

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FROM MCWANE DUCTILE

# IRON STRONG INSIGHTS™

WINTER 2022



**MCWANE  
DUCTILE**

BUILDING IRON STRONG UTILITIES FOR GENERATIONS

**The Iowa Treated Water Pipeline  
Project: Providing Growth with Safe,  
Clean Water** PG 4

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**McWANE  
DUCTILE**

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Mike Dodge, VP Sales & Marketing  
Stuart Liddell, Sales Operations Manager  
Andrea Kubik, Marketing Manager

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**IRON STRONG INSIGHTS™**

*McWane Ductile has been an industry leader in the manufacture of water distribution and infrastructure products since 1921. With three U.S. foundries, McWane Ductile offers superior service while supplying Ductile iron pipe across North America and beyond, all while maintaining an unwavering commitment to safety and quality. Through continued innovation, it is our goal to meet the customer needs and industry demands of the future in order to Build Iron Strong Utilities for Generations.*

**PG 4**

# The Iowa Treated Water Pipeline Project: Providing Growth With Safe, Clean Water

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# Welcome to Iron Strong Insights™

Dear Readers,

**Welcome to the winter edition of Iron Strong Insights. Football season is ending soon, but other sports, such as hockey and basketball, are nearing mid-season. Additionally, the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing will start soon. Having grown up and lived in the South, watching the worldwide competition of winter sports always fascinates me. My favorite sports are the sledding events. Those athletes are pretty darn fearless.**

Before we even blink, though, these Olympics will be over, and we will be pushing toward spring and "construction season." McWane Ductile is excited for the year ahead, although challenging. COVID is still an unwanted presence in our lives, but the path forward seems to be getting a bit easier ... time will tell. Lingering supply issues and rising costs are also a concern, and McWane Ductile is preparing as best we can to manage these while providing a high quality product vital to our nation's overall health and welfare.

We have several nice project profiles in this issue, including a feature on the Iowa Treated Water Pipeline Project – Segment 3 for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System. Our National Accounts Manager, Jeff Henderson, compiled this article and details some of the steps and main contributors that made this a very successful installation. We've also featured our ladies of manufacturing who are helping McWane Ductile achieve diversity in the challenging foundry environment.

Lastly, in this issue, I want to point out a special memorial article provided by our South Sales Team for Terry Lynch, former General Sales Manager for McWane Ductile. Terry spent 34 years with McWane. In that time, he made numerous friends among his co-workers and customers alike. He always treated people with respect, and even during his health battles, he always gave every bit of his effort to get the job done. Terry truly was the best of what it means to be Iron Strong.



**Stuart Liddell**  
Sales Operations Manager  
Sales Operations Department

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



McWane Ductile welcomes Jared Ellison as General Manager at McWane Ductile Utah. Jared's career spans more than 20 years, primarily working in the aluminum industry. He recently served as a General Manager for Texarkana Aluminum

and previously held positions with Alcoa, Pechiney, and Aleris International. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Brigham Young University. "Jared Ellison has a well-rounded portfolio, and his career path demonstrates continued progression with roles of increasing leadership throughout his time in manufacturing," said Jeff Otterstedt, Sr. Vice President, McWane Ductile.



McWane Ductile also welcomes Eric Wales. Eric has worked for Carpedia for 5+ years, focusing on process improvements and cost reduction strategies for clients in diverse industries, including energy management and metal casting with McWane

Ductile. "As AGM, Eric Wales will help increase our depth, allowing the company to better plan for growth and succession," said Otterstedt.



Congratulations to Sean Helton, recently named Assistant General Manager of McWane Ductile Ohio (MDO). Sean joined McWane Inc. in 2005 as a Production Engineer/Finishing Supervisor at the McWane Cast Iron Pipe Company in Birmingham, Alabama. Sean

gained experience over the next four years while increasing responsibilities to include Melting Supervisor and 20-foot Casting Superintendent. In 2010, Sean joined the MDO facility as Production Superintendent before being named Plant Manager, a role he has held since 2016. "Sean has proven himself a trusted leader who has earned the respect of our team across all levels of the operation," said Tom Crawford, VP/GM, McWane Ductile, Ohio.



