



Optimizing Sewer System Maintenance



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Agenda

- The Problem We Solve
- The Benefits We Provide
- Current Industry Maintenance Strategies
- Condition-Based Maintenance
- Enabling Technology Overview
- Case Study – Little Rock Arkansas

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The Problem We Help Solve

- Providing fast cost-effective data to better direct cleaning and CCTV resources
- Enabling a Condition-Based Maintenance Program
- Optimizing cleaning – clean the right pipe at the right time



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The Benefits Our Customers See

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Conventional Sewer Maintenance Strategies

Reactive Cleaning

- Run-to-Failure
- Often with a "Hot Spot" program

Time-Based Cleaning

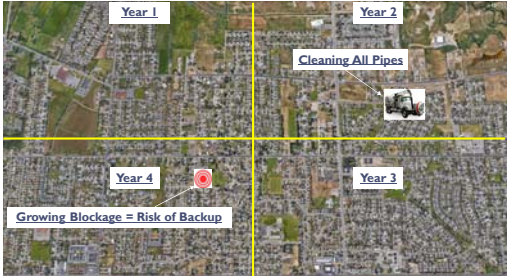
- Cleaning and Inspection Requirements 12 – 120 Months
- Select Neighborhood(s) and Clean
- Often enhanced with a "Hot Spot" program



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Time-Based Strategy



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Transitioning to a New O&M Model

Time-Based Cleaning
Maintenance Protocol

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Condition-Based Cleaning
Maintenance Protocol

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Condition-Based Strategy

Send trucks based on assessment

Good
Fair
Poor
Blocked

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What is the Technology?

Sewer Line Rapid Assessment Tool
(SL-RAT®)

- Developed with an NSF Grant
- Released in 2012
- Uses Acoustics to assess sewer line blockages
- Evaluated by U.S. EPA - 2014
- In use with over 1400 utilities worldwide
- ASTM Inspection Protocol

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How Does Acoustics Fit with Other Inspection Tools?

Manhole Inspection

ACOUSTIC

Zoom Camera

Push Camera

- CCTV/Robotic Camera
- Pipe Wall Defect Scanners
- Pipe Profiling / Robotic Multi-Sensor

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Condition-Based Maintenance Workflow

1 70-90% Screen System

2 10-30% Clean Problem Pipe Segments

3 10% Post Cleaning QA

4 1% CCTV lines that do not improve Engineering Study

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How Does It Work?

Transmitter "Yells"

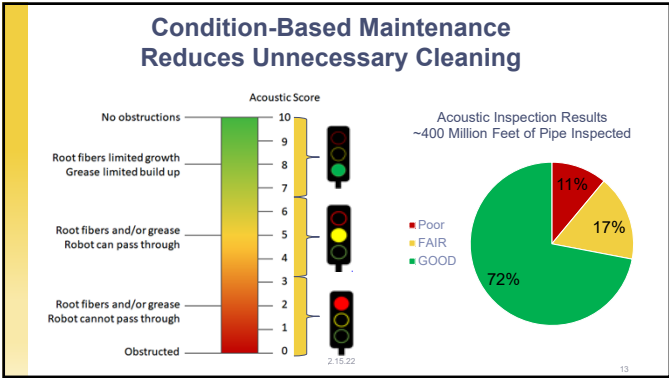
80-160 Seconds

Receiver "Listens" AND Analyzes

Obstruction
Dissipates
acoustic energy

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Little Rock, Arkansas

Objectives

- Transition from Time-Based to a Condition-Based Program
- Reduced Maintenance Expense
- Improved System Performance

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Overview

Little Rock

- Population: 200,000
- 1100 miles gravity mains $\leq$ 18 inch

Acoustic Screening Program

- 12 acoustic inspection devices
- Condition-Based maintenance strategy
- Increase annual maintenance from 40% to 100%
- Effectively deploy resources
- Reorganize current staff
- Add post-cleaning quality assurance

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LRWRA Non-Capacity SSO's (before acoustic inspection)

