

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.

This Newsletter includes information on:

- IAM North American Conference & IAM-USA AGM
- Volunteering
- Elections for IAM-USA Executive Committee
- Other great information

IAM North American Conference & IAM-USA AGM

The IAM North American Conference 2025 took place in Montreal, Canada in September 2025, bringing together professionals from across industries and sectors to explore the evolving landscape of asset management. The conference had three great tracks and offered many opportunities for networking and meeting others working in the profession.



At the beginning of the conference the IAM-USA Chapter hosted a meet and greet. We heard from participants about all the great topics they look forward to learning about during the next year at Branch meetings that is summarized in the word art graphic above.

To kick off 2026 we will be hosting the IAM-USA AGM and National Branch meeting to include a presentation on: Change Management's Evolving Role in the New York Power Authority AMS Maturity Journey

Please join us on Wednesday January 14, 2026, for the IAM-USA AGM and 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 the IAM-USA Annual General meeting including information on the chapter and branches. Followed by a presentation titled: Change Management's Evolving Role in NYPA's AMS Maturity Journey

Learn about the role of the New York Power Authority's (NYPA's) Enterprise Change Management team in advancing the maturity of their Asset Management system over the years. This session will take you through NYPA's journey, from the initial phases of system socialization and the development of site/central engagement processes to their latest efforts in implementing a data-driven approach for proactively fostering a culture of Asset Management excellence. Join us to learn about the collaborative evolution that has driven NYPA's success.

NYPA's presentation will be followed by a group discussion/Q&A and conclude to local branch networking (as applicable).

We hope to see you there.

Volunteering

If you are interested in sharing your organizations Asset Management Journey via a case study and webinar, please reach out to Mark Knight (Mark.Knight@usa.theiam.org) Joe Mooney (Joe.Mooney@USA.TheIAM.org), or myself Tammy Whipple (Tammy.Whipple@USA.TheIAM.org).

You can find additional volunteer opportunities at: <https://theiam.org/membership/volunteer-now/>

Elections for IAM-USA Executive Committee

We are looking for nominations for the IAM-USA Executive Committee.

- Are you interested in shaping the future of IAM USA?
- Have you been a member of the IAM and actively involved (e.g., Branch Leader, Technical Committee Member) in USA Chapter initiatives for at least a year?
- Do you have the designation MIAM or FIAM?

If you answered yes to these questions, then you should consider nominating yourself to be on the IAM USA Chapter Committee.

The USA Chapter Committee has overall responsibility for financial management, strategic direction and working with IAM Centre and other activities of the Chapter and its Branches.

The USA Chapter Committee is comprised of eight members who each serve a two-year volunteer term. At the end of the two-year term, Committee members can choose to self-nominate for reelection or not. To maintain continuity, only half (four) of the committee members end their terms each year (meaning half of the committee positions are open in any given year).

If you are interested in self-nominating for one of the positions serving the 2026-2028 USA Chapter Committee term, please provide the following information to Tammy Whipple (Tammy.Whipple@USA.TheIAM.org) by 9pm PT December 5, 2025. (Nominations received after 9pm PT on Friday December 5 will not be considered.)

- Name
- Number of years you have been an IAM member (provide member number, if possible)
- Indicate if you are MIAM or FIAM
- Brief description of your recent involvement in IAM USA
- Brief nomination statement, describing why you want to be on the USA Chapter Committee

Nomination information will be reviewed by the Nominations Committee, which is comprised of the Chapter Committee members who will serve another year. If the number of qualified candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, the Chapter will hold an election. Per IAM bylaws, only Members (MIAM) and Fellows (FIAM) have voting rights.

Please review the full newsletter for other great information

I hope everyone has been having a good summer and look forward to seeing you at the AGM and National Branch meeting January 14 2026.

Tammy

Tammy Whipple, AMP
IAM USA Chapter Chair

WiAM Mentoring Program Update

After six months of collaboration, growth, and shared learning, our Mentorship Program – offered through the North America Women in Asset Management – has officially come to a close! This year's program brought together 11 experienced mentors and 17 ambitious mentees representing a wide range of business sectors across North America. Throughout the program, mentors and mentees met regularly to exchange insights, tackle real-world business challenges, and develop professional skills tailored to their individual goals.

The experience culminated in a final presentation session, where mentees showcased the key lessons they gained and the business issues they worked through with their mentors' guidance. The presentations highlighted not only the progress of each mentee but also the value of cross-industry perspectives and the power of connection. Many participants emphasized how the mentorship relationships expanded their strategic thinking, leadership confidence, and professional networks.