# THE IOWA TREATED WATER PIPELINE PROJECT: PROVIDING WITH

by Jeff Henderson,  
National Account Manager, Assoc. DBIA

**Shallow aquifers are subject to contamination, compliance with federal drinking water standards, and insufficient resources to replace aging infrastructure. These are some of the water issues that launched the creation of the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System and the construction of the Iowa Treated Water Pipeline – Segment 3.**



## WHO IS LCRWS?

Lewis & Clark Regional Water System Inc. (LCRWS) is a wholesale water provider to 20 member cities and rural water systems in 5,000 square miles in southeast South Dakota, northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota. When LCRWS was incorporated on January 31, 1990, one of the first orders of business was selecting a lead engineering firm. In August of 1990, Banner Associates of Brookings, South Dakota was contracted, and they have been the lead engineering firm ever since. The original groundbreaking for the LCRWS pipeline project was held on August 21, 2003, and construction began in earnest in 2004. When completed, the LCRWS will provide a source of quality, reliable drinking water to over 300,000 people through 337 miles of pipeline.

to Sioux Center, Iowa. This section has some of the lowest elevations in the system (including the Big Sioux River crossing) and thus some of the highest pressures. Due to these higher pressures and extreme conditions, PVC pipe would not be used, and a stronger, more durable material was required.



## WHAT DOES THIS SEGMENT CONSIST OF?

The roughly 12.6 miles of Iowa Segment 3 runs outside Beresford, South Dakota,

## WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE PIPELINE BUILD?

In June 2019, before bidding on the project, a meeting was held with Banner Associates engineers Scott Vander Meulen and Dennis Odens and McWane Ductile Product Engineer Jerry "JR" Regula, Sales Representative Robin



# GROWTH SAFE, CLEAN WATER

Hazlett and National Account Manager Jeff Henderson. The team reviewed and updated the specs relative to Ductile iron pipe (DI pipe.)

In addition to the pressure requirements, the specifications were very demanding to account for the highly corrosive soils in the area. The DI pipe specs required a zinc-coating on the pipe and a V-Bio® Enhanced Polyethylene Encasement to be installed with an impressed current cathodic protection system.

Carstensen Contracting Inc. (CCI) of Dell Rapids, South Dakota, which had already installed six previous sections of the LCRWS, was awarded the \$19 million contract for Iowa Segment 3. With a substantial deadline of December 2021, Carstensen Contracting chose to work with McWane Ductile.



## WHAT WERE SOME OF THE STEPS INVOLVED?

As outlined in the specs, there was an option for the engineers/owners to visit the foundry to inspect the manufacturing process. As dates were finalized for the foundry visit, the COVID-19 pandemic struck. The pandemic severely hampered travel and eliminated foundry tours. To satisfy this condition, the production team at McWane Ductile provided photos of the pipeline production. Detailed

TR Flex® fittings and custom TR Flex lengths were fabricated and coated to complete the restraint requirements and connect the air valve and blow-off assemblies and the isolation valve vaults and flushing assemblies. This fabrication process was also documented where necessary. McWane Technical Services Specialist Cory Humphreys provided a detailed line drawing plan and profiles to ensure everything was installed as designed and to provide accurate as-builts upon completion.



**The Lewis & Clark Regional Water System greatly appreciates the partnership with McWane Ductile. Everyone has been great to work with and has shown the utmost professionalism.**

*Troy Larson, Lewis & Clark, Executive Director*

pictures were labeled and sent to Banner Associates for review and documentation. Key players at McWane Ductile and Carstensen Contracting held conference calls to coordinate the timing and scheduling of deliveries. Eventually, these calls included vital people from the trucking company as well.