LRWRA Non-Capacity SSO's	
2012	57
2013	50
2014	43
2015	49
2016	60

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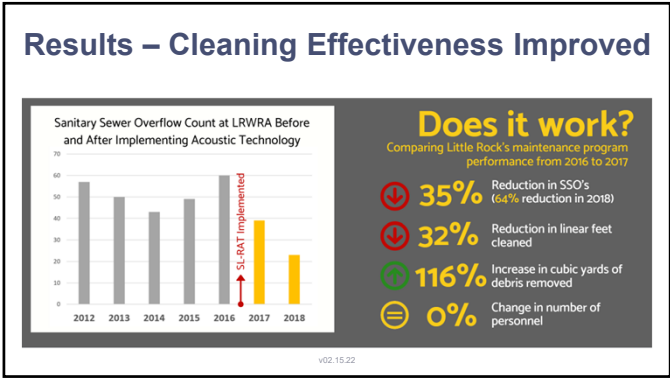
Keys to Successful Implementation

Little Rock

- Restructure staff OR outsource work
- Develop workflow procedures
- Identify starting point and plan
- Abort time-based PM's

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Acoustic Inspection Applications

- Focus Cleaning Effort – Reduce Cleaning by Over 50% and Enable Condition Based Maintenance
- Post Cleaning – Quality Assurance
- Reduce Pre-Cleaning for CCTV inspection
- Quick Collection System Condition Assessments When Taking Over New Areas

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Implications

- Adopting Condition-Based Maintenance Makes Sense
- Enabled by the SL-RAT®
- Reduces Unnecessary Cleaning
- Improves System Performance
- Lowers Maintenance Costs
- Reduces SSO and backup claim risk



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Questions?

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Appendix

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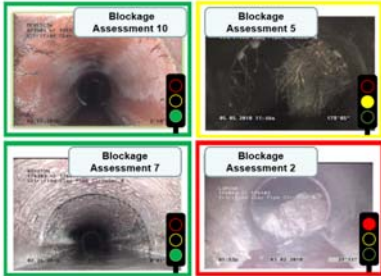
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Issues with Reactive Cleaning	Issues with Time-Based Cleaning
➢ Run-to-Failure can be very costly – SSO's, back ups, etc ➢ Often does not meet regulatory requirements ➢ System problems/emergencies drive resource allocation ➢ Managing hot spots is costly and time consuming ➢ Not pro-active	➢ Clean every pipe segment regardless of condition ➢ Unable to provide a quantified assessment of the pipe conditions ➢ The only cleaning tools available have been slow, expensive, and high-risk heavy equipment ➢ Managing associated hot spots is costly and time consuming

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Visual Comparison



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Limitations of Acoustics

- What acoustic inspection does NOT tell you:
 - Type of blockage
 - Could be one big thing, or a lot of small things
 - Aggregate score of entire pipe segment
 - Location of blockage
 - Presence of small structural defects (fine cracks, joints, etc.)

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Impact of Pipe Sags

The diagram illustrates the impact of pipe sags on wastewater flow. It shows three scenarios: 1. Straight Pipe: A horizontal pipe with a uniform water level. 2. Partial Pipe Sag: A pipe with a slight downward curve, causing the water level to rise in the sagged section. 3. Full Pipe Sag: A pipe with a deep curve, where the water level is significantly higher in the sagged section, potentially leading to overflow or blockage.

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Impact of Pipe Diameter

- Comparison of open surface area at various pipe diameters
 - Assume pipe is ¼ full with flow, obstruction is 18 sq. inches

The diagrams show the cross-section of pipes with diameters of 6, 10, 18, and 24 inches. Each diagram shows the water level (blue) and the obstruction (brown). The obstruction is a brown circle representing a blockage. The water level is shown as a blue arc. The diagrams illustrate how the relative size of the obstruction changes with pipe diameter.

Diameter	6 inches	10 inches	18 inches	24 inches
Total surface area (sq.in)	28.3	78.5	254.5	452.4
% blocked	89%	48%	32%	29%

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Validated by U.S. EPA Study

- "The results of this demonstration of the SL-RAT show promise for the application of this technology as a tool for cost-effective, pre-cleaning assessment and post-cleaning quality assurance. The application of this technology in an overall collection system O&M program should enable wastewater utilities to optimize their sewer cleaning efforts and free up valuable resources to more effectively implement critical CMOM and asset management programs."
- "Rapid assessment approaches and tools provide an avenue to significant pre-cleaning inspection cost savings that could be achieved through reduced inspection and non-productive cleaning costs."

