

2010 Pumper & Cleaner Environmental Expo sees growth in attendance along with an abundance of new tools and technologies for municipal managers

By Ted J. Rulseh

he 30th Annual Pumper & Cleaner Environmental Expo International struck an optimistic note for the environmental service industry. Attendance reached 8,784 persons representing 3,921 companies and organizations, up 3.7 percent over 2009. The 493 exhibitors almost universally reported interested buyers and strong sales.

A cruise around the exhibit floor also showed continuing innovation in products and technologies that help municipal departments save labor, serve customers better, and stretch budgets. Here is a look at some of the innovations on display.



Cleaning with air and water

The BL Swiper nozzle from NozzTeq cleans sewers and stormwater pipes cost-effectively by using both water from a high-pressure jetting unit and jet streams of air. The nozzle is constructed of steel channels surrounded by a tough polyethylene housing. The water flow, through the pressure in the jets, creates jet streams of air that generate thrust through a number of channels. The number of air channels is equal to the number of jets. The channels are placed in the center of the nozzle so that both air and water streams clean the pipe. Tests performed with the nozzle show that the flow rate can be reduced by half versus cleaning with conventional nozzles. Call 866/620-5915 or visit www.nozzteq.com.



All-in-one unit

The Mr. Manhole engineered manhole chimney replacement system now comes with attachments that enable a single unit to replace standard manholes, larger-diameter manholes, and small water valve boxes. The system enables repairs to a manhole or valve box to be completed in one hour or less, leaving a permanent structure that is leak-free, vacuum testable, and level with the road. The cutter extractor tool runs on a standard skid-steer or track loader and removes the road surface surrounding the manhole or valve box frame. A ringsaw is used to cut a form to exact road level height. The frame is placed on the form and a cast-in-place, epoxy-coated, rebar-reinforced concrete adjusting ring and collar is poured. Call 419/692-1600 or visit www.mrmanhole.com.