Deliveries began in July of 2020. McWane Ductile was on-site for the first arrivals to inspect the pipe deliveries and fine-tune any dunnage changes to protect pipe during shipment. Amy Harris, CSR, provided weekly delivery updates and pipe certifications on daily shipments and coordinated the deliveries with the field people at CCI.



## KICK-OFF TRAINING, CONSTRUCTION, AND FINAL COMPLETION

Before the first stick of pipe was put in the ground, a section of the specifications required a “kick-off training” with every entity involved in the project. Key people from every company involved were all on hand for the day. Corrosion Consultant Bill Spickelmire of Rustnot Corrosion Control Services explained and reviewed the cathodic installation procedures. Jerry Regula with McWane Ductile provided instruction on handling and installing Ductile iron pipe and V-Bio. Pipe installation started immediately after the kick-off training.

The spec also required that McWane Ductile provide a factory-certified representative to be on-site for the first three days or installation of the first 2,000 feet of pipe, and then for three days per month for the duration of the installation. Jerry Regula made the trip to South Dakota every month during the pipeline build, observing and reporting to Banner Associates each time.

McWane Ductile provided all the required certifications and manufacturing records with each shipment. The project continued through the summer and fall of 2020 and resumed in the spring of 2021. Pipe, fittings, and custom fabricated pieces continued shipping as construction progressed. The material was always delivered well before it was installed to ensure the crews were never delayed.



On September 14, 2021, the last piece of pipe was installed. This final piece completed the connection between Iowa Segment 2, near Sioux City, Iowa, and South Dakota Segment 12, near Beresford, South Dakota. A ceremony was held with Lewis & Clark management and directors, Banner Associates, CCI personnel, McWane Ductile, and dignitaries from local cities that will benefit from this water source. Everyone present signed the last pipe before it was lowered into the ground and connected to the system.

## A FEW WORDS OF THANKS

This project was successful due to excellent coordination and communication between all the parties involved. Lewis & Clark Executive Director Troy Larson stated, “The Lewis & Clark Regional Water System greatly appreciates the partnership with McWane Ductile. Everyone has been great to work with and has shown the utmost professionalism. They have worked hard to deliver a top-quality product on time. We could not be more pleased with the results.”

Banner Associates was great to work with. Any issues that arose were handled quickly and fairly, so work progressed on or ahead of schedule. I look forward to the opportunity to work with Banner on more projects in the future. Engineers Scott Vander Meulen and Kevin Kuebler, the on-site inspector, are great examples of everyone working together to achieve a goal. Scott Vander Meulen said, “Thank you, McWane Ductile! McWane has provided a great product and exceptional service for the Lewis & Clark Iowa 3 project!”

Kevin Kuebler had this to say, “As the Resident Project Representative for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System