We extend our thanks to all mentors for their time, expertise, and commitment, and to our mentees for their enthusiasm and hard work. This program continues to demonstrate that when professionals come together to share knowledge, everyone grows stronger.

Here's to another successful mentorship cycle – and to the lasting relationships and insights it has inspired!

Amy Lindblom, AMP

RISK

A recent Bloomberg News editorial received a lot of attention for its headline claim that 36% of the growth in the US GDP over the last 25 years was due to money spent on disaster recovery and preparedness. This editorial is only available to Bloomberg subscribers, but you can find it covered in many places along with discussion of its conclusions. Just ask your favorite chatbot for a critique of the Bloomberg editorial mentioned above and then for a description of the “Disaster Industrial Complex. You will likely find the discussion interesting.

The point of this column, however, is not to discuss disaster economics, but to use it as a starting point for a discussion of how you approach risk in your organization. There is ample data to show that risks to assets are increasing, and you can see this in current assessments from any of the big accounting firms, or reinsurers such as AON, Swiss or Allianz. The World Economic Forum (Sponsors of Davos) has a broader view. Here’s a summary from ChatGPT

U.S. infrastructure and industrial assets are facing a structural increase in risk. This isn't a cyclical uptick. It's a shift in baseline conditions driven by four converging forces: aging assets, climate-driven hazards, interdependency, and rising financial exposure. The result is a risk landscape that asset managers, insurers, and executives increasingly see as non-stationary — meaning the past is no longer a reliable predictor of the future.

If you want to investigate this in more detail, the chatbot will provide a list and description of types of risk: fire, flood, wind and heat as well as their interaction with aging assets.

You may work for an organization that has a formal risk register. Is this enough? North Carolina State University hosts a well-known Enterprise Risk Management information center within its school of management. Their 2025 study of more than 1,200 executives showed that only 30% of them felt that their organization had a good handle on risk and the variation was high. Many federal, state and local government agencies maintain internal risk registers, particularly around infrastructure, but they are normally not published and studies of their use and validity produce similar results to the ERM study discussed above. In both cases, the criticism of risk registers is that they are often summarized in subjective “heat maps” without quantitative predication of loss. To many they look like “box ticking” exercises. Bottom line, they are not easily tied to strategy.

So, the question is, given this view of increasing risk and uneven preparedness, what do you do? You know better than to rush into a meeting saying, “the sky is falling,” but action is needed and this begins with information and discussion. We need to be able to talk about increasing risk at all levels from the lunchroom and loading dock to managers’ meetings, the executive suite and board room. And we need to develop these conversations deliberately and in a matter-of-fact manner. Risk is part of business – any business – public or private and discussion of risk should not be isolated to a special committee or a special meeting. It’s always on the table and the sooner we get comfortable with this and treat it as a fact of life and not an exception, the more likely we are to manage it and craft solutions.

Tom Smith, FIAM

USA Chapter Vice President

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Take Care of Your Assets, and They'll Take Care of You

I'm often asked, "What do you think about on those long hikes?"

For those who know me, 2018 was a defining year — the year I left public service and spent six and a half months hiking the entire Appalachian Trail. The trail humbles every hiker who attempts it: more than 2,200 miles of rugged terrain, 500,000 feet of elevation gain, and 13 states' worth of challenge and reflection.



Just before I began my journey, my dad was in the final stages of heart disease. I spent my last week before the hike by his side in the hospital. On June 1, 2018, I started from Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, taking a "flip-flop" route — hiking north to Katahdin, Maine first, then returning to finish the southern half to Springer Mountain, Georgia. I earned a trail name of 'Slip-n-Slide' for slipping at a waterfall trying to filter water and sliding down about 20 feet! Yikes! Eight days in, while resting my legs at a hostel in Pennsylvania, I received word that my dad had passed away. I left "Rocksylvania," as hikers often call that brutal stretch, to attend his memorial three weeks later before rejoining the trail.

There were long, quiet days on the trail when I wouldn't see another person until nightfall at a shelter. My relationship with my dad had never been especially close, but he always led by example. So, as the miles rolled beneath my boots, I found myself asking: What did he teach me?

Growing up in Detroit—the Motor City—it was impossible to escape the car culture that defined my dad's generation: V-8 Hemis, Corvettes, GTOs, and the ritual of oil changes, spark plug swaps, and weekend car washes and waxing until our knuckles ached. He had a saying that stuck with me:

"Take care of your car, and your car will take care of you."

