

# The CEO's Message

From The Desk of Larry Roman

## AN ALL-STAR TEAM

Each year baseball, basketball, football, and other sports assemble the best players from dozens of teams to play in an "All-Star Game". We all watch these games in amazement as these incredible athletes display their talents individually and collectively. I keep checking my TV Guide for the "Construction All-Star Game", but have yet to find it scheduled. If there ever were such an event, the sponsor would only need to contact WDF Inc. to find all of the All-Stars in one place.

The employees that work for our company, whether it is plumbing, heating, sheet metal, or specialty construction related are the best talent our industry has to offer. Great individuals attract other great individuals as successful people want to be on a winning team. This Newsletter, describing the incredible response by the WDF Inc. team to the Hurricane Sandy disaster, only adds to the legacy of the accomplishments of all of you.



A GREENSTAR COMPANY



## WDF's Participation in Rapid Repair Program Bolsters Community Revival

The unremitting efforts of WDF's workforce have been crucial in aiding millions of people affected by the havoc wreaked by Hurricane Sandy. Dubbed a record breaking super storm, Sandy pillaged through residential dwellings, and commercial spheres alike. New York City's Department of Environmen-

ter restored to hundreds of homes per day. Given a runway in Floyd Bennett Field to mobilize, without any sewage systems or electricity, work was expected to begin immediately. Mike Tuminello, the Senior Project Manager on the job explained the hurdles they were required to transcend, "The first step

### Emergency Work Sites

- Coney Island
- Redhook
- Rockaways
- 26th Ward WWTP
- Bayswater Pumping Station
- North River WWTP
- Oakwood Beach WWTP
- Rockaways WWTP
- Coney Island WWTP
- Howard Beach
- Rapid Repair



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at its peak, consisted of an equal distribution of plumbers and steamfitters working together on the block program, priority projects (for those residence requiring extra attention), and fall back jobs (work that is being returned to). The exertions of this labor force, which were run by Roger Wilson and supported by Glen Moody, Glen Moody II, Pat Chapman, Mike Ruffano, and Dave Kiley have been so successful that by February 3rd, when they are expected to receive their last work order, are hoping to

have completed 2,000 homes. The assistance of Eric Ackerman, Karen Carbonell, and Sonia Amelco in purchasing and billing has also been a key factor throughout the course of the Rapid Repair program.

Tuminello expressed his appreciation for his team, noting they have received an "unheard of" excellent review from the city. These

homes are being restored, and protected from further damage because of the dedication exhibited by WDF's workers and their resilient response efforts to the storm's scourge.



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# WDF Exceeds Expectations of New York City's Housing Authority and Department of Environmental Protection

## WDF's HVAC and Plumbing Divisions Keep NYC Residents Warm

Hurricane Sandy's astounding devastation left few areas of New York City unharmed. Of the affected regions, Brooklyn's Redhook and Coney Island, and Queens' Rockaways were subject to some of the harshest destruction to its infrastructure. New York City's Housing Authority (NYCHA) was faced with the arduous task of undoing this destruction, and returning essentials such as heat and hot water to its residents. NYCHA called upon WDF's Plumbing and HVAC departments to aid them in their efforts to maintain their commitment of providing safe and secure living environment throughout the boroughs. Assigned to facilitate the restoration of these elements to these residences were Denis Limanov, Liam McLaughlin, Mike Saratovsky, and Paul Gemola. Shortly after the storm hit, they started by surveying "a ton of buildings" in order to work in accordance with FEMA. Once this was completed, beginning November 6th, workers were sent in to begin boiler replacement. As these buildings were flooded with upwards of 6ft of water, the boilers were completely submerged. Desolated beyond repair, the flooded boilers were switched out for new ones; while some buildings are running on temporary systems, others are running on more permanent systems. Liam explained, "Plumbers tapped into the heating systems and ran gas lines to get everything going." This was not simple work, as Denis described, "The whole thing is a blur. It's like we have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Not too much sleeping happened during this time, the workers had 20 hour days and did not always have time to make it home. They were sleeping in their cars, if they tried to make it home they would fall asleep at the wheel." This fast track project is still in progress and running smoothly. The work done by this superlative group has granted

these residence heat and hot water for the duration of the winter. A great deal of praise and recognition is due to the diligence and efficiency they have displayed.



