



Data is Key for Decision Making

DAN BOWER, PRESIDENT/CEO

Intuition says that the more information people have, the better prepared they are to make informed decisions.

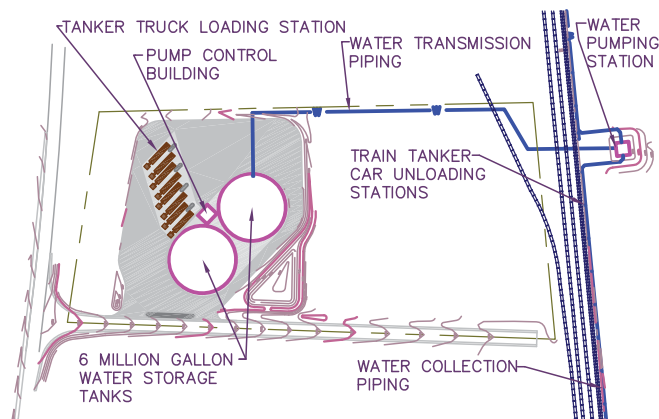
This holds true, but only if the data is reliable and organized in a balanced way. With municipalities and private enterprise now facing decisions about how to spend limited resources to accomplish multiple tasks, data-driven decision-making is more important than ever. Factor in the emotional effects of severely limited budgets and a series of devastating weather events like we had this past year, and it's a formula for stress.

If this sounds familiar, consider two things that HUNT offers to reduce the stress: analytical expertise and planning capabilities.

Our technical expertise is put to work defining the situation. We collect data, and then refine and interpret the data so that it is useful to your situation. Here is where bench strength comes into play, as we draw on our wide range of skills across many engineering and architectural disciplines. By the time we make a recommendation, a wide range of individuals will have weighed in.

Planning takes a longer view. When done well, planning simultaneously guides future resource allocation while indicating where systems should be in place to accommodate the unexpected. While no one can see the future, we know from decades of experience when an idea has merit, and when a plan will unfold in the best interest of our clients.

As consultants, we are often challenged with helping you build the knowledge platform from which you make large and small decisions. Rest assured, we are up to the task of meeting those challenges with you, head on, as we begin a new year.



Transloading Facilities for Rail Represent First of Their Kind

"The challenges of transferring water efficiently from municipal systems into tanker cars for transport on the railroads puts any engineer's skills to the test," said **Bob Drew, PE**, HUNT project manager.

Bob is referring to several related projects now under construction in the communities of Painted Post and Erwin in New York State, and one in Delmar, Pennsylvania.



Robert Drew, PE

HUNT was retained to design a first-of-its-kind system for pumping, transporting, and storing fluids at rates up to one million gallons per loading cycle. This fully automated transloading system will fill multiple railroad tanker cars simultaneously at rates set to match the water system's capacity. The offloading, storage, and distribution components of the system comprise two 3-million-gallon-capacity tanks. Fill rates are determined by the municipality's water system capacity, which can be set so as to maintain its ability to provide water to the community.

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Tanker trains, like this one in Painted Post, can be filled at unprecedented rates using the HUNT transloading system design.

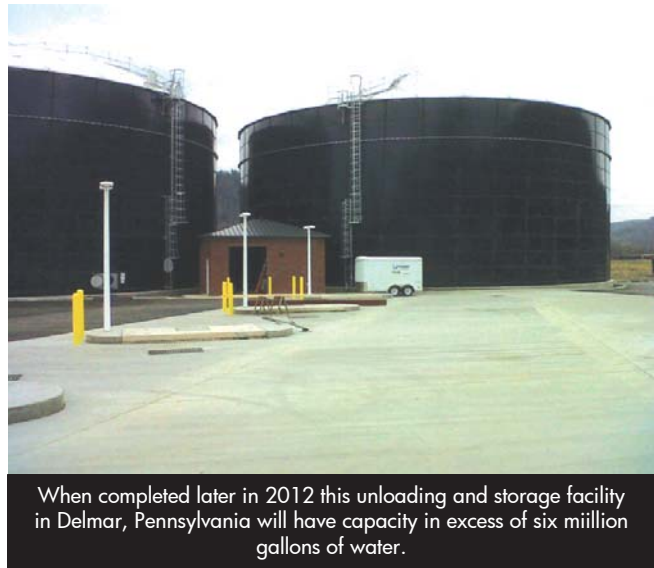
Transloading Facilities

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This fluid transfer system loads fresh, potable water from municipal systems to railroad tanker cars, and stores it in holding tanks. Unlike conventional loading systems, this pumps water at high volume into the lower valves in the railroad tanker cars. Matching the flow rates with the system's recharge capacity greatly reduces the time it takes to fill the tankers.

