Water and Sanitation in the News

Is Your Utility Taking Advantage Of Data Analytics?

Utilities worldwide are addressing limited resources and operational challenges by deploying and connecting smart technologies through a single communication network. With smart water networks, utilities receive valuable information on availability and usage of water. However, the sheer volume of data from both the utility's infrastructure as well as external sources such as news and weather aggregators can be overwhelming. Utilities are struggling to manage and determine how to best use this surge of information. After all, the information on its own is just that – data.

In order to truly benefit from this information and leverage it to make better business decisions, water utilities and municipalities must learn how to manage and best use this unprecedented amount of data. To take advantage of all of the data provided from smart water networks, water utilities need data analytics.
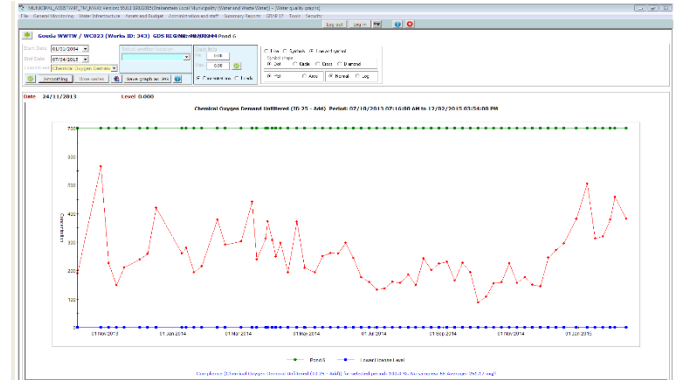
For instance, consider a water utility that is losing several hundred gallons of water a day due to leaks from faulty plumbing. After implementing a smart water network, which uses data analytics to track water usage and notify customers of unusual water levels, the utility eliminated meter reading errors entirely and cut unaccounted for water in half.

As this example demonstrates, utility communications systems have the ability to provide major benefits and cost savings. With data analytics, utilities can turn this information into actionable insights that will inform their operation and business decisions…

Source: Water Online, 21 October 2014

The **Municipal Assistant™** is a proven and trusted technology that helps to analyse water utility data in order to improve operational efficiency. It was developed in line with the needs of local utilities and has assisted with the operations, maintenance and management of water and wastewater facilities and related infrastructure in southern Africa over the past 9 years.

The Municipal Assistant™ uniquely combines into a single user friendly system with the following core functionalities:

- Water quality monitoring and management
- Evaluating and reporting compliance with regulatory water quality standards and criteria (SANS 241, licensing conditions and Blue Drop and Green Drop specifications)
- Assists the user in the compilation of various reports (including a Blue Drop/Green Drop reporting facility)
- Asset management to ensure optimal performance of facilities to produce good quality drinking water and discharge

- Operational and maintenance scheduling of equipment and staff utilisation
- Assist with routine and process control inspections and incident reporting
- Compilation of operational and maintenance budgets to ensure timeous preventative maintenance and replacement of equipment

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