TOWNSHIP OF CENTRE WELLINGTON
CLIENT

NEPTUNE
TECHNOLOGY GROUP

WELLINGTON, ONTARIO
LOCATION

DAP PC9800 HANDHELD

ROADMAPS® MOBILE DATA COLLECTOR

The key drivers for the Township to move to a metered system included the following:

- Equitable billing as the future cost to supply water is expected to increase.

- Encourage conservation of a valuable natural resource.

- Supply is becoming limited which supports the need to conserve.

SITUATION

The Township of Centre Wellington, Ontario is in the process of universally metering its 5,000 residential and commercial water services. Universal metering involves moving from a flat rate system of billing to a user pay system. According to Environment Canada, flat rate customers in Canada use 457 litres (120.7 U.S. gallons) of water per day in comparison to volume-based customers who use only 269 litres (71.1 U.S. gallons) per day. Reducing overall demand was a key objective for the Township. Universal metering was selected as the best method to achieve that goal because it is proven to reduce overall water demand by 15% to 30%.

Accu-Flo
Meter Service Ltd.

TOWNSHIP OF
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WELLINGTON
UNITY IS STRENGTH

In relative terms, with approximately 5,000 services, Centre Wellington is considered a small utility. However, they are playing a leading role in the AMR industry. Centre Wellington is leap-frogging to a 100% RF AMR solution with Neptune's ARB® Utility Management System™. The Township's 5,000 water services will be equipped with Neptune's R900 RF meter interface units (MIUs) and read by Neptune's RoadMAPS® mobile data collection system.

The Township selected Ontario-based Neptune Technology Group to provide turnkey project management services for their universal metering project. The project started in late February 2003 and is set for completion by August 2005.

Neptune Technology Group's Canadian Service Division is the country's only completely integrated solution provider. Neptune offers the Township one-source accountability: water meter manufacturer, meter reading system manufacturer, system implementation, turnkey project management including installation services, a comprehensive public education and customer communication plan, call center services, inventory management, and complete data management services.

Neptune's locally based project manager, David Oner, is highly qualified and experienced to oversee this type of project. David recently completed Canada's largest RF AMR water meter project in Brandon, Manitoba. (Refer to the Fall 2002 issue of *Water Watcher* for the Brandon story.)

System Integrity and Data Integrity are critically managed aspects of the project. Neptune's Service Group ensures that all products are installed precisely to manufacturer's specifications enhancing the overall long-term performance of the Township's AMR system.

Neptune's Canadian Service Group uses installation protocols designed to maximize system performance:

- Every R900 is field tested at the time of installation from street level to ensure a read can be captured. The installation is deemed complete only when a street level check-read can be captured.

- Once a month, during the operational phase of the project, Neptune will perform a secondary system integrity check using Neptune's mobile meter reading system to read all meters installed to date.

- Once the system is fully deployed, as a final verification, Neptune will conduct a system-wide integrity check using the mobile data collection system. At this time, final alterations to the system will be performed (if necessary), and a second final pass will be conducted before the project is considered complete.

With Neptune's ARB Utility Management System, Centre Wellington can expect to read the Township in approximately four hours. The AMR system will offer immediate operational efficiencies and provide timely and accurate bills.

The flexibility of this technology allows utilities the freedom to choose full-scale deployment or selected applications. RF AMR technology is a viable solution for utilities of all sizes.

NEPTUNE'S PROJECT MANAGER, DAVID ONER, INSTALLING A T-10 METER WITH R900 MODULE IN BRANDON.

Accu-Flo
Meter Service Ltd.

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