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Our debut IREM Chicago Industry Partner Spotlight profile for 2022 features a Chicago area company with nearly three decades of experience. Read on to learn more about Chicago Backflow Inc., as told by Megan Demereckis.

Chicago Backflow has been the leader in backflow prevention since 1993. A family company, CBI employs 12 backflow inspectors that are out and about covering the Chicagoland area every day. When asked what sets CBI apart from other companies that offer backflow testing, the answer is simple. Backflow prevention is our life, our niche. While some licensed inspectors may have their day filled with service tickets in the morning to replace a leaky faucet, rodding a toilet, then testing a backflow preventer later – our technicians have their hands in backflow prevention assemblies all day every day.

This makes us the best in the business when it comes to one of your devices failing inspection. CBI inspectors are able to quickly take apart your device, assess the repairs needed, and get you back up and running before you can say ‘backflow incident’.

Most importantly, Chicago Backflow is the only company to offer the All-inclusive Program, which was specifically created for Property Managers and Building Engineers. The All-Inclusive Program includes any repairs or cleanings that are needed for failing devices. These repairs are made right on the spot, without any additional PO’s or return trips to your building. With the massive checklists of items you are responsible for, we take backflow prevention off your list with ease.

My favorite story that gets told, when we are all sitting around together, is the birth of the pig! An inspector that has since retired was out to do some testing at a farm in the far south suburbs. While he was in the barn, he heard a woman yelling excitedly for help. He rushed over to her, and she exclaimed that a pig was about to give birth, but she needed to move it to a different location. Without even hesitating, the CBI technician picked up the muddy pig, carefully set it in his work truck, and rushed it up to the building she pointed out. I think that’s probably the craziest occurrence that has happened to one of our guys, aside from some of the wild things that we’ve seen pulled out of backflow preventers that have come up from city waterlines: Think broom handles, whole packs of donuts, golf balls, and more. Other than that, backflow prevention is pretty calm on a day-to-day basis, haha!

- Megan Demereckis, Chicago Backflow Inc.

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Pictured here are the girls of CBI: Donna P, Valerie, Barb, Tiffany, Donna H, Megan, and Jessica.