

new jersey American Water

Module 3.1 Controlling Real Losses: Leakage Management

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What are Real Losses?

- Physical losses of treated water from a system
- Components, as defined in the water audit, are:
 - Leakage on transmission and distribution mains
 - Leakage on service connections (to the meter)
 - Leakage and overflow at storage facilities
- 3 components are not distinguished in a top down audit





Measure, then act

- Calculate or measure then monitor your losses
- Recalculate your losses
 - Make sure your apparent loss calculations or assumptions are valid



Figure 1: Understanding the problem of leakage (source: Water and Sanitation Program of the World Bank, in LIEMBERGER 2007)





General leakage management program

- Identify a cross-functional team that will have ownership of the program
- Compile an audit, assign a value to real losses
- Validate source meters
- Identify a preliminary target range, estimate savings





General leakage management program

- Quantify components (reported, unreported leaks & background)
 - Utilize MNF, pilot zones, DMAs
- Assign values to leakage component volumes
- Compile short term plan, find the "low hanging fruit"
- Implement short term plan, attain short term economic level
- Recalculate component analysis considering new data
- Set medium and long term reduction goals, include methods





Target setting guidelines using ILI

| General Guidelines for Setting a Target ILI (without doing a full economic analysis of leakage control options) | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Target ILI Range | Financial Considerations | Operational Considerations | Water Resources Considerations |
| 1.0 - 3.0 | Water resources are costly to develop or purchase; ability to increase revenues via water rates is greatly limited because of regulation or low ratepayer affordability. | Operating with system leakage above this level would require expansion of existing infrastructure and/or additional water resources to meet the demand. | Available resources are greatly limited and are very difficult and/or environmentally unsound to develop. |
| >3.0 -5.0 | Water resources can be developed or purchased at reasonable expense; periodic water rate increases can be feasibly imposed and are tolerated by the customer population. | Existing water supply infrastructure capability is sufficient to meet long-term demand as long as reasonable leakage management controls are in place. | Water resources are believed to be sufficient to meet long-term needs, but demand management interventions (leakage management, water conservation) are included in the long-term planning. |
| >5.0 - 8.0 | Cost to purchase or obtain/treat water is low, as are rates charged to customers. | Superior reliability, capacity and integrity of the water supply infrastructure make it relatively immune to supply shortages. | Water resources are plentiful, reliable, and easily extracted. |

AWWA Water Audit Software v 4.2





Economics of Water Loss

 Value Delivery Strategy: Water loss value plus leakage control costs need to be compared to avoided costs (recovery)







Four pillars for managing real losses

- Pressure management
- Active leakage control
- Infrastructure management
- Speed and quality of repairs





Four pillars for managing real losses: visual aide







Pressure Management

- Provide optimum levels of service
- Ensure sufficient and efficient supply
- Reduce unnecessary or excessive pressure
- Eliminate transients
- Eliminate faulty level controls





Pressure Control Options

- Match input head to topography
- Boost critical areas rather than complete zone
- Match pump sizes and regimes to demand
- Use balancing tanks and reservoirs
- Use network analysis where available
- If other options are not available use pressure reducing valves







Pressure Control Pros

- Immediate reduction in leakage
- Reduction in usage (e.g., car washing, sprinklers)
- Reduction in burst frequency in short term
- Stabilizing pressure reduces stress on the network
- Better service to customers





Pressure Control Cons

- Unacceptably low pressure due to undersized pipes or partly shut valves; fire flows may be reduced
- Noise on the system
- Valve operations affecting PRV performance
- Supply difficulties with high rise buildings
- Special consumers (industry, dialysis)





Pressure Management: Types of PRVs

- Fixed outlet
 - some benefits but cannot respond to changing conditions

Time controlled

- can be set to respond to known 24 hour profile
- Flow modulated
 - sophisticated response to changing conditions





Pressure Management: Modulation







Leakage Control: the DMA

 District metered areas (DMA) are effective in localizing and reducing real losses







Leakage Control: DMA appurtenances







Active Leakage Control

- Leak Detection
 - Step Testing
 - Noise Logging
 - Correlating
 - Non-correlating
 - Permanent
 - Lift and Shift
 - Correlation
 - Accelerometers
 - Hydrophones
 - In situ
 - Sounding Survey
 - Gas injection
 - Other

Leakage & break components and reduction tools



(from J. FilhoTardelli , SABESP, Sao Paulo, Brazil, Internal reports 2004)

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ALC: Step Testing

- A step test is a method of narrowing down the search for suspected leakage by successively shutting parts of a discrete area, and noting the effect on the incoming flow.
- The integrity of the area must be established, all boundary valves shut, and the status of all other valves known.
- Supply should preferably be from a single source and must be metered.





ALC: Step Testing







ALC: Step Testing

Advantages

- Easy interpretation of results
- Non-acoustic method
- Finds large leaks quickly

Disadvantages

- Relatively crude method works best with large leaks
- Potential water quality problems
- Interrupts customers supply
- Usually requires night work
- Labor intensive





ALC: Noise Logging







ALC: Noise Logging



Image showing clear, consistent leak noise

Image showing variable levels of noise = No Leak Status





ALC: Noise Logging, Permanent







ALC: Correlating Loggers







ALC: Other Technologies





Cable driven



Free Swimming





ALC: Other Technologies



Fiber Optic Cable





Remote Field Eddy Current



Ground Penetrating Radar Using Hydrogen Gas



Aerial thermography

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Leak Detection Pinpointing







Active Leakage Control: The Future ?







Infrastructure Management

- Rehabilitation and replacement
 - Structural Lining
 - Spot Repair
- Replacement
 - Choice of material
 - Pipe bursting
 - Pipe pulling











Speed and Quality of Repairs

• Why find and repair leaks quickly?







Questions ?