Transferring the fluids then directly to the 3-million gallon storage tanks, which include freeze-prevention agitators, means the fluids are constantly contained throughout the process.

The transfer and storage capacities greatly reduce the number of truck trips required. There is no evaporation, and the chances of any leakage are greatly reduced in this highly-contained system.



When completed later in 2012 this unloading and storage facility in Delmar, Pennsylvania will have capacity in excess of six million gallons of water.

HUNT leaps into the Cloud!

by Derek McManus

In the second quarter of 2011, HUNT made a strategic decision to move forward with a BIM (Building Information Modeling) software integration using REVIT. Whenever you move to a new software platform the computer requirements can change based on the demands of the application. We were faced with a potential cost to upgrade 25 to 30 computer workstations.

At that time, we decided to look at alternative network and hardware solutions. CITRIX and many other virtual server applications have been around for several years, but for HUNT's network size and demand at the time, that path was not cost effective. In addition, CITRIX and various Autodesk products did not "get along." In the past 18 months, there has been vast improvement in that relationship along with several advancements in desktop virtualization.

What does that mean? Imagine yourself 25 years ago in an office setting. You had a "dumb" termi-

nal and keyboard. All of the data that you entered and any task that you asked the terminal to do was actually processed by a big IBM, DEC, or other mini- or mainframe. The mainframe lived in a secure data center and it was the horsepower and brains for whatever you were telling your terminal to do. That is a good description for what desktop virtualization is. We have come full circle!

With the correct configuration and implementation plan, HUNT was able to purchase a CITRIX server farm configured to handle 25 to 30 concurrent REVIT sessions being processed by the server farm rather than at individual computer workstations. HUNT did not have to upgrade 25 to 30 computers. We compared CITRIX server costs with potential workstation costs. The CITRIX server farm was about 10% more expensive, but factoring in the labor to reconfigure 30 workstations, the increased manageability of the CITRIX session, and the long-term return on investment, the decision was clear.



Information Technology Director Derek McManus is leading the move to cloud computing.

HUNT worked very closely with Microsolutions from Corning and, thanks to their efforts and those of our in-house network administrator, **Dale Walmsley**, we had our CITRIX farm built and in production on time for the project we selected. To date, the cloud computing project has been a success, and we are heading into 2012 with the potential of adding more users and more applications to our virtualized desktop farm. This will change how we work, manipulate plans in the field, and increase our mobility. We are in the testing stages of editing drawings using our smart devices while remotely connected to our cloud. We are very excited about how this new technology will improve our deliverables and enhance our level of client service, which is our goal and mission.

HUNT

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HUNT Welcomes Several New Members to the Professional Staff

HUNT welcomes the following new people to our staff:

Clemente Toffolo is a graduate of the Syracuse University College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry where he earned his Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Degree and his Bachelor of Sciences Degree with a dual major in biology and chemistry. He remains enrolled at Syracuse University where he is working towards his master's degree. Clemente joins HUNT as a landscape designer, drawing on his skills in urban design, historic preservation, wetland design, and landscape restoration for the firm's educational and commercial projects. A resident of Cortland, NY, Clemente is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.



Luke Grasmeyer joins the HUNT team as a landscape designer. Luke is a recent graduate of the Syracuse University College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry where he earned his Bachelor of Sciences Degree in Landscape Architecture. He has already gained practical experience as an intern in landscape architecture, and has worked in various capacities on landscaping teams, including design and installation. Luke lives in Horseheads, NY, and his hobbies include competitive long-distance running.



Certified planner **Nicolette Barber, AICP**, recently joined HUNT to provide consulting

services to its clients, including schools, municipalities, and private-sector businesses. Barber is a Columbia University graduate with a Master's Degree in Urban Planning. She completed her undergraduate degree at Duke University, and worked for several years in the New York City area and north of the capital district. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and volunteers as a member of the City of Corning Planning Commission. She and her husband have two children and live in Corning, NY.



