

Watermeters with Pulse OUTPUT Proven Technology New Design



DHM1000 DHM1100 DHM1400

- ✦ Easy to change pulse value without opening the meter
- ✦ Multijet Technology
- ✦ DN15 - DN50
- ✦ 12 Different pulse values
0,25L-0,5L-1L-2,5L-5L-10L-25L-50L-100L-250L-500L-1000L
- ✦ 2 identical or 2 different pulses on 1 meter
- ✦ Cold Water version DHM1000
- ✦ Hot Water version DHM1100
- ✦ TEFLON coated DHM1400

Demineralised-, Chlorine-, Salt-, Glycol- water

Applications: dosing pumps, water treatment, monitoring, other industrial applications



DHW1000 DHW1100 DHW1400

- ✦ Woltmann Technology
- ✦ DN50 - DN500
- ✦ 2 identical or 2 different pulses on 1 meter
up to DN200: 25L - 50L - 100L - 250L - 500L - 1000L
1000L - 10.000L from DN250
- ✦ Interchangeable mechanism
- ✦ Cold Water version DHW1000
- ✦ Hot Water version DHW1100
- ✦ TEFLON coated DHM1400

Demineralised-, Chlorine-, Salt-, Glycol- water

Applications: dosing pumps, water treatment, monitoring, other industrial applications



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COMMENT

The dawning of a new aqua age

Debra Coy argues that the ageing of the water industry will lead to a dramatic uptake in technology adoption, with data leading the way.



I recently chaired a panel on “data technology and customer service” at the National Association of Water Companies’ (NAWC) annual summit in Arizona. To kick off the discussion, we asked the audience – mostly private sector utility execs, regulators, and technology and service vendors – the following question: “How hard is it to convince investors, regulators, and customers about the return on investment in data-related technologies, including software, AMI, etc.?”

- a) Easy; the returns are self-evident;
- b) Difficult to show benefits within a short timeframe, but ROI is there;
- c) Very difficult; there is a lot of resistance.

The voting results were a) 10%; b) 45%; c) 45%. Disappointing, but not surprising.

In a (seemingly unrelated) earlier presentation on customer communication, Andrew Ulmer of WaterSmart Software asked the audience for a show of hands on the generations that were represented. No shock, the vast majority was in the Baby Boomer age-group, with a few Gen X’ers, and even fewer Millennials.

Christine Boyle, the young CEO of Valor Water Analytics, then said that part of the reason for her company’s name was because of the bravery she thought would be required to sell her software product to the “silver foxes” of the water sector – flattering rather than offending all the George Clooney look-alikes in the audience.

As most readers know, a Water & Wastes Digest “state of the industry” (SOTI) report in 2014 suggested that the average age of water utility workers was 56 (though this may also reflect millennial impatience with surveys). In this year’s American Water Works Association (AWWA) SOTI survey, 80% of respondents felt their utility was only “moderately” to “slightly” prepared to deal with retirements in the next five years.

I’d argue that this is directly correlat-

ed to the survey results on data management. Just 26% of AWWA respondents said their utility had a well-communicated ‘big data’ strategy; 22% said the strategy had been poorly communicated or not communicated, and 52% said their utility had no data strategy at all.

Back at the NAWC summit, both Suez and American Water, two of the largest investor-owned utilities in the US, said their companies did in fact have active data management strategies. Mark Smith, American’s chief information officer, said that the “easy work” on operational improvements has been done, and the “next wave” will be to integrate information technology with operational management, including customer data, geospatial data, meter data, and operational data. For most utilities, however, the “internet of things”, in which the many components of a system can all communicate with each other, has barely begun to touch the water sector.

Raja Kadiyala, head of the Intelligent Water Solutions group at CH2M, said that his assessments indicate that water and wastewater utilities currently use only about 10% of the data they collect, suggesting vast upside potential for data mining and analytics. “Smart water,” he said, “is at the intersection of supply, quality, and cost.”

Given the challenges facing the industry, the latter piece – cost – may be the most critical. With conservation and on-site reuse, per capita water use is declining at an accelerating pace, and the water sector must find ways to keep up. As Dave Stanton, president of Suez’s US regulated water utility, said at the summit, “If we don’t get ahead of the circular economy, we will wake up and find that our customers don’t need us.”

I believe the infamous conservatism of the water sector is beginning to give way, accelerated by generational change. Those of us who remember the Age of Aquarius, when peace and love were going to take over the world, are now being replaced by a generation that puts its faith in technology, particularly data technology. Let the Age of Aquadata begin.