



# IDEA 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference 2015

## *Acoustic Pipe Wall Thickness Testing and Leak Detection in Aging Water Mains*

**Water Efficiency, Capital Efficiency, and System Resiliency**

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**Mueller Co.**

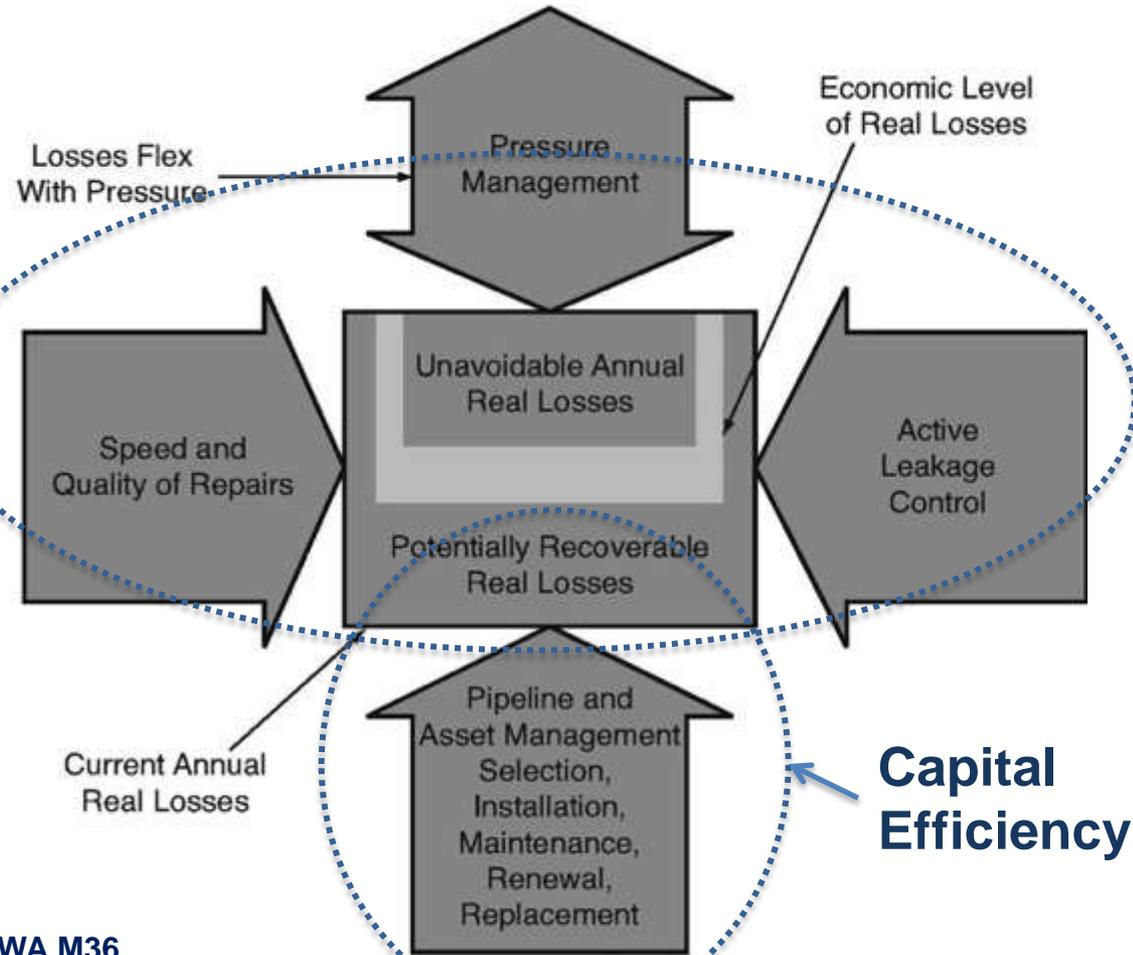
# Facility Manager View

## *NRW, Energy, Pressure, and Pipe*

### Water Efficiency and System Resiliency

Older pipe networks:

