

ENGINEER PROFILE

Name: Ravi M. Kachhapati

Organization: City of San Jose, Water Pollution Control Plant



Engineering Discipline (Check one below):

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

1. Please describe the work you do:

Design of Capital Improvement Program projects for the Water Pollution Control Plant. Management of engineering design and studies consultants.

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

Degree in Civil Engineering and Environmental Engineering with specific emphasis in water and wastewater treatment. Project management, construction management.

3. What do you like best about your job?

Studies, design and rehabilitation of water and wastewater facilities.

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

Recycled water under South Bay Water Recycling, which involved extension of recycled water lines, constriction of storage reservoirs, pumping stations, and retrofits of existing potable water irrigation system with recycled water.

Under wastewater, I enjoyed all works related to new construction or rehabilitation of the existing facilities related to Water Pollution Control Plant. Some of these were construction of diversion structures, redundant piping systems for raw sewage to the Plant, installing new flow meters, rehabilitation of clarifiers, providing cathodic protection system to the metallic pipes within the Plant, providing new fire line to the Plant.

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

Knowledge of water and wastewater treatment processes, equipment, civil and hydraulic engineering design background, and construction experience.

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

Get a degree in Civil Engineering with emphasis in water and wastewater processes and treatment, and gain design and construction experience working for an engineering firm or entity engaged in water/wastewater.

Finally, the desire and willingness to learn the subject.