The drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater markets will require significant investment in the coming years to replace aging infrastructure, expand capacity, and satisfy new regulations. Utilities need innovative technologies and solutions to address these challenges in a cost-conscious manner. The Leaders Innovation Forum for Technology (LIFT) is an initiative undertaken by The Water Research Foundation (WRF) and the Water Environment Federation (WEF) to support and expedite the implementation of water innovation at utilities.

IDENTIFYING & DEVELOPING NEW INNOVATIONS

TECHNOLOGY SCANS

Technology providers can apply to the LIFT Technology Scans program to introduce their innovations to facility owners, consultants, venture capitalists, regulators, and others to accelerate advancement and early adoption.

UNIVERSITY-UTILITY PARTNERSHIPS

This program connects universities and utilities for research, development, and demonstration of new technology.

TOOLS & OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE

LIFT LINK

Login to LIFT Link (liftlink.werf.org) to discover more than 120 innovative technologies, connect with others who have similar needs and interests, and collaborate on projects and demonstrations.

LIFT UTILITY WORKING GROUP

LIFT’s network for information sharing and collaboration on technology and innovation currently includes more than 500 participants and more than a dozen technology Focus Areas.

LIFT CHALLENGES

LIFT Challenges give students, professionals, and technology aficionados the opportunity to showcase their talents and awards top teams with cash prizes. The first challenge was launched in 2018 and tasked entrants to tackle utility problems using intelligent water systems.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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www.waterrf.org/lift
The Facilities Accelerating Science and Technology (FAST) Water Network is an international test bed network that includes more than 90 facilities worldwide. It connects innovators in the water industry with test facilities appropriate for their needs.

The Scholarship Exchange Experience for Innovation & Technology (SEE IT) awards $30K annually in scholarships for utility personnel to see innovative technologies in use and share their experience with others.

This program identifies regulatory barriers to innovation and develops action plans to overcome them. The program works closely with U.S. EPA and state regulatory agencies.

This tool allows users to view survey data from more than 100 utilities to understand emerging technologies and determine their current and projected implementation status.

LIFT provides a great opportunity for all stakeholders in the water sector to work together collaboratively for quick diffusion of new technologies. LIFT serves as an adaptive model for targeted technology evaluation and adoption, by sharing costs, risks, and insights.

— AMIT KALDATE
MANAGER, BIOLOGY GROUP,
INFILCO DEGREMONT