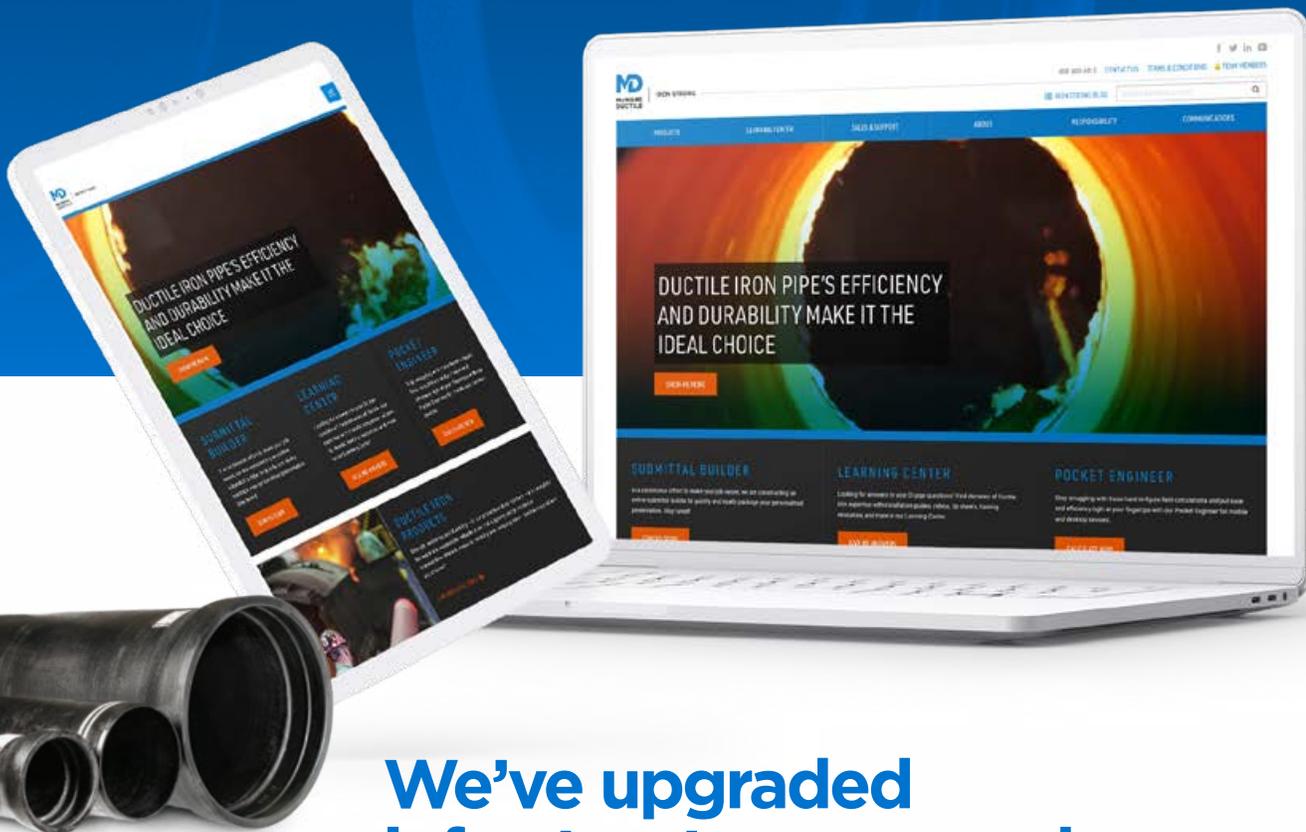
Iowa 3 project, my experience with the McWane Ductile Iron team was great. I appreciate the on-site visits from Jerry Regula and Jeff Henderson. Any technical and installation questions we had during construction were quickly answered. They provided a great product, and I particularly like the ease of the TR Flex® restrained joint piping and fittings. Thank you, McWane Ductile!”

As for Carstensen Contracting, I know I speak for everyone involved in this project at McWane, conveying tremendous gratitude to CCI and how they do business. Ricky Carstensen had this to say about working with McWane Ductile, “Jeff and the McWane team have been top-notch to work with. From the plant personnel to yourself, JR and get'er done Dodge. We will be doing more work together. Thanks for the great product and the friendship!”

Augie Luna, Construction Manager at CCI, had this to say, “CCI has worked with numerous reputable vendors that have a good sales pitch, but one thing that stood out for the McWane team is everything they said, they stood behind it and fulfilled.”

For me, I must give a huge thanks to everyone at McWane Ductile Ohio. Every team member involved worked hard to make this job a success. Everyone exceeded what was expected, and I am very pleased to be a part of this company and proud to be part of this team.

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# WHAT DOES DIVERSITY LOOK LIKE IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY?



**OVER THE YEARS, MANUFACTURING COMPANIES HAVE NOT MADE AS MUCH PROGRESS WITH DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION — SPECIFICALLY IN RECRUITING WOMEN — AS OTHER SECTORS, BUT BY WORKING TOGETHER AND SHARING BEST PRACTICES, WE CAN BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE IN THIS INITIATIVE.**

The preconceived notions and working environment in the foundry make achieving diversity challenging. Historically, underrepresented groups have not viewed manufacturing as a welcoming place to work, but that is changing.

