a strong focus on asset management for over 20 years, addressing challenges such as aging infrastructure, regulatory demands, and population growth through a structured asset management system (AMS).

CWS developed its first Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) in 2018. In 2023, the utility conducted a maturity assessment to identify gaps and chart a path toward achieving its asset management objectives. This led to the development and publication of its second SAMP, which now serves as the foundation for a five-year roadmap. Two years into implementation, CWS is actively applying the plan and can share valuable lessons learned and progress made. This presentation will highlight the development of the updated SAMP and the practical steps CWS is taking to advance its asset management program.

The second half is up to each individual Branch to either follow-up on the discussion from the National level, or discuss information of interest at the local level. For additional information, please see the IAM Website: (<https://theiam.org/events>)

Upcoming IAM USA Chapter Events

Great Lakes Branch Meeting

Topic: Quarterly Meeting with Knowledge Sharing

Date: May 14

Time: 1300 – 1430 CDT

Location: On-Line – Zoom (See IAM Website for details)

Topic/Presentations:

"People First, Assets Second: Thoughtful Integration of Change Management in Utility Asset Management Programs" – by **Margaret Gadzic & Sagarika Naik, Arcadis**

(<https://theiam.org/events>)

Minnesota Branch Meeting (See IAM Website for details)

Topic/Presentations:

MnDOT NiceConnect Project Overview

- 1) The project is funded by FHWA and takes advantage of MnDOT's significant AM innovations including data interoperability between planning, design and AM.
- 2) Trisha Stefanski, MnDOT; Shannon McGrath, WSB

Mn Advisory Council on Infrastructure (MACI) Update

- 1) A brief update on MACI's progress, including MIC's accomplishments and a comparison to Minnesota's AM approach.
- 2) Russ Matthys, Eagan DPW

(<https://theiam.org/events>)

South Florida Branch Meeting

Topic: Beyond Project Completion: Fostering Organizational Resilience through Operational Readiness

Date: May 27, 2025

Time: 1330 – 1630 EDT

Location: Zoom Meeting

Join us for a webinar hosted by the South Florida IAM Branch as we spotlight Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department's approach to operational readiness—what we call *O&M Ready*. At PBCWUD, project success isn't just about completion; it's about ensuring assets are primed to perform from day one. Operational readiness is embedded in the department's Asset Management System, enabling a proactive culture that minimizes surprises, enhances performance, and supports long-term sustainability. From technicians in the field to senior leadership, this commitment strengthens safety, compliance, and organizational resilience. Additional Information available on the IAM Website (<https://theiam.org/events>)

Colorado Branch Meeting

Topic: Coors Field Asset Management

Date: June 18, 2025

Time: 1500 – 1630 CDT

Location: Coors Field

Join us for our next regular branch meeting with the Colorado Rockies! We will be meeting at Coors Field to learn about how the stadium conducts its asset management program. Our meeting will include a presentation from the Colorado Rockies as well as a tour of the stadium. Additional Information available on the IAM Website (<https://theiam.org/events>)

Carolinas Branch Meeting (Tentative)

Topic:TBD

Date: June 19, 2025

Time: 1700 – 1900 EST

Location: TBD

Please block out this date in your calendars as Wayne and Marcus are planning for an in-person meeting to include engaging presentations, mind-bending discussions, and a general good time.

Additional Information available on the IAM Website (<https://theiam.org/events>)

IAM USA Asset Management Professionals

The Asset Management Professional designation is the highest honor someone in our industry can receive from the IAM. The IAM website contains information on becoming a Registered Asset Management Professional.

<https://theiam.org/professional-development/asset-management-professionals/>

Name	State	Nearest Branch
Len Caputo	New York	NYC
Lou Cripps	Colorado	Colorado
John Daly III	Michigan	Great Lakes
Fabiola De Carvalho	Texas	Austin
Mark De Clercq	Michigan	Great Lakes
George Galambos	Georgia	Atlanta
Craig Gotthardt	Texas	Austin
Kristyl Horton	California	Bay Area
Nancy Johnson	Massachusetts	New England
Martin Jones	Georgia	Atlanta
Mark Knight	Massachusetts	New England
Bob Leitch	Maine	New England
Amy Lindblom	Washington	Pac NW
Tom Myers	North Carolina	Carolinas
Jonathan Okafor	Virginia	DMV
Christian Roberts	Virginia	DMV
Simon Smith	New York	NYC
Tammy Whipple	Washington	Pac NW
Matthew Wood	Texas	Austin

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Chair and Secretary of Chapter (Officer)	Tammy Whipple, AMP	Tammy.Whipple@USA.theIAM.org
Deputy Chair (Officer)	Mark Knight, AMP	Mark.Knight@USA.theIAM.org

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Director of Knowledge Development	Tom Myers, AMP	Tom.Myers@USA.theIAM.org
Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Katty Fleming, MIAM	Katterinne.Fleming@USA.theIAM.org
Co-Director of Membership and Branch Development	Andrew Ardrey, MIAM	Andrew.Ardrey@USA.theIAM.org
Director, At Large	Ahmet Ozman, MIAM	Ahmet.Ozman@USA.theIAM.org
Director, At Large	Shweta Dhansinghani, MIAM	Shweta.Dhansinghani@USA.theIAM.org

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Women in Asset Management (WiSM) North America Mentoring Program	Anca Popa Katty Fleming, MIAM	Anca.popa@ttc.ca Katterinne.Fleming@USA.theIAM.org
USA Members Representative to IAM Council	Mark De Clerq, AMP	Mark.declercq@USA.theIAM.org

Social Media – Follow IAM USA on Linked In:

Our Linked In groups periodically share articles of interest beyond the IAM news. If you come across something that you feel is worth sharing, please consider sharing it via one of our LinkedIn Groups.

- IAM USA: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8259429>
- The IAM Discussion Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/965657/>
- IAM USA NxtGen Discussion Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8792401/>