

## Automation Technology Trends in the Wastewater Sector

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This presentation examines how such factors as diverse and seemingly unrelated as global economics, climate, legislated regulations, shrinking budgets, workforce demographics, and aging infrastructure are actually combining to impact the way automation is conceived, deployed, and used in the wastewater sector. More and more, automation is providing increasing abilities for wastewater personnel to make better decisions, increase efficiency, improve internal/external customer service, collaborate, and lower costs. Today, “automation” is present at some level in every aspect of the wastewater business, but what does the future hold for its use? From expanding a utility’s capabilities, to enabling an integrated wireless workforce, facilitating real-time capital management, enhancing security, managing knowledge, and so much more, automation is going to play an increasingly important role in the sustainability of the business itself. This talk highlights the trends we should all be aware of, so that we can be positioned to take advantage of them, as informed players in the ever changing wastewater technology business.

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER:



**Tom DeLaura, PE** is an active member of AWWA and WEF at the national and local levels, currently serving as Chair of the WEF Automation & Information Technology Committee.

He has extensive experience with water utilities, and has worked in all facets of automation associated with water/wastewater systems, from pipe and plant to the boardroom. He has written and presented on numerous topics of interest to the water and wastewater industry, been involved in industry research projects, and has received awards from the industry for his dedication and service.

Starting with a decade as an end user and manager of information and process control computer systems with a major water/wastewater utility, Tom’s 38 years of experience with automation have been focused on how business and technical issues must combine for success. This background includes roles in management, engineering, construction, operation, and maintenance of utility businesses as integrated enterprises.