Nicolette Barber, AICP

Gary Henry, AIA, has joined the professional staff at the firm's Towanda, Pennsylvania, office. Gary is a Senior Project Architect with more than 20 years of experience in the architectural field. Gary has experience both as a project architect and project manager and has successfully completed many projects ranging from roof reconstruction to designing new facilities and major additions to existing facilities with a focus on space planning and program analyses to provide each client with a functional and economical project.



Gary Henry, AIA

Erik Latuik Earns EIT Certificate

Erik Latuik, who joined HUNT in 2008, has earned his Engineer in Training certificate. Erik is responsible for HVAC, mechanical, and plumbing design. A 2008 graduate of Syracuse University where he earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, Erik is a key member of many design teams for educational, industrial, and municipal clients.



Erik Latuik, EIT

HUNT Enhances Planning Services for Municipalities and Private Enterprise

Planning, also called urban planning or city and regional planning, works to improve communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient, and attractive places for present and future generations. Professional planners help create a broad vision for the community. They also research, design, and develop programs; lead public processes; effect social change; perform technical analyses; manage; and educate.

Certified planner **Nicolette Barber, AICP**, who recently joined HUNT (see article above) describes planning as a tool for decision making. "Planners provide the expertise needed to support

community problem solving and decision-making," explains Nicolette. "We work through a planning and public participation process to bring locally-devised initiatives to fruition. Our team of planners and engineers recognizes that planning requires a comprehensive approach addressing all dimensions of an issue—utilizing social, planning, quantitative, and design skills."

Barber points out that planning gives an up-front advantage to projects of varying sizes and types, "Whether the project is a stand-alone planning initiative or a larger design project that our planning services will enhance," she said, "HUNT stands ready to provide flexible and feasible recommendations that ensure a positive outcome."

Onoville Marina Project Draws on Knowledge of Permitting and Approvals

Twelve years ago this past summer, the maintenance garage at the Onoville Marina, a popular boating area and camp ground at the Allegheny Reservoir near Little Valley, NY, was destroyed in a fire caused by a fueling accident. Less than one year later, Cattaraugus County officials had a ribbon-cutting ceremony and held their Department of Public Works Legislative Committee meeting in the new facility.

"HUNT was especially well qualified to shepherd this project through the permitting and approval process," said HUNT Vice President **Chuck Franzese, PE.** "We were able to assist the County in walking the project through the permitting by the US Army Corps



The Onoville Marina and recreation area at the Allegheny Reservoir is a popular boating, camping, and hiking spot in western New York.

of Engineers and NYS Department of State."

The facility is used for maintenance and equipment storage while providing the Park Manager with computer-linked office space and break rooms for park staff members.

Building on this 12-year relationship, the latest project includes an overall site plan for an expansion of the recreational use area to include the parcel known as Sawmill Run, which

is, as its name indicates, the site of a former sawmill. HUNT Director of Landscape Architecture **Dean Hackett, RLA,** describes the wide variety of amenities being considered by the county.



"We worked closely with Cattaraugus County to come up with a comprehensive list of possible features for the expansion of this recreation area," Dean said. "Items included the existing access road as entry to the new development, a bike path, hiking trails, water and electric service, RV slips, camping cabins, 40 campsites, a future visitors center, restroom facilities, showers, open play areas, and developing the wetland area as an educational feature with interpretive trails. The proposed park entry is in a challenging location," Dean said. "Large RVs will use this facility, and adequate sight distances affect the safety of the users."

With the site plan complete, the county has the resource for discussion and planning for future development for enhanced public use of this area.

A Dramatic Transformation is Realized at Hornell Intermediate School

A highlight of the multi-year, district-wide renovation program at the Hornell City School District is the renovation of the intermediate school cafeteria, shown below at left in its previous condition. The photo on the right illustrates how new finishes and improved lighting have created an inviting, inspiring space for students and faculty.



