

PRESS RELEASE

Media contact

Ingrid Mattsson

Director, Brand Management

T 800.321.4739, ext. 4249

M 612.845.6707

E ingrid.mattsson@uponor.com



Uponor increases investment in Upstream Technologies

New MPD Infiltrometer offers innovative solution for measuring soil absorption, reducing water waste and benefitting the environment.

Apple Valley, MN, March 23, 2016 — Uponor, Inc. ([Uponor](#)) recently completed a second-round investment in [Upstream Technologies](#), a New Brighton, Minn.-based company, to support the April 2016 launch of the company's new Modified Philip Dunne (MPD) Infiltrometer, which provides an innovative solution for quickly and efficiently measuring the rate of water infiltration into soil.

The opportunity came to Uponor through its subsidiary [Uponor Innovations LLC](#). In August 2014, Uponor purchased a minority position in Upstream Technologies to support the SAFL Baffle, a storm water management product that keeps sediment pollution out of lakes, rivers and



The new Modified Philip Dunne (MPD) Infiltrometer from New Brighton, Minn.-based Upstream Technologies provides an innovative solution for measuring soil absorption, eliminating water waste and benefitting the environment.

oceans. The product, developed by the University of Minnesota at the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory (SAFL), is proven to capture and retain twice the amount of sediment within existing sump structures.

“We are pleased to see the progress being made in terms of market acceptance of the SAFL Baffle in storm water sediment removal applications,” says [Bill Gray](#), president, Uponor North America. “We anticipate the launch of the new MPD Infiltrometer will be just as successful, and we are excited to support another innovation that benefits the environment and promotes water conservation.”



The SAFL Baffle, developed out of the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering’s St. Anthony Falls Laboratory (SAFL), keeps sediment pollution out of lakes, rivers and oceans.

The MPD Infiltrometer replaces the double-ring infiltrometer test for saturated hydraulic conductivity (K_{sat}) and decreases site testing times for measuring soil absorption rates from days to mere minutes—ensuring water quickly returns back into the ground as opposed to being wasted down storm drains. The technology also produces immediate online reports for engineers, regulators and public works professionals that help make site investigations a greater success.

“Over the past few years, our company has seen impressive growth—approaching 1,000 SAFL Baffles in North America,” says A.J. Schwidder, P.E., CEO and founder of Upstream Technologies. “We anticipate the new MPD Infiltrometer will continue this momentum. In fact, we already have orders in the pipeline and are optimistic about the need for this product.”

According to Schwidder, the city of Woodbury has 70 infiltration ponds they wish to test this summer and have already placed an order for one device with a potential for three more. Additionally, the city of Minneapolis is planning to perform 100 infiltration tests per month, further adding to the need for this valuable innovation.

And the beneficial partnerships between the two companies are continuing to expand. As a result of Uponor North America’s success with Upstream Technologies,



Uponor Infra, based in Sweden, now has entered into a technology agreement with the company to design and manufacture customized SAFL Baffles for the European and Nordic markets. The new plastic technology for the European and Nordic markets would allow for pre-fabrication efficiencies that will reduce costs and improve resources.

“We see a viable market opportunity for both smaller- and larger-sized SAFL Baffles manufactured using plastic technologies delivering the same sediment-removal efficiencies seen with the stainless-steel products,” says [Magnus Lundin](#), vice president, Offering & Development, Uponor Infra Nordic. “We are enthusiastic about the opportunity to partner with a company that makes it convenient, affordable and effective to do the right things for the environment.”

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For editorial assistance, contact John O’Reilly or Tony Bara, c/o O’Reilly/DePalma at (815) 469-9100; e-mail: john.oreilly@oreilly-depalma.com; tony.bara@oreilly-depalma.com

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About Uponor

Uponor, Inc. is an award-winning provider of plumbing, fire safety, radiant heating/cooling, hydronic piping and pre-insulated piping systems for residential and commercial applications. The company has received recognition for best-in-class manufacturing, sustainability, energy efficiency, safety, business growth, economic development, workplace giving and being a top workplace. Uponor, Inc. employs about 500 people at its North American headquarters in Apple Valley, Minn. For more information, visit www.uponor-usa.com.

About Uponor Innovations

Uponor Innovations LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Uponor, Inc., based in Lakeville, Minn. Its mission is to identify, foster and accelerate innovative ideas, new technologies and leading-edge products that improve the way people design and construct human environments where we live, work and play. Anyone from entrepreneurs to startups, business owners, management teams, investors and venture funds may submit an executive summary of their ideas to www.uponorinnovations.com.

About Upstream Technologies

Upstream Technologies develops, manufactures and sells products to help governments and private developers reduce their costs for managing pollution in storm water. Learn more at www.upstreamtechnologies.us.

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