2 Safety, Quality



## JOC Work Makes the Grade

The GC and plumbing divisions have been hard at work mending what Sandy's storm surge dismantled. The storm was responsible for weakening the mechanical, structural, and electrical composition of a multitude of the city's most vital treatment plants and pumping stations. Under WDF's Job Order Contract (JOC) project through New York City's DEP there has been a substantial amount of work done to restore various damage at these plants throughout the city. Having anticipated potential storm damage prior to Sandy's arrival, Yuriy Agranov, Jason Celentani, Anthony Harris, and Joe Zerilli were a part of the plan to procure and disburse 10,000 sandbags to city wide DEP facilities. But because Sandy's fortitude was so great, WDF's emergency crew was left with much more to do. The 26th Ward Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) had its operations jeopardized with the integrity of its sludge transfer pipeline damaged and its railing system and fencing dismantled in the wreckage. Coney Island's WWTP plant operations were threatened by the formulation of a sinkhole at the location, and having a bar screen come off of its supports and sink to the bottom of the channel. Oakwood Beach's WWTP experienced electrical damage at the Microstrainer building, and had its guard booth destroyed. Not to be excluded from Sandy's wrath were the North River WWTP, the Rockaways WWTP, and Bayswater Pumping Station which experienced structural damage as well. The majority of the work at these locations is still in the process of being completed. Amidst the project's progress, the ongoing efforts made by Joe Krajczewski, Yuriy Agranov, Larry Oglesby, Jason Celentani, Anthony Harris,

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## The Rockaway's Water Waste Treatment Plant

Known for its remarkable ability to bounce back from adversity, New York City was left with an exceedingly laborious task of cleaning up the mess Super Storm Sandy left behind. The Rockaways' were hit particularly hard by the storm, and have required continuous care to rebuild and rejuvenate within their vicinity. John Stacom has led a tenacious crew of workers and support staff in the revival of the Waste Water Treatment Plants that are so important to these efforts. The job required teams of foreman, millwrights, and plumbers to work tirelessly in order to get things up and running again. They were responsible for pumping out millions of gallons of sea water from the plants' wet and dry wells, galleries, and primary tanks. The damages incurred called for removal and replacement of pipe insulation, air compressor units, sump pumps, and air handling unit motors. Cleaning out drenches and floor drains, fixing leaks in water discharge pipes, and the install of replacement hot water



heaters also contributed to the revival of the plant's operations, but not does account for the entirety of the work that has been performed thus far. Stacom credits the project's noteworthy momentum to Larry Oglesby, the plumbing superintendent who headed the entire effort, and Alex Schlitten the general superintendent who was always there when laborers, carpenters, or operating engineers were needed. He also expressed his gratitude for Rico Penella who stayed many late nights to assure equipment was working correctly, and Doug Cote for enduring long hours and working into the weekend to keep track of material and equipment. They prevailed through the long hours and late nights to help the DEP serve more than 8 million New Yorkers.

### JOC...continued from page 2.

Jeremy Thompson, Jonathon Flanagan, Ted Keenan, and Ron Hansen have gained recognition by the DEP in their gratified address to the company. WDF personnel and the worker's matched unanimity to the project's successful completion, in junction with ambitions to revitalize the city and its residence, has bestowed upon the company much positive tribute and acclamation.



## Achievements Through Teamwork



The above photos were taken onsite at the Rapid Response project and Rockaway WWTP. Millions of New Yorkers were helped thanks to the cooperation and commitment from WDF's model team.

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