In 2014, McWane Ductile in Coshocton, Ohio, noticed that more females were applying for jobs in the foundry. This

trend continued in 2018 when they started a second shift at the foundry. A number of female applicants had some level of prior experience in manufacturing while others had little or no experience in the field. Many applicants with prior work experience outside of manufacturing had skillsets — such as organizational agility, multitasking and problem solving — that would translate well into

production roles. The common thread among these applicants was their willingness to do whatever it took to get the job done.

McWane Ductile Ohio (MDO) currently leads McWane with the highest number of female team members, approximately 32 production and 38 salaried for a total of 70. The facility's Human Resources Manager, Jolinda





Kistler, heads up recruitment and knows firsthand what candidates will be facing working in the foundry. Prior to joining MDO, Jolinda worked in manufacturing, which gives her an advantage when trying to recruit diverse talent.

Additionally, MDO has partnered with local recruiting agencies, including Job and Family Services, the Coshocton County Chamber of Commerce, Business & Professional Women and Department of Veterans Affairs, to supplement its outreach.

"The McWane Way Teamwork compass point encourages and requires us to Help Each Other Be Great — regardless of our

race, gender or ethnicity, and these new team members are dependable hard workers with an innate attention to detail and who work well with the team," said Kistler.

"Team member referral has proven beneficial in recruiting diverse candidates. Our team members are happy with their wages and benefits and feel better prepared to support their families, and they share these sentiments with family and friends. Word of mouth is a powerful tool, and the word is spreading that MDO is a great place to work and one of the better paying employers in the Coshocton community."

Not only have female team members performed well in the foundry, but they are also moving up in the ranks. Two production workers have been promoted to the role of inspector, an external candidate was onboarded for an inspector role, and another team member was promoted to flange operations manager. A more diverse workforce can improve morale and employee engagement, which in turn increases productivity. We All Win Together when working as a team.



"I enjoy the manufacturing environment and like what I do each day. I can support my son with the good wages and benefits." — **Valerie Thornsley (Pipe Shop Clean Up)**

"I like the fact that my co-workers help each other out and watch each other's backs for safety." — **Jessica Durben (Finishing Labor Pool)**

"Co-workers are supportive in training for the jobs. As I proved I could do the work, I gained respect from my co-workers. I enjoy the work and am very proud to be a part of McWane." — **DeShawna Scarnecchia (Poles Utility)**

"I am proud to know that I play a part in making the Ductile iron pipe that provides water to people. I also appreciate the wages and the benefits so I can support my family."

— **Katilyn Dent (Utility Relief Melting)**

"I started out as a temporary and proved myself so I could transition to a full-time MDO team member. I love manual labor and am excited to work in manufacturing."

— **Destini Woods (Trough Person Pipe Shop)**



# West

PROJECT PROFILE

When the city of Spanish Fork, Utah, needed to get a few thousand feet of irrigation pipe underway in 2021, they opted for McWane Ductile due to initial cost, service life cost and availability.



Originally specified as (2) PVC lines, Ductile iron was chosen and approved for use by Spanish Fork City, Jones & Demille Engineering, and Noland & Son Construction with the accompaniment of cathodic protection and 8-mil polyethylene encasement. As for the preferred restraints, Sure Stop® Gaskets were selected over TR Flex® pipe for ease of installation.

The overall installation is also going well as the pipe has just 3 feet of cover. This project was slated to be completed over a few years. Still, a handful of home developers were able to get involved and help fund the project through a deal with the city, which allowed the entire project to be started and completed in a single construction cycle. Two of the main contributors in

this city-developer agreement were DR Horton and Fieldstone Homes, along with a few others. These new McWane Ductile irrigation lines will provide water to future home developments of over 500 homes to start and many more over years to come.