- Leak more (background leakage)
- Leak quieter (more difficult to find)
- Have higher risk of catastrophic failure

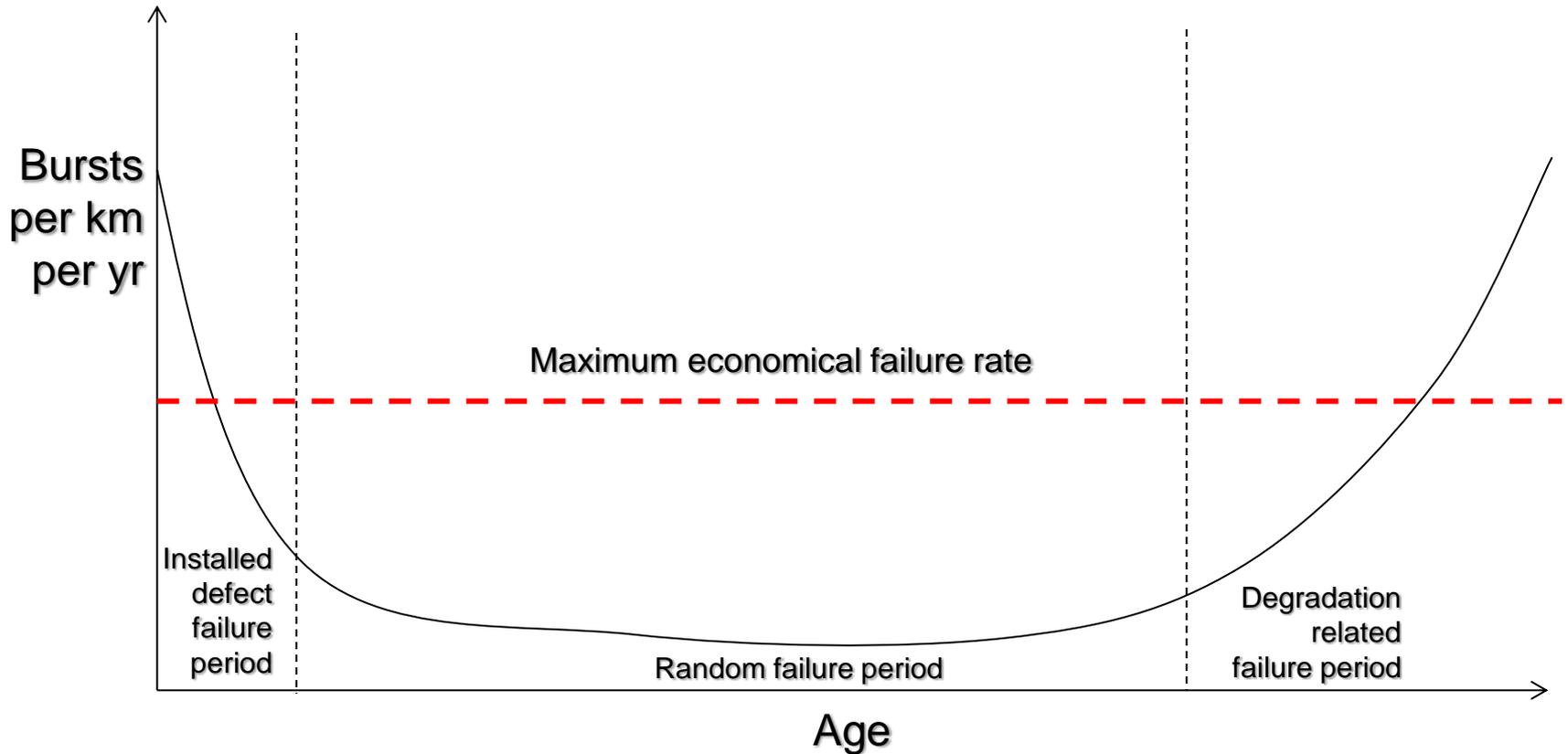


Reference: AWWA M36

Figure 5-1 The four-pillar approach to the control of real losses

# Assessing Pipe Condition

***Service Life  $\neq$  Design Life***



# Optimizing Pipeline Asset Management

## *How to Prioritize Based on Condition?*

Pipeline 1	Pipeline 2
Installed 1860	Installed 1860
Brown clay soil	Brown clay soil
Corrosive soil	Moderately corrosive soil
6" Cast Iron Pipe	6" Cast Iron Pipe



