



Mazars USA Releases 2017 U.S. Water Industry Outlook – Finds Infrastructure Improvement, Cybersecurity and Supply Challenges at Center of Water’s Future

New York, NY – May 22, 2017 – Mazars USA LLP, a leading accounting, tax, advisory and business consulting firm, today released the [2017 U.S. Water Industry Outlook](#), an annual publication that examines important trends in the water industry. This year’s Outlook found that, as in the past, companies in water and wastewater are focusing on infrastructure investments and improved energy efficiency as the best drivers of value and performance improvement.

Ongoing challenges from aging infrastructure remain central to preparing for the industry’s future, with water companies seeking new forms of financing and public/private partnerships in order to secure the capital necessary to make repairs and upgrades. Recent legislative action at the federal level also promises to ease access to capital. Similarly, securing sufficient, clean water sources for the future is a major concern for most utilities.

There is also a growing awareness across the water and wastewater industry of the importance of cybersecurity. As the frequency of cyberattacks continues to increase, companies are recognizing that anticipating and addressing this risk is paramount.

Jerome Devillers, Mazars USA Partner and leader of the firm’s Water Initiative, said “This year’s Outlook highlights the complex planning needed to continue providing customers with an affordable, sufficient, and safe utility. Securing the water industry’s future demands that we continue to plan and balance many factors, including public opinion, economic trends, environmental impact, regulation, customer rates, and politics.”

“As we’ve noted in the past, while there are other surveys that examine utilities as a whole, water is its own unique industry. Considering it by itself is necessary to gain useful insight and improve services moving forward.” He concluded, “It’s a privilege to be able to make a positive contribution to this critical industry and we’re excited by the findings from this year’s survey.”

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