He lived by it. His cars ran flawlessly and looked immaculate. People trusted buying them because they knew how well he maintained them.



After finishing the Appalachian Trail, that same philosophy shaped my professional focus: helping municipalities embrace an asset management mindset. I saw that maintenance often took a backseat — constrained by underfunding and understaffing — even though proactive care could prevent many failures and service disruptions. Operations and maintenance (O&M) teams are frequently left without clear guidance after construction, forced to "punt" their way through preventive maintenance until an asset reaches the end of its life.

One of the best examples of asset stewardship I've seen comes from firefighters. They might succeed in securing funding for a new fire truck, yet their stations receive little funding and often operate on a run-to-failure model. Despite that, firefighters take pride in their facilities, maintaining them far beyond their intended service lives — doing more with less, every single day.

Across the asset management landscape, **Lifecycle Delivery** remains undervalued and underfunded. But this is where the tide can turn. As systems age and strain beyond capacity, the importance of consistent maintenance becomes impossible to ignore. Sustaining asset condition, reliability, and performance isn't just good practice — it's risk management and value optimization for the customers we serve.

If hiking taught me anything, it's this:

Take care of your assets, and your assets will take care of you — and everyone who relies on them.

Mark DeClercq, AMP

AKA 'Slip-n-Slide', PE, MIAM, AMP

Words from the Knowledge Center

The Knowledge Management group is continuing its work on building a library of case studies on asset management. If you or someone you know has a good example of asset management planning, implementation, or anything else that could be a benefit to others and also shine a light on your organization please contact me at mark.knight@usa.theiam.org or tom.myers@usa.theiam.org or ahmet.ozman@usa.theiam.org . If you don't have a case study but have an interesting viewpoint or something you would like to write about please also reach out to me or just go to the IAM Forum (the link is at the top of the page when you log into your IAM account) and join (or start) a discussion there. We all learn from each other.

Mark Knight, AMP, FIAM

IAM USA Executive Committee
Co-Chair, Knowledge Development

Mark.Knight@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, MIAM

Joe.Mooney@USA.TheIAM.org

Upcoming IAM USA Chapter Events

South Florida Branch RCM Workshop

Topic: Foundation Concepts on Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM)

Date: Dec 02

Time: 0830 – 1530 EST

Location: Dr. Andrea Fladell Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach, FL 33446

Topic/Presentations: Foundation concepts on Reliability-Centered Maintenance (RCM) and why this is a key component in Asset Management.

Speakers include:

Chris Wenz, Vice President – Asset Management, WSP USA

Laith Alraqi, Principal – North America Asset Management Lead, Stantec

To register for this event, please contact Melody Q. Laven (mqlaven@pbcwater.com) or Pollop Phonpornwithoon (pphonpornwithoon@pbcwater.com)

Minnesota Branch – Hybrid Meeting

Topic: Integrating 3D Design, Construction, and AM to Improve Engineering Projects

Statewide AM Workshops

Date: December 3

Time: 1400 – 1530 EST

Location: Hybrid: WSB Suite 200, 701 Xenia Ave, Golden Valley

Virtual: Meeting URL:

<https://wsbeng.zoom.us/j/97137950296?pwd=JE93nnGAMkosFL03eiabRnhNMpsyn6.1&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 971 3795 0296

Passcode: 590096

Speakers include: Jay Haskamp, Frontier Precision and Al Setrum MNDOT District 8

Russ Matthys, Chair MN APWA AM Committee

In-Person Social Meetup: 1530 to 1700 WSB Golden Valley Office

Great Lakes Branch

Topic: GIS Based Property Assessments

Date: December 17

Time: 1300 – 1430 EST

Location: Virtual - Microsoft Teams Meeting

Speakers include: Jon Schwichtenberg, Laith Alfaqih, Margaret Gadzic

For more information: <https://theiam.org/events/great-lakes-branch-dec-2025-virtual-meeting/>

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.

Congratulations to Waleed Aleadelat of San Francisco's Metropolitan Transportation Commission, who was awarded his AMP designation in October.

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

Name	State	Nearest Branch
Waleed Aleadelat	California	Bay Area
Laith Alfaqih	Ohio	Great Lakes
Len Caputo	New York	NYC
Lou Cripps	Colorado	Colorado
John Daly III	Michigan	Great Lakes
Fabiola De Carvalho	Texas	Austin
Mark De Clercq	Arizona	Southern California
George Galambos	UAE	UAE
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

Name	State	Nearest Branch
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Tammy Whipple	Washington	Pac NW
Matthew Wood	Texas	Austin

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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/>