"This project is going very well. We have worked with Ductile iron pipe for decades," said Kayleb Noland, Project Manager/Estimator, Noland and Son Construction, during a recent lunch meeting to go over the shipping schedule and progress of the project with Derek Hill from Core & Main.



**Sales Region:** West  
**Sales Representative:** Chris Howe  
**Project Location:** Spanish Fork, UT  
**Project Owner/Utility:** Spanish Fork City, UT  
**Project Engineer:** Jones & DeMille Engineering  
**Project Contractor:** Noland & Son Construction Company  
**Project Distributor:** Core & Main - Provo, UT

**Types of Ductile iron pipe used on the project:**

DIAMETER	JOINT	CLASS	FOOTAGE
18"	Tyton®	250	3,300
24"	Tyton®	200	8,802

**Sales Region:** Midwest

**Sales Representative:** Kevin Christian

**Project Location:** Lake Odessa, MI

**Project Owner/Utility:** Lakewood Wastewater Authority

**Project Engineer:** Fishbeck

**Project Contractor:** Mackenzie Companies

**Project Distributor:** Ferguson, MI

**Types of Ductile iron pipe used on the project:**

DIAMETER	JOINT	CLASS	FOOTAGE
24"	Tyton®	53	1,600



This project started as 11,500 feet of 24-inch PVC DR 18 C900 forcemain. Only after the project was designed and bid was it determined that the two areas had soil conditions full of peat and marl. At that point, the engineer and contractor started working on an alternate material that could withstand the soil conditions and not float. It was determined Ductile iron was the best for the conditions. They would install 1,600 feet of 24-inch Tyton Joint® CL 53 with V-Bio® Enhanced Polyethylene Encasement and a custom-designed anchoring system for the pipe.

custom build saddle was installed on the piers, at grade and directly behind the bell. A steel wire was then used to hold the pipe into the saddle. The wire was installed with a piece of fabric between the V-Bio polywrap and the wire so no damage would come to the V-Bio.



The custom anchoring system, based on the idea of helical pier anchors, was designed by the engineer and Mackenzie Companies together. Three-inch and 4-inch diameter aluminum pipe was driven into the ground at various depths from 15 feet to 60 feet based on the "Kip" pressure reading system when they reached "good soil." Then a 24-inch

**Mackenzie Companies** has been a family-owned business since 1982. They operate in Michigan and Florida with approximately 300 employees covering a wide range of services, including site development, underground utility construction and rehabilitation, highway and road construction, bridge construction, environmental construction and remediation, demolition, and concrete construction.

PROJECT PROFILE  
**Midwest**





# Northeast

PROJECT PROFILE

Michael F. Ronca & Sons of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was awarded the Fiscal Year 2022 Water Main Replacement Project for \$1,962,000 for the Williamsport Municipal Water Authority. WMWA supplies water for the greater Williamsport Area, serving over 55,000 residents in the City of Williamsport, the Borough of Duboistown, Loyalsock Township, Old Lycoming Township, and Armstrong Township.

The project, Contract 2022-01: General Construction, includes the installation of 11,776 feet of 6-inch through 16-inch Ductile iron pipe water main. The project's main scope involves the replacement of existing cast iron and transit pipe with new Ductile iron pipe for the City of Williamsport and Loyalsock Township.

Michael F. Ronca & Sons is family-owned and has operated for three generations. Their roots date back to 1940, when Fred Ronca established

a residential and plumbing company. This multi-generational family-owned company provided much-needed services to a growing Lehigh Valley population through the years. In 1979, son Michael F. Ronca began an underground utilities construction firm. With his untimely passing in 1985, his five sons assumed leadership roles in the company to expand into the water and wastewater industry. Today they are one of the largest and most successful water, sewer and underground utility contracting firms in Central and Eastern Pennsylvania and recognized as an ENR Top 600 Specialty Contractor.

