

## ENGINEER PROFILE

**Name:** Phyllip Nguyen

**Organization:** San Jose Water Company

**Engineering Discipline (Check one below):**

- Civil
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Environmental (including Process)
- Structural
- Information Technology
- SCADA
- Other



1. Please describe the work you do:

Support Operations, Engineering, Construction and Distribution system to ensure drinking water quality compliance and environmental compliance.

2. What combination of education, experience, and skill was required in order for you to obtain your job?

Civil engineering bachelor's and water quality/water treatment experiences.

3. What do you like best about your job?

What I like best about my job is that I am being challenged and that I am always learning something new. I also like the fact that I get to do some field work and that I am not always be in the office.

4. Please tell us about the water or wastewater engineering project you enjoyed working on the most, and what made it rewarding,

One project I enjoyed was during a major water main disinfection project. I carried the project from planning and design through project execution. There were two emergencies that came up during the disinfection activities and it turns out that I performed well under high stress and made the correct critical decisions. The best part was I got to know all the people in various departments and I had a greater appreciation for their work and contributions after the project.

5. What qualities and capabilities are needed in order for an engineer to be successful in the water/wastewater industry?

To be a good engineer, I think you need to understand the regulatory requirements and the field conditions and to be able to come up with creative solutions to meet all regulations and yet get the job done.

6. Do you have any advice for an individual who is considering pursuing a career as an engineer in the water/wastewater industry?

I recommend that they take water treatment and distribution system correspondence courses through Sacramento State University. The courses will give them practical knowledge that they can use every day.