

# WWEMA Board of Directors 2024 Nominees

## James Horton, Aqua-Aerobic Systems, Inc.

1<sup>st</sup> TERM



**James Horton** is Vice President – Process Group, at Aqua-Aerobic Systems, Inc. James has over 26 years of experience in the water and wastewater industry. This experience spans both the US and International markets. The last 23 years has been with Aqua-Aerobic Systems where James currently holds the position of VP Process Group. James possesses a Bachelors Degree in Chemical/Environmental Engineering from the University of Queensland, Australia and a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from the Queensland University of Technology. James has attended both the WWEMA Washington Forum and the Annual Meeting each year since 2014. He has been an active member of the Legislative and Regulatory Committee for most of that time and currently serves on the PFOS liability subcommittee. James brings visionary leadership, strategic thinking, team building, water and wastewater technology creation and implementation experience and is an expert on US municipal equipment distribution networks.

## Mark Turpin, Duperon Corporation

1<sup>st</sup> TERM



**Mark Turpin** Corporation is president of Duperon Corporation. Under Mark's leadership, Duperon has been recognized with Corp Magazine's Most Valuable Professional in Michigan (2023); Michigan Manufacturer's Association's MFG Innovation Excellence award (2021), as well as its Top 10 "Coolest Things Made in Michigan" (2021); Michigan's 50 Companies to Watch Distinguished Alumni Award – Most Engaged Workplace (2019); Michigan Banner's Heart of the City Outstanding Business Award (2019); Saginaw Future Inc.'s Economic Excellence Award (2019); Succession Success Award – Best of Michigan Business Awards and Gala (2017); Water & Wastes Digest's Top Project Award (2016). Mark has been a member of WWEMA since 2008, serving on the Board of Directors from 2012-2019. He was WWEMA Treasurer from 2014-2016; Chair-elect in 2016; Board Chair in 2017. Additionally, Turpin has been a long-standing member of WWEMA's Marketing &

Member Services and Legislative & Regulatory Committees; member of numerous subcommittee's; Chair for several subcommittees including, most recently, the dues restructuring subcommittee. Mark has been Danita's husband for 37 years. Asking her to marry him was the single best decision of his life. Mark and Danita have two sons, Zachary and Connor. Zach is a teaching and research assistant at Florida State University and has recently completed his PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biology. Connor has a B.S. in Economics from Michigan State University.

## Francisco Alvidrez, Enduro Composites

1<sup>st</sup> TERM



**Francisco Alvidrez** is Vice President – Enduro Composites. Francisco has 10 years of experience in the manufacturing industry providing engineered solutions for clients with challenging environments in the industrial and infrastructure markets. Throughout those years his roles at Enduro have progressed from Inside Sales Representative, Project Manager, Sales Representative, Regional Sales Manager, Sales Director to his current role as Vice President. He has a proven track record of growing revenue, increasing profitability and driving culture change by leading and working with multi-disciplined teams in a complex environment through multifaceted challenges and various channels to market. He is currently the Interim Chair, Membership and Marketing Committee, a Member of Arizona Water (a Chapter of AWWA), and a Member of the Professional Pricing Society.

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### Jon Forrest, Fortech, Inc.

2<sup>nd</sup> TERM



**Jon Forrest** is President of Fortech, Inc. I have a wonderful supportive family with three grown children: the oldest is a Linguistics professor at the University of Georgia, our middle child is an industrial chemist in the Raleigh NC area, and our youngest is Benefits Outreach Coordinator at a large food bank in eastern NC. He attended North Carolina State University and studied Industrial Engineering. Twenty plus years after attending NC State, I took and passed the North Carolina Professional Engineering exam as a Controls Engineer. There were several hundred taking the examination at the same time and I will confidently say I was the only person who came in with a calculator and several slide rules. My first employment after college was with IMO pump as the assembly and test floor engineer. I left IMO and started FORTECH in 1986 to supply custom control systems and field service for a variety of industries. After several years we decided to focus on the water and wastewater markets with specific representative partnerships which has been the best business decision we could have made. Within this realm, Fortech has grown to an industry-recognized system integrator and engineering support firm. I am active in the North Carolina Rural Water Association, North Carolina Water Operators Association, and NC AWWA-WEA presenting papers and teaching classes on SCADA, variable frequency drives, and instrumentation.

### Fred Siino, Kla Systems, Inc.

2<sup>nd</sup> TERM



**Fred Siino** is President of Kla Systems, Inc. is the Owner and Vice President of KLa Systems, Inc. He has 40 years' experience in all aspects of the water industry, including design, product development, testing, manufacturing, construction, and operation. His primary expertise is in industrial biological treatment systems. His early career experience includes being a construction engineer with Rhode Island DEM, university research, and consulting engineering. In 1985, he joined Mass Transfer Systems, Inc. (MTS) where he served in the capacity of Sales Engineer, Sales Manager, and then owner and Vice-President. In 1996 became Vice President of Waterlink-Wastewater Systems, and then President of the Biological Division. In 2001 he formed KLa Systems, Inc., a global manufacturer of mixing and aeration systems and since then has served as Vice President overseeing all aspects of their business. He has been on the WWEMA Marketing and Member Services Committee for many years and has served as KLa Systems WWEMA delegate for eleven years. He has a Masters in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University.