Utilities Agency

No manhole left uncovered when right technology used

Utility agency uses LibertyNET to keep track of key assets

Client Situation

This Utilities Agency is a regional wastewater treatment agency that provides sewage treatment a county in California. The Agency also serves as a supplemental source of potable water and recycled water to the same area. The Agency was incorporated in June 1950, under the Municipal Water District Act of 1911, as a municipal water district. Its service area encompasses 242 square miles, including several cities.

Before electronic document management was introduced to the Agency, there was a mass of paper vital records and documents needed for referencing water and wastewater systems, facilities, pipelines and manholes. Most of the information was managed by employee memory or paper drawings, so there was low reliability as to where the utilities actually were located. The Agency had a complete records program with file plan and retention schedule. The natural step was to implement a document management system.

Liberty IMS Solution

The Agency saw the need for greater access to records for both the public and staff. A Liberty IMS Solution Provider was chosen to install and implement LibertyNET.



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The first phase focused on records such as board minutes, ordinances and resolutions – all permanent documents. The second phase focused on the facilities and maintenance departments. The Agency used LibertyNET to scan and store work orders issued from the existing maintenance management system (MMS). The job completion and work orders were scanned and automatically indexed using a database lookup from the MMS database.

The Agency is working with the Liberty IMS Solution Provider to develop a Computer Output to Laser Disk (COLD) application that will allow authorized users to access financial reports. The reports are collated by account number and will be distributed to authorized users.

In mid-2003, the Agency decided to expand the ability to access additional information through a custom web-based GIS application tied to LibertyNET. GIS allows staff to obtain information about a



chosen manhole or pipeline, search for sites, or select data for analysis.

Water mains, manholes and other major point features are being captured and imported into the new database. Data layers are being routinely updated and new layers created, using a combination of GIS technology and as-built drawings. The as-builts include architectural, mechanical, electrical and pipeline drawings that show the final state of the buildings and pipelines.

Client Benefit

"From my observations since the GIS application was first implemented, the most important use of the GIS application is easily locating as-built drawings stored in the LibertyNET Document Management System," said the Information Services Manager for the Agency. "It serves as an intuitive, easy-to-use front end to finding the drawings our users are searching for and then serving them up from the LibertyNET system. The users love it."

For more information about how LibertyNET can help your company, contact us:

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