

NEWS RELEASE

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Westernport Water wins global accolade

Victorian Water Corporation Westernport Water has won international acclaim at the recent Bentley Systems *Be Inspired Awards* ceremony held in Amsterdam, Netherlands on 19 – 20 October.

The Westernport Water paper on Integration of SCADA Data in Water Model Calibration was up against two other finalists (Arizona American Water and CH2M HILL) in the Innovation in Water and Wastewater category. Westernport Water's Systems Engineer Dean Jagoe presented the winning paper to an international group of industry experts at this prestigious event.

Westernport Water's Managing Director Murray Jackson said, "Qualifying as a finalist for this years *Be Inspired Awards* with competition worldwide from over 40 nominations for the innovation in Water and Wastewater category was an achievement in itself.

Winning our category and being acknowledged for our achievements for innovatively employing information modelling and collaboration technology is a great honour. Having our systems integrated provides us with real savings and a powerful decision making tool. I congratulate Dean Jagoe for his work, this is an inspiration and a credit to the team at Westernport Water".

Bentley Systems , Incorporated is a global leader providing comprehensive software solutions for sustaining infrastructure. The *Be Inspired Awards* annual competition brings together professionals and members of the academic community to advance innovation in the design, delivery, and operations of infrastructure and to promote the work of the architects, engineers, geospatial professionals, and organizations that help sustain the world's infrastructure.

"Recognition of the *Be Inspired Awards Program* – now in its seventh year – continues to grow around the world, both within and outside of the infrastructure community," Bentley COO Malcolm Walter said.

An independent panel of jurors selected the winners of the *Be Inspired Awards* from 55 finalists. Projects that exemplify innovation, superior vision, and an unwavering commitment to exceptional quality and

productivity were chosen by jurors from 325 nominations submitted by 249 organisations in 45 countries.

Westernport Water originally purchased Bentley's WaterCAD water modelling software in 2001. In 2003 the software was upgraded and calibrated at a cost of \$80,000. In 2009/2010 Westernport upgraded to the Bentley WaterGEMS product and also purchased the associated SCADAConnect and CAD-interface products.

Westernport Water sought a high performing automated system that would deliver cost savings and contribute to the effective operation and management of over \$43M in water assets.

Targeted investment in new technologies was the way forward. Integrating Bentley's WaterGEMS water model with Open Spatial's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Control Microsystems Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems (SCADA) was identified as capable of delivering real savings and improvements.

Systems Engineer Dean Jagoe used the Cad-interface product to access water pipe data directly from the GIS. This process means a single point source of asset data (the GIS) is used and updated. Updates to the GIS are now easily added to the water model.

With valuable support from Bentley's Victorian office Dean successfully completed the SCADAConnect integration. SCADAConnect allows WaterGEMS to access real-time flow and pressure SCADA information from selected points in the water supply system.

Since *SCADAConnect* can utilise both historical and real time data, the water model is constantly up to date, but also has tables of previous values for trending and projections. The result was an asset accurate, real-time model of the entire water supply network.

Mr Jackson stated "Westernport Water has continuously searched for ways to become more efficient. Researching and incorporating technology into the business, continuing investment in the development of our people and seeking to fully integrate all of our corporate systems is paying off.

It is through innovation that enables our business to grow, developing a sustainable infrastructure system is critical to improving organisational performance."

Mr Jagoe commented "Bentley's commitment to helping us integrate our corporate systems with the WaterGEMS product will help deliver real savings to the Corporation."

Westernport Water General Manager of Operations Steven Porter indicated "This up to date and accurate model will give engineering design and operational personnel the best possible platform for decision making.

Previously Westernport Water engaged the services of external contractors to manually upgrade asset information and calibrate its water model. The SCADAConnect technology with real-time updates will save Westernport Water the cost of these regular calibrations. He added.

Using WaterGEMS Westernport Water seeks to obtain savings in Non Revenue Water (NRW) losses. Westernport Water is aiming to achieve reduce water losses by 25% and recover water with a retail value of up to \$85,000."

Mr Porter concluded "Sustaining and developing our infrastructure has never looked so positive. The integration of these systems will provide unprecedented scope for managers, engineers, operational and maintenance personnel to understand on a real time basis how the water network is performing. The level of integration being achieved is expected to set benchmarks in informed decision making for Westernport Water."

For additional information, visit www.westernportwater.com.au or www.bentley.com/beinspired