December is upon us - and I can think of no better time to wish all of the Plant Operations team members my goodwill and best wishes for the coming year. Plant has performed exceptionally well this past year from the dealing with the polar vortex and budgetary constraints to winning APPA Award of Excellence. We have collectively succeeded.

Together, we have achieved all that has been asked of us by the University community and leadership. Our triumphs and successes are due to all your efforts. I thank you for that!

Now is a good time for us to step back, take a breath and enjoy the holiday season. I wish all of you a safe, and enjoyable holiday break.

Rich

Celebrate Seasons Days
For ideas on things to do during the holiday season, please check out the list of activities compiled by the B&F Diversity Committee. ->Click Here
Central Mechanical Steamfitters running with water treatment system installation
by Aerik LaFave

Water treatment systems are added to existing closed and open loop water systems to lower the pH (to prevent scale formation and corrosion) and to prevent the water from becoming a breeding ground for harmful bacteria (such as Legionella: a form of pneumonia which causes Legionnaires Disease and is, many times, fatal).

A reduction in scale formation and corrosion improves system efficiency, lengthens the system’s life, and reduces costly maintenance expenditures. Cost to install these systems are $10,000 for a closed loop water system (Heating Hot Water and Chilled Water) and approximately $25,000 for an open loop water system (Condenser Water). These up-front costs are payback quickly due to the holistic benefits brought by these systems. The greater cost for open loop water treatment systems is due to the complexity of dealing with a water system with a open control volume (an open system boundary exists in the cooling tower where water continuously evaporates and leaves non-volatile chemical behind causing continual chemical concentration in the system which must be dealt with vs. dealing with one with a fixed control volume (a closed system recirculating continuously with the same water always in the system (no evaporative and consequent concentrating effects; small system losses occur due to the small amount of necessary leakage by the system pump’s gland )).