

## Water and Sanitation in the News

### ***New pipeline to be laid on to supply water to residents of Jericho in North West***

The Department of Water and Sanitation has announced plans to build a pipeline to supply water to Jericho in the North West where residents have battled with a shortage of drinking water for a number of weeks. The DWS announced a R2.8-million pipeline which would connect a reservoir to two boreholes to supply the village of Jericho in the Madibeng local municipality with much needed water.

The project, which the DWS conducted in partnership with the provincial government and the Madibeng local municipality, formed part of government's intervention to ensure water supply to 19 villages within the Madibeng municipality that have been experiencing water and sanitation challenges...

Source: *Engineering News*, 04 August 2015

#### **Context:**

***The urgent increase in expansion, refurbishment and maintenance of water infrastructure (storage, treatment and distribution) assets has over the past few years become a top priority for government to achieve service delivery targets and prevent violent service delivery protests in many areas.***

***Growing population and water demands (including increasing competition between water users), combined with dwindling fresh water resource supplies from various pressures including: aging infrastructure (between 30 and 50 years old), poor water quality management (especially waste water treatment), droughts, urbanisation, etc., is making the implementation of correct systems for management procedures of costly infrastructure assets all the more critical - specifically looking at the future of water service delivery in South Africa.***

The **Municipal Assistant™** is one such system which was specifically developed for local conditions to provide local municipalities with the necessary tools to ensure the sustainable use and management of their water infrastructure.

At the core of the MA system is the **ASSET MODULE** which includes the following vital functions needed in the management of water and waste water treatment assets:

Assets are **captured at component level** (by WAMTech and/or Municipal staff), resulting in more sustainable and efficient management of the entire plant and ensuring more accurate assessments (cost valuation, condition and risk) and targeted

maintenance procedures – increasing operational performance and reducing unnecessary interruptions.

**ASSET CAPTURING AND ASSESSMENTS**

- Field visit to assess assets
- Capture of data: Risk and evaluation of assets
- Reporting: Provision of Asset audit and Asset photo report

The information which can be loaded into the asset module is comprehensive and includes the following: location, supplier, purchase cost, purchase date, serial number, inventory number, responsible person, dimensions, size, other equipment, accessories, photos, documents, etc.

The MA™ System will **automatically calculate the current replacement cost and remaining life span**. Another important aspect to the asset module is the **reactive and preventive maintenance scheduling, as well as equipment assessment**. It enables users for instance to easily schedule preventive maintenance for the next 12 months and capture the reactive maintenance, incidents, inspections, etc. All the information can be exported into Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel or HTML formats, including photo reports, pie graphs, etc.

Summary of Asset module functions:

- Asset Inventory (for operational usage: detailed level)
- Cost & Lifespan
- Assessments (usage and condition)
- Reactive Maintenance (for each inventory component)
- Preventative Maintenance (for plant sections)
- Job Cards
- Calculate Purchase Cost
- Auto calculation of Current Replacement Cost (Price Index of SA)

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

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