

## Water and Sanitation in the News

### Water treatment facility almost complete

A multimillion rand wastewater treatment facility augmentation is 98% complete. The upgrading and augmentation of the Johannesburg Water's Olifantsvlei Wastewater Treatment Works Module-3 in southern part of the City of Johannesburg is finally nearing completion. The augmentation from the current capacity of 180 megalitres per day by 50 megalitres per day is intended to cater for increased growth in demand from population, higher densification, and will service an additional 50 000 new housing units as well as meet the stringent treated effluent compliance standards to mitigate contamination of streams and rivers in the catchment area. The cost of the upgrading is in order of R170 million and consists of an activated sludge reactor, mixers aerators, recycling pumps, a flow divider, three clarifiers, a pump station, three electrical rooms, a monitoring building, inter-connecting pipework, paved roads, storm water drains and cable trenches.



The Olifantsvlei Wastewater Treatment Works is one of six such facilities managed by Johannesburg Water. Through them, the municipal-owned entity treats all domestic sewage and industrial effluents released into sewers. Between them, they treat over 930 million litres of sewage daily. As a result of the upgrading, the Olifantsvlei Wastewater Works was awarded 1st place by the Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA) in its annual Isigidi Awards for the Best Operated Wastewater Treatment Works in the country.

Source: [City of Johannesburg, 13 Jan. 2015](#)

**WAMTechnology** training, product systems and continuous service, provide critical support to the management of assets, water quality, staff, water demand, maintenance of water works & sewer systems, vehicles, suppliers and timesheets of staff. Our system, the **Municipal Assistant™**, serves as a centralised databank that facilitates the management, administrative and operational functions of water care works and related activities. We train, coach, mentor and assist with the ultimate objective of empowering the user to assume ownership of the system. In short – we help to realise **“service delivery through technology”**. Municipal Assistant™ is a licensed product, fully developed and can be roll-out immediately without any major modifications. It has been installed in 52 municipalities nationwide.

Before deployment, WAMTech, in conjunction with each user, establishes the most effective way of installing the Municipal Assistant™ system in each specific environment. Each municipality has subtle differences and requirements and all individual work procedures or protocols are taken into account.

In our experience, some municipalities do have adequate ICT equipment or support; therefore, our supply of a **‘Blue Box’** ensures immediate capacity to operate. The Municipal Assistant™ system is also not web-based as many users are situated in rural areas have limited, or no Internet and support. The “Blue Box” assists in taking ownership of the system, as it includes the physical tools – laptop, GPS, camera – that are needed for immediate implementation and operational use.

WAMTech has a **Help Desk** that is available to assist users. Upgrades to the core software, depending on municipal requirements and demands, as well as continuously developing IT “tools” and platforms, is done annually as part of the annual license fee. The annual license fee also includes a refresher training course.

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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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