

Executive Summary of the WPI Training Certification Program

This whitepaper outlines a collaborative initiative by Water Professionals International (WPI) and key stakeholders to address the significant variations in training quality for water and wastewater operators. The proposed WPI Training Certification Program aims to establish standards for trainer certification, course design and delivery, and content development. This initiative seeks to enhance training quality, streamline continuing education approvals, and benefit water and wastewater operators across jurisdictions.

Challenges:

The current lack of universally accepted criteria for qualified trainers, standardized design and delivery, and approved content hampers the quality and consistency of water industry training. Existing region-specific approval processes for continuing education courses create inefficiencies, hindering innovation and burdening operators, trainers, and certification organizations.

WPI Goals:

WPI aims to lead a collaborative effort to:

Establish trainer certification standards.

Define standards for course design and delivery across various formats.

Formulate standards for training organizations to expedite course approval processes.

This approach seeks to ensure a consistent level of training quality, with certified trainers possessing both subject matter expertise and training delivery skills. WPI acknowledges the need for alignment with existing statutory requirements and offers flexibility for unique cases.

Why WPI?

WPI's unparalleled recognition in certification, expertise in exam development, validation through job analyses, leadership in defining industry norms, capacity for innovation, and global standardization through the Professional Operator (PO) program uniquely position them to spearhead this initiative. WPI's commitment to excellence and global industry benchmarks ensures the program's success in elevating training quality, streamlining approvals, and benefiting water and wastewater operators worldwide.

WPI Training Certification Program is poised to address critical challenges in water industry training, offering a comprehensive and standardized approach that reflects WPI's commitment to excellence, safety, and global industry leadership.

Call to Action:

WPI invites you, our respected stakeholders and industry experts, to review the contents of our whitepaper and provide feedback. Your insights are crucial to refining and enhancing the proposed initiative. We encourage you to share your thoughts, suggestions, and any additional considerations by December 7th, 2023.

Your participation is instrumental in shaping a program that will elevate the quality of water industry training, streamline approvals, and ultimately benefit operators and organizations globally. Please submit your feedback to Kelly McCord at kmccord@gowpi.org by December 7th. Together, let's build a foundation for standardized, high-quality training that aligns with industry needs and sets new benchmarks for excellence.

Please make every attempt to join us for the Trainers Workshop at [WPI's annual Innovation in Certification conference](#) in Newport Beach, CA on January 9th, 2024. This interactive session will be used to launch this collaborative initiative to develop a Training Certification Program to enhance the caliber of training within the water industry. This collective effort is geared toward elevating the overall training quality, streamlining of approvals for continuing education courses, and ultimately benefiting water and wastewater operators. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to review the most current draft of this proposed initiative and provide input to help shape the program design.

Thank you for your collaboration and commitment to advancing the water industry!