**47.3% Measured Loss**



**0.5% Measured Loss**

# The Problem of Pipe Failure

## *Why Condition Assessment Matters*

- All pipe will degrade and fail over time but at varying rates
  - ▶ Consequences = water loss and catastrophic breaks
- Pipe is hidden underground
  - ▶ No visual way to determine good versus bad pipe
- Reliance on pipe failure history and age is ineffective
  - ▶ Up to 70% of mains being replaced are still in good condition
- Replacing and rehabilitating pipe is expensive
  - ▶ Pipe replacement costs of \$1,000,000 or more per mile
- Because of price and selection error, wrong pipes are targeted
  - ▶ Increasing water loss and likelihood of catastrophic breaks



# Focus: Capital Efficiency

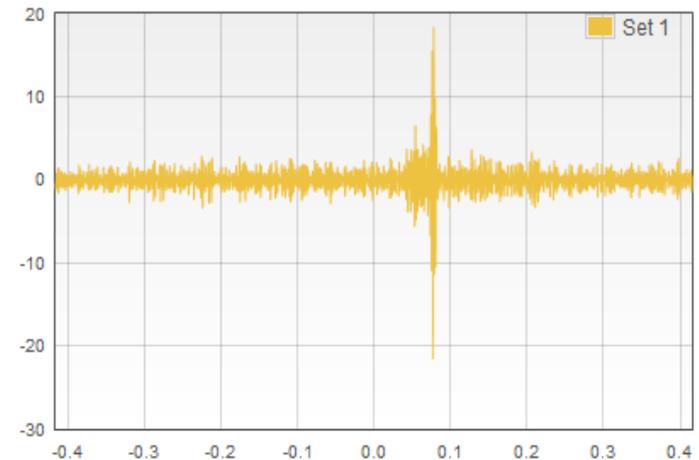
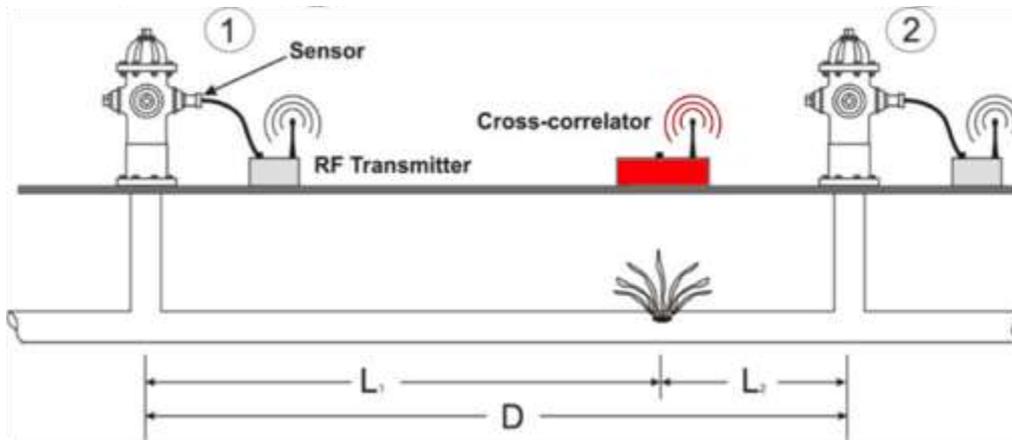
*Acoustic Pipe Wall Thickness Testing*



# Acoustic Leak Correlation Analysis

## *Principle of Operation*

1. Bracket the leak with two sensors
2. The leak sound propagates in both directions
3. Correlator measures the time difference to reach each of the sensors to determine the exact leak location



