

ENGINEER PROFILE

Name: Gary Ohea

Organization: Santa Clara Valley Water District

Engineering Discipline (Check one below):

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



1. Please describe the work you do:

Perform complex engineering work as a staff specialist in the construction services unit which includes administration of multi-million dollar construction contracts.

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

BS degree in Civil Engineering, Possession of registration as a Professional Civil Engineer and five years of professional engineering experience.

3. What do you like best about your job?

Construction provides immediate and tangible results.

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

My current project, the Silicon Valley Advanced water Purification Center, will apply proven technologies to expand the ways in which we can use recycled water.

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

A strong engineering background and good interpersonal and communication skills.

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

The future of our water supply is becoming increasingly more uncertain and new approaches must be found. As such, the water / wastewater industry will provide many opportunities for new engineers to prosper.