



YOUR WATER.



YOUR HEALTH.



OUR PRIORITY.<sup>SM</sup>

# People BEHIND THE WATER

## **Bryan Troupe, Operations and Maintenance Manager, San Diego, California**

Bryan Troupe has been a water industry professional for more than 30 years, but in summarizing what he does, he simply says: “I run the big pipes.”

As an Operations and Maintenance Manager, his day begins at 5 a.m. and never seems to slow down. “A big part of this job is anticipating what needs to happen next, whether it’s a distribution facility or a new treatment plant, and working to meet the water system’s needs before they become a problem,” he says.

Troupe plays an important role in identifying which facilities are experiencing water shortages and which regions can afford to share their water supplies. That’s a critical function in a state where water supply is an ongoing challenge.

However, Troupe takes the most pride in assisting younger workers grow in their knowledge of operations and maintenance. “The public expects these facilities to last a long time,” Troupe explains. “They pay a lot of money for them and it is therefore crucial that we have skilled people running them. That takes training.”

These aren’t just words to Troupe. He volunteers his free time at the local community college as an instructor to further educate the next generation of water professionals.

“We need people that can manage a lot of tasks at once and who are able to stay focused and calm if something does go wrong. I can impart my experience to them because I have seen a lot,” he says.



**American Water Works  
Association**

6666 West Quincy Avenue  
Denver, CO 80235-3098  
T 800.926.7337  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)