



MISSION-CRITICAL PROFILE

Name: Derek Taylor

Organization: San Jose Water Company

Job Category (Check one below):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Maintenance Technician/ Instrument Technician |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrician/Electrical Line Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Machinist/Mechanic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

1. Please describe the work you do:

I repair water mains, drive scope loaders, and dump trucks.

2. What combination of education, vocational training, apprenticeship, experience, and/or skill did you obtain in order to be qualified and selected for your job?

I obtained my Water Distribution certification.

3. What do you like best about your job?

The thing I love about my job is that every day I'm doing something different. I'm surrounded by a group of great individuals that have a great understanding about life, which makes my job one of the best to have.

4. Please tell us about the projects and activities you have enjoyed most in your work in the water industry, and what made them rewarding.

Projects I enjoy the most are going out in the field installing hydrants or water gate valves. What makes them rewarding is when the job is completed, my coworkers and I drive by a water hydrant or valve and say, "Hey, remember when we installed that valve, hydrant, or repair?" I have a sense of pride in that work.

5. What qualities and capabilities are needed in order for a person in your area of expertise to be successful in the water/wastewater industry?

For one, a person has to be tough and pretty fit for this kind of work. You also need to be willing to listen to the ones who paved the way for us because they know the job and have an extreme amount of years in this field. To me, that's all it really takes.

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

The best advice I could give someone would be to obtain your Department of Health water distribution and/or treatment certifications and upgrade your driver's license (to a commercial B or A) and continue to work hard.