Source: U.S. EPA "Demonstration of Innovative Sewer System Inspection Technology: SL-RAT™" June 2014

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Screened 90% of System in First Full Year

Maintenance Operations Over 1st Year of Implementation

The funnel chart shows the progression of maintenance operations over the first year of implementation. It is divided into four sections, each representing a different level of maintenance activity and the distance covered.

Section	Percentage	Activity	Distance
1	70-90%	~1000 miles (90%)	~1000 miles (90%)
2	10-30%	~250 miles (23%)	~250 miles (23%)
3	10%	~120 miles (10%)	~120 miles (10%)
4	1%	Engineering Study	Engineering Study

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City of Lindon, UT

Objectives

- New director partnering with service provider (R.H. Borden) to establish understanding of system health
- Transitioning institutional knowledge from retiring operators

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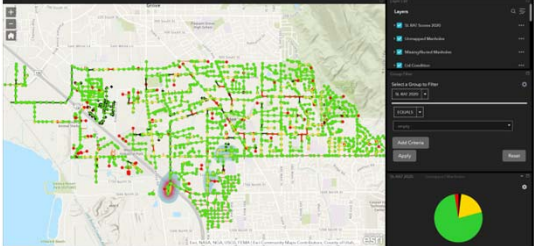
Results

- Inspected entire system in one month, as opposed to cleaning the entire system, which would take three years
- Manhole conditions were documented systematically
- System needs were documented in ArcGIS cloud Data dashboard.

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Data Dashboard

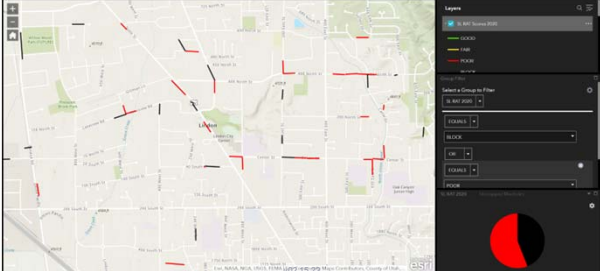


<https://rhborden.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a8def08815894b6f9994ad78ddde481>

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Data Dashboard – Filtered view



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Screened 100% of System in One Month

Maintenance Operations Over 1st Year of Implementation

1

70-90%

~ 60 miles (100%)

2

10-30%

~ 2.5 miles (4%)

3

10%

~ 1 mile (1.5%)

4

1%

Engineering Study

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- Risk Comparison
- Water Usage Comparison
- Effectiveness Comparison
- Cost Comparison

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Risk Comparison – Rotational vs Conditional

Risk Area	 Rotational Clean + CCTV	 Condition Based SL-RAT-Clean-CCTV
Percentage of System Maintained Each Year	20%	100%
Blockages Removed From System Each Year	20%	100%
Manhole Inspections / High Risk Manholes Cleaned	20%	100%
Focused CCTV On High-Risk Areas	No	Yearly
Full System CCTV Over Time	7 year	10-12 year
Insights (Missing/Buried Manholes, Infiltration, Photos, Map Updates)	No	Yes
Historical System Performance Data/Documentation	Paper/Spreadsheet	ArcGIS Dashboard
Funds Remaining For Identified Capital Repairs	X	✓

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Cost/Time Comparison – Traditional vs Conditional			
	 Cleaning	 CCTV	 Service
System Size	100 Miles	100 Miles	100 Miles
Equipment Cost 	\$50,000	\$30,000	0
Maintenance Cost 	\$10,000	\$5,000	0
Fuel Cost 	\$30,000	\$20,000	0
Labor Cost 	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$95,000
Total Cost	\$240,000	\$210,000	\$95,000
Cost / Foot	\$0.45	\$0.40	\$0.18
Time to Complete	264 days	396 days	27 days

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Cost/Time Comparison – Traditional vs Conditional			
	 Cleaning	 CCTV	 Service
System Size	33 Miles	33 Miles	100 Miles
Equipment Cost 	\$50,000	\$30,000	0
Maintenance Cost 	\$5,000	\$5,000	0
Fuel Cost 	\$10,000	\$8,000	0
Labor Cost 	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$95,000
Total Cost	\$115,000	\$93,000	\$95,000
Cost / Foot	\$0.66	\$0.53	\$0.18
Time to Complete	88 days	132 days	27 days

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