Hach Water Information Management Solution[™] Provides Answer for Complete Data Management Needs

Regulatory requirements and economic influences have challenged water and wastewater utilities to increase their demand for operational data in support of regulatory reporting, improved decision making and more immediate recognition of cost saving opportunities. Collection and assembly of data from multiple sources including plant instrumentation, facility and field operations, laboratory, and associated systems has become necessary to allow utility management to make these informed decisions and to fulfill their regulatory obligations. However, this data can be meaningless unless organized for usefulness, translated into actionable information, and presented in understandable form.

The Hach Water Information Management Solution (Hach WIMS[™]) provides a set of scalable products to collect, incorporate, and analyze data and communicate information easily. Configurable for a comprehensive range from very small organizations to the largest and most complex operations with multiple systems, these products offer an affordable choice versus custom-developed applications and a reliable alternative to manual processes.

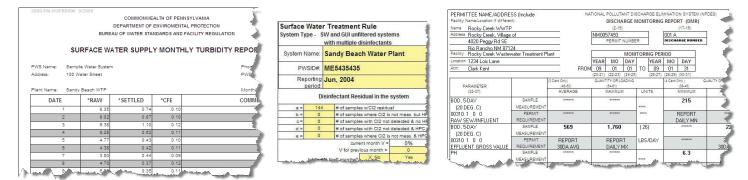
With the acquisition of OPS Systems by Hach, the OPS SQL products are the basis for the Hach WIMS suite of products. Designed specifically for drinking water and wastewater systems, these products aggregate independent sources of data, such as



Hach WIMS—data from across your water system brought together in a central, secure database providing easy reporting, analysis and monitoring.

laboratory data (from Laboratory Information Management Systems – LIMS, commercial labs, or lab bench sheets), SCADA, Pretreatment, Biosolids, and utility specific Excel spreadsheets, into a single data repository. Data can be automatically collected or entered manually. Consolidation of this data ensures data integrity and data accuracy in a secure location with fully automated audit control.

The consolidated database can be utilized to provide streamlined reports, intelligent alerts, enhanced graphing, charting and mapping. The database can be used to produce federal and state regulatory reports, with templates and electronic transfer built directly into the system for all states or regional governance boards. Additional, analysis and optimization of key processes is now easy and more likely to occur because data is readily available.



Pre-programmed EPA/State report templates include: SWTR, DBR, NPDES, DMR, eDMR, MOR, or design your own report, charts, or graphs in minutes!



Case Study

The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) is a public agency with responsibilities for interception, collection and treatment of wastewater as well as stormwater management. The District's current boundaries cover 525 square miles and encompass all of the City of St. Louis and approximately 80% of St. Louis County.

MSD serves a population of approximately 1.4 million and has approximately 519,000 single-family residential, multi-family residential and commercial/industrial accounts. Of these accounts, approximately 87,000 are for stormwater service only.

MSD currently operates seven wastewater treatment facilities, treating a combined average of 330 million gallons of sewage per day. The District is responsible for

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operating and maintaining 9,649 miles of sewers.

With the large volume of data generated across their different treatment facilities, gathering the data and producing regulatory reports was time consuming and potentially very error prone. MSD was completely dependent on a few key people with specific knowledge of how to gather and manipulate the required data. This was a major issue every month when regulatory reports were due. This lack of access to data caused plant managers, operators, and engineers to become increasingly frustrated with the amount of time it took to gather data. They found it difficult to perform analysis ranging from basic calculations to optimization projects due to the complexity of identifying the true source of the data, resolving data discrepancies, correlating results across multiple parameters from laboratory and plant data, and generally having faith in the accuracy and integrity of the data. These difficulties resulted in data that was duplicated in multiple systems as users found ways to get their work done.

Therefore, in 2002, MSD wanted to replace their unsecure, unwieldy manual entry system for managing the complicated and disconnected operations data. They wanted an automated and integrated system to collect data from all of the wastewater treatment plants, the associated SCADA and control systems, and their central Laboratory Information Management System.

MSD initially considered building their own data management system. However, after discussing development options with several consultants, MSD understood that not only would building their own product be an overwhelming task but it would also be time prohibitive. To resolve their most immediate concerns of easy data analysis, overall data integrity and easy report generation, they needed an automated system without the burden of long-term maintenance of software code.

Assessing the products in the marketplace, MSD started an extensive procurement process to select the product most suited to fit their needs. After numerous product demonstrations, the OPS SQL product was the unanimous decision. Key to its selection was its substantial reporting capabilities, ability to interface with multiple systems, secure storage and access of all the data.

Following selection, MSD was impressed with the ease of the OPS SQL implementation. The system delivery included full product configuration, end user

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training, acceptance testing, and system roll-out.

MSD has consistently used the product since its selection and continues to be happy with their choice. MSD believes the system has resolved their key issues of data consolidation, regulatory reporting and data integrity. Secured access makes it easy to allow the right people to get the data they need. The system is currently used by all treatment plant managers in their daily analysis of plant operations and produces all required federal and state regulatory reports.

In demonstration of their satisfaction with the OPS Systems support, MSD specifically notes their timeliness to address issues and the ability to talk directly with an individual instead of an automated service.



For more information on Hach WIMS, please call 1-800-677-0067 or 505-892-6700 or visit: www.hach.com/im

