



## Employee Spotlight: Chris Gulics

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Let's be honest: regulatory compliance is not exactly the sexiest profession out there. But it is certainly one of the most important if a business wants to stay in business.

Chris Gulics came to PS&S in 2015 along with three colleagues during a transitional period in the Monmouth/Ocean County engineering consulting world. Currently, Chris is the company's Senior Director of Environmental Regulatory Compliance and heads up a team of five professionals whose job is to make sure our clients are following all regulatory permitting and compliance. Chris and his team know the current guidelines and regulations so our clients can focus on their businesses.



"PS&S was doing this work before I arrived," said Gulics. "But now, we have a core group that makes sure our clients are covered on all environmental and regulatory matters. We take care of operational permits, which are basically things clients must do in order to operate their businesses. There is a constant learning process to keep current on guidelines and regulations and to understand permitting. It's easy to get the permit; it's hard to make sure the client complies with the permit. So, our goal is to keep the clients from needing permitting if possible, and if not, we make it as easy as possible to operate within the conditions of the permit."

Chris grew up in Woodbridge and went to Rutgers where he graduated with a B.S. in Environmental Science with a concentration in Water Resources. He now lives in Howell, which gives him great access to two of his favorite pastimes with his three sons ages 11, 13, and 15: fishing and the hitting the Point Pleasant beach.

In his 20-plus years working with clients, Chris has developed relationships with many professionals who are often able to recommend other PS&S services to their company.

"We start out doing work in one area and it leads to more," said Gulics. "Relationships matter, and once you earn someone's trust, they are much more likely to want to expand that working relationship. PS&S is truly a "one-stop shop." Clients begin to realize that the longer we work with them. We are always looking to educating clients as to PS&S's capabilities."

One such client is a New Jersey- based behavioral health facility and a Chris Gulics client since 2000. In fact, the relationship goes back even further when Chris was involved in environmental work with the company's current director of facilities at his prior employer. PS&S has made upgrades to the treatment plants and has worked on numerous environmental projects.

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Besides Chris, there are four other professionals on the compliance team:

- Steve Oliver – has been with PS&S for more than 30 years. Based in Warren, Steve focuses on air permitting and noise assessments;
- Matt Mee – a project scientist based in Cherry Hill, Matt came to PS&S with Chris Gulics in 2015. Matt handles utilities, spill prevention and underground tanks;
- Kristi Sorrentino – an environmental scientist based in Wall. Kristi works on drinking and wastewater compliance services;
- Sean McCauley – based in Wall, Sean supports the team in the field.

One very important affiliation for Chris and PS&S is the relationship with the New Jersey Municipal Environmental Risk Management Fund (EJIF) which was established by property and casualty joint insurance funds to provide their member public entities and utility authorities with environmental coverage. Currently, Chris is one of the Fund's two environmental engineers who help manage environmental risk associated with municipal operations such as insurance claims for more than 150 municipalities in NJ. This includes being on call 24/7 in the event of spills or discharges to soils, surface water or groundwater. This service was designed by the EJIF to provide guidance to its members to help in the immediate moments following an emergency.

"We are hoping to expand our work with the EJIF," said Gulics. "It is a vitally important affiliation for PS&S and for our Compliance group."

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