Employee Spotlight

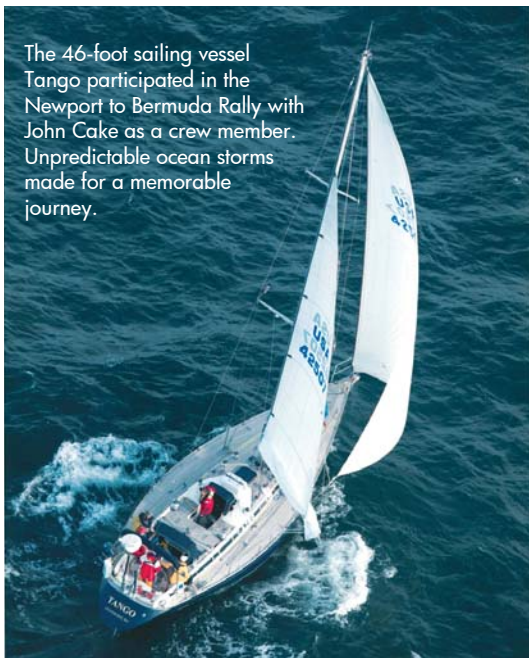
Harrowing Sailing Adventure Fulfills a Lifetime Goal for John Cake

Imagine an ocean wave the size of a house, and that you are on a sailboat with those waves churning all around you.

If you find that image a little unsettling, you're not alone. HUNT vice president **John Cake**, on the other hand, met exactly that challenge this past November as a crew member on the 46-foot sailboat "Tango," taking part in the North American Rally to the Caribbean traveling from Newport to Bermuda.

John is an avid sailor who spends many weekends participating in races and regattas on Lake Ontario. He describes his ancestry—his father and grandfather were sailors—as influential to his love of sailing.

"A voyage like this has been on my list of things I wanted to accomplish, and this opportunity proved irresistible," John said. The rally, which got underway on October 30, is open to veteran offshore sailors and professionally crewed boats.



The 46-foot sailing vessel Tango participated in the Newport to Bermuda Rally with John Cake as a crew member. Unpredictable ocean storms made for a memorable journey.

"There I was, in Newport with a 40-pound duffel bag," John said. "We waited for a storm to pass north of our route, and finally left the dock on November 1, one of 22 boats leaving Narragansett Bay together in lovely fall conditions. It was an exciting sight."

That night, however, the weather changed. "Once we were in the Atlantic the wind picked up along with choppy, confused seas," John said, "and I had my first watch from midnight to 6:00 a.m. I made a mistake at the helm and the boom swept across the deck and broke the running backstay blocks. Lesson number one learned."



John Cake stands watch at the helm of the Tango during the six-day voyage from the U.S. mainland to Bermuda.

Conditions continued to deteriorate and other boats did not fare as well. Several turned back to the east coast, one was towed into Bermuda, and another was abandoned, the crew being rescued by a freighter. Tragically, one boat lost a crew member at sea and was ultimately abandoned.

The crew of the Tango worked well together though, and eventually arrived safely in Bermuda on November 7.

"I focused on doing my part, and really enjoyed the intensity and physicality of the experience," John said. "This was the most rigorous thing I have ever done. The danger was real. We had gear breaking under the stress, and by the time we reached Bermuda had only one working sail. I stood numerous watches at the helm in 30 to 40 knot winds with swells over 20 feet and choppy waves slamming the boat from all directions. I learned things about myself – particularly during the night watches – and gained new perspectives about what is really important in life."



UNITED WAY COMMITTEE members celebrated a successful campaign for 2011, from left to right, Katie Conwell, Mike Saglibene, Cheryl Stabley, Ryan Garrison, Nate Binns, and Joe Magliocca. (Not shown, Mike Jones and Josh Bezio.)

Freeze Indicators Add Element of Safety for Schuyler County Drivers, Pedestrians

Motorists and pedestrians in Schuyler County have an extra level of safety with the installation of IceAlert™ freezing indicators.



HUNT Schuyler County Highway Superintendent Greg Mathews (right) and Chris Bond, PE, of Hunt Engineers, Architects & Land Surveyors, P.C. with one of several signs notifying drivers that they are approaching an IceAlert™ freeze indicator. The monitors, which turn from white to blue when conditions are changing, are being tested in several locations in Schuyler County.

Schuyler County Superintendent of Highways **Greg Mathews** said the freeze indicators are an additional way to remove the element of surprise regarding freezing roads and sidewalks.

"The most treacherous conditions are during the transition from wet to freezing surfaces," Greg said. "These indicators will give pedestrians and motorists another reminder to use caution when the conditions are changing."

The IceAlert™ system comprises 6" diameter indicators that change color from white to blue as temperatures approach freezing. Motorists and pedestrians are alerted to the dropping temperatures and are made aware that ice may be present or forming.



Chris Bond, PE, director of Structures for Hunt Engineers, Architects & Land Surveyors, P.C. worked with Greg and members of his highway crews to determine the best locations for the devices.

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