Brian Purcell, Project Superintendent for Michael F. Ronca, stated, "For nine years, I worked with Bob Hartzel and McWane Ductile. I can honestly say it has been a joy working with them over the years. The quality of the pipe has always been great. This year was challenging with product lead

times. But good communication with McWane Ductile kept us informed of the lead times and kept our project on schedule. I am looking forward to many more years working with the McWane Ductile team. Again, thank you for the excellent service."



**Sales Region:** Northeast  
**Sales Representative:** Bob Hartzel  
**Project Location:** Williamsport, PA  
**Project Owner/Utility:** Williamsport Municipal Water Authority  
**Project Engineer:** HRG Engineering Services (Herbert, Rowland & Grubic Inc.)  
**Project Contractor:** Michael F. Ronca & Sons Inc.

**Types of Ductile iron pipe used on the project:**

DIAMETER	JOINT	CLASS	FOOTAGE
6"	Tyton®	52	820
8"	Tyton®	52	7,520
12"	Tyton®	52	2,876
16"	Tyton®	52	560



# South

IN MEMORIAM



## IN MEMORY OF TERRY LYNCH — LEADER, COLLEAGUE, FRIEND

by **Dustin Henderson & Stuart Liddell**

This past year, the McWane family lost a dear friend and co-worker — Terry Lynch.

Terry spent more than 34 years with McWane, starting in the foundry at McWane Cast Iron Pipe Company in Birmingham, Alabama, before he moved into Sales. As Terry moved up in the company, he also moved around the



country spending time in Texas, Florida, back to Alabama, Tennessee and finally Kentucky as the General Sales Manager for the South Sales Team.

As anyone with that many years spent in a career with just one company, Terry witnessed a lot of changes throughout his time, but perhaps none more impactful than the rebranding in 2015 of the four major pipe facilities under the single name of McWane Ductile. Terry was extremely instrumental in making that transition seamless for his customers in the South.

Terry established many good friendships along the way to include his co-workers and customers. Terry treated all he met with respect, a genuine honesty and caring attitude that could not be faked. Few negative words were ever spoken about Terry. His demeanor and temperament were just too consistent and levelheaded to create any long-lasting conflicts.

“  
**Terry was a true mentor from educating product to handling oneself in public with a crowd. He always showed a kind and thoughtful approach to his customers and friends.**

*Bob Nelson, Regional Manager, ACT Pipe and Supply*

His passion for his job and McWane Ductile was evident ... he had once said about himself when explaining his commitment, that he “bled McWane blue.”

Outside of his work life, a few things that really mattered to Terry were his wife, Julie; their dog, Cookie; his family and friends; traveling; golf; and Alabama Football. It wasn't until he moved to Kentucky that his passion for gardening became evident and that was something he really enjoyed.

Although he left us sooner than any of us who knew him well would have liked, he left his mark in this life through his work, his commitment to family and his passion for life. To paraphrase a few words from the eulogy at Terry's memorial service, “Terry liked to enjoy life, and there ain't nothing wrong with that.”

**Terry was a great man. Professional, knowledgeable and always doing the right thing for the right reasons. Whether he was helping out a distributor, one of his sales managers in the field or WASDA, he was the first to volunteer his time and experience to give back to the industry he loved so much.**

*Kevin King, Waterworks Division Manager, Coburn Supply Company, WASDA President*





**DEAR DITCH DOCTOR,**

I currently have many concerns on my daily plate. Removing risk from my projects allows me more time and less stress to focus on more pressing duties. I have a project where I'm a little confused and I'm not finding any definite answers, so I thought maybe the Ditch Doctor may know! Can I install a TR Flex® plain-end in a Tyton Joint® bell?

Sincerely,  
Just Plain Confused in Peoria

**DEAR PLAIN CONFUSED,**

I understand where you're coming from. After spending many years installing pipe in a trench, there are some solutions you just can't find in product literature.

The short answer is yes, this is possible, **but we do not advise this.** Now we will go into a more detailed explanation as to why we do not recommend this installation technique.

