

## Water and Sanitation in the News

### **Global water, sanitation concerns now in governments' priority crosshairs, says Minister**

As governments move towards the finalisation and adoption of the United Nations' (UN's) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Water and Sanitation Affairs Minister Nomvula Mokoyane has described the global water and sanitation dialogue as "more urgent and candid" and the general mood more solution-oriented, pointing to an acceleration of water and sanitation issues up the international agenda.

Addressing the Water Research Commission's (WRC's) Research Development and Innovation symposium, in Johannesburg, via videolink on Wednesday, she said awareness of water both as the primary risk to the global economy – as assessed by the World Economic Forum – as well as the route to green growth and sustainable development now had universal acknowledgement across all geographical regions, stakeholder sectors and political ideologies.

However, the translation of this appreciation into real action and investment remained, she claimed, highly variable. "The uniqueness of this point in history remains this collective acknowledgement of better water management as the route to a more sustainable future and one that we should build on. "There is an acknowledgment that no 'business as usual' pathway in any sector will get us anywhere near the SDG targets in water and sanitation," she affirmed. The SDGs – a primary outcome of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Brazil – built upon the Millennium Development Goals and saw member States launching a process to develop a set of objectives that focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development. The conference's outcome document further resolved to establish an inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process, as well as an intergovernmental open working group...

Source: *Engineering News*, 16 September 2015

## Preventative Maintenance Principles & Guidelines: Week 6

### General Maintenance Guidelines

Numerous water and waste water treatment works and infrastructure (including reservoirs, pump stations, distribution network pipes, etc.) are much more than 20 years old. Consequently, most supplier's guarantees have expired,

manuals are lost, and standard operating procedures are not in place, etc. It is, however, important to start somewhere (with maintenance procedures), as all old equipment currently in use are still very critical to the delivery of sufficient quality & quantity drinking and treated waste water. In such cases, general maintenance guidelines should at least be applied.

For instance, some general guidelines obtained from assessing more than 50 municipalities and more than 200 WTW (Water Treatment Works) and WWTW (Waste Water Treatment Works), regarding couplings are:



### Couplings - Monthly

- Clean any dirt/oil/contaminant
- Check for excessive vibration, noise & temperature
- Ensuring proper alignment
- Ensure mounting bolts are properly tightened
- Examine for any mechanical damage or corrosion
- Remove corrosion & paint

### Couplings - Annually (Depending on usage)

- Strip down
- Clean all parts thoroughly
- Examine bearings if rough replace alternatively clean & re-grease
- Reassemble and ensure free rotation of shaft
- Reinstall, ensuring proper alignment

Source: *Outcomes from Advanced Technical Process Controllers' Workshops 2011 & 2015*

WAMTech are specialists in implementing technology systems for improved governance, focussing on Water and Public Health Information Systems

Visit our websites:

[www.wamsys.co.za](http://www.wamsys.co.za)

[www.municipalassistant.co.za](http://www.municipalassistant.co.za)

[www.ewisa.co.za](http://www.ewisa.co.za)