**TR FLEX JOINT VERSUS TYTON JOINT**

The gasket socket is indeed the same in a TR Flex Joint as well as a Tyton Joint. The spigot's outside diameter (OD) dimensions are the same as well. So essentially, a TR Flex spigot will fit into a Tyton bell. The reason McWane Ductile does not recommend this installation is due to deflection.

**WHAT HAPPENS WITH DEFLECTION?**

A Tyton spigot should be fully homed prior to deflecting the joint. As the joint is deflected, the spigot stripes on the one side rotate away from the bell face. The spigot stripe in the location directly opposite rotates back inside the bell. The pivot point of the joint is at the gasket location.

If a TR Flex spigot is inserted into a Tyton bell and deflected in the same manner,

the weld-on ring will be against the Tyton bell face. This positioning will not allow the spigot to rotate inside the bell.



**WHY THEN IS THE DEGREE OF DEFLECTION THE SAME ON 12 INCHES AND DOWN AT 5 DEGREES?**

Slack in the restraint joint must be removed prior to deflection to provide adequate space for the joint to deflect. The restraint portion of the joint prevents the joint from over-deflecting. The Tyton joint is not restrained, so the joint with the weld ring tends to pull apart versus pivoting at the gasket.



**SO, CONFUSED IN PEORIA, THE BOTTOM LINE IS TO DO IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME.**

The best option to resolve this issue is to order a TR Flex plain-end (no weld bead) as a transition piece from the unrestrained to the restrained section of the project.

In the event there is no such piece available, you can go to a field option. Remove the TR Flex spigot by exercising standard field-cutting procedures and cutting the pipe behind the weld.

**REMEMBER A FEW STEPS FOR A GOOD CUT:**

- Measure twice / cut once.
- Make a good square cut.
- Bevel the pipe for a push-on joint.
- Ensure the pipe is straight when homed.
- Fully home the pipe.
- Deflect the joint after the joint has been properly and safely made.

For an instructional article with video, check out this Iron Strong Blog: <https://mcwaneductile.co/3zYNUHz>. It even comes with a handy downloadable tip sheet for you and your crews.

**BONUS INFO – TR FLEX IN A MECHANICAL JOINT:**

You may also ask the same question regarding installing a TR Flex spigot into an MJ (Mechanical Joint) bell. Can this work? The same bottom-line answer below will address that question as well.

**Remove the risk and sleep well!**

**YOU ASK, WE ANSWER!**

Thanks for reading this edition of the Ditch Doctor. To watch a video where this topic is explained in more detail, visit [McWaneDuctile.com/blog](http://McWaneDuctile.com/blog), keyword: plain. I hope you were able to pick up on some real-world knowledge and learned more about TR Flex and Tyton Joint pipe today.

We'd be glad to address your question in another issue of the Ditch Doctor. Drop us a line at [marketing@mcwaneductile.com](mailto:marketing@mcwaneductile.com). Until next time, that's all we have for now, where you ask, and we answer! And as always, your local McWane Ductile Representative is available to assist with your inquiries too.

Sincerely,  
The Ditch Doctor



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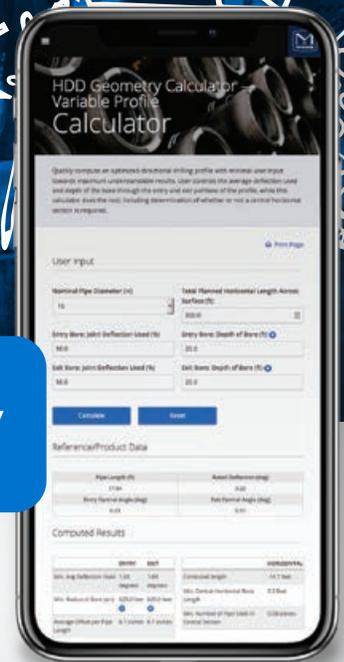
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