# Transmission Main Leak – Confirmed: 108” Concrete 2,627’ Between Sensors

**Utility:** East Bay Municipal Utilities District

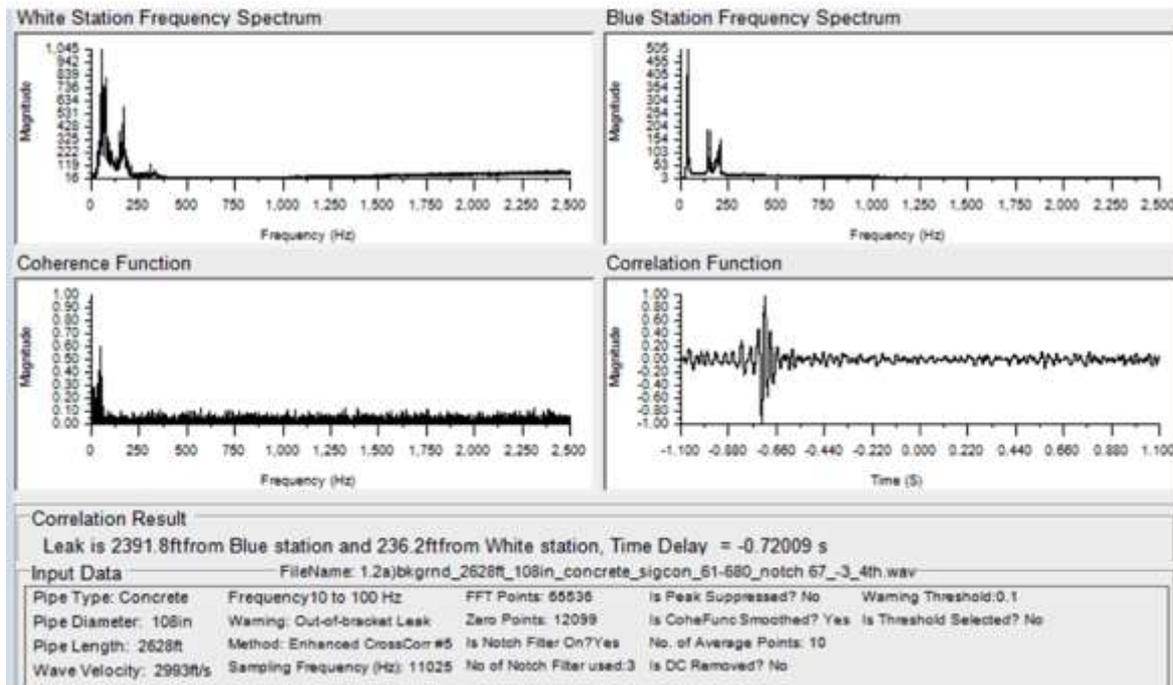
**Project Location:** California, USA

**Project Timeframe:** September 2010

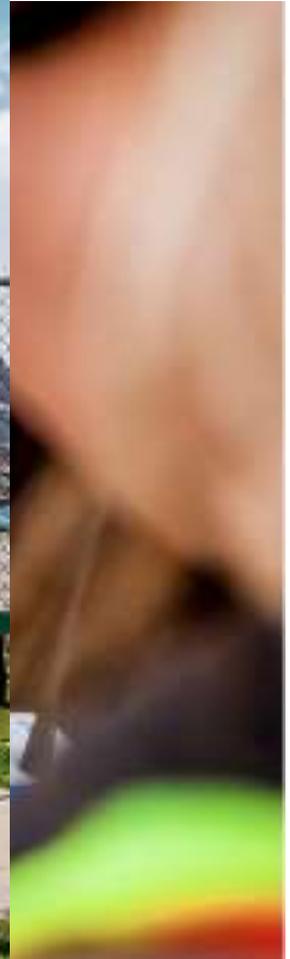
**Pipeline Diameter:** 108”

**Correlation Plot Number:** 3

**Material:** Concrete



# Acoustic Field Work



# Sensor Connections: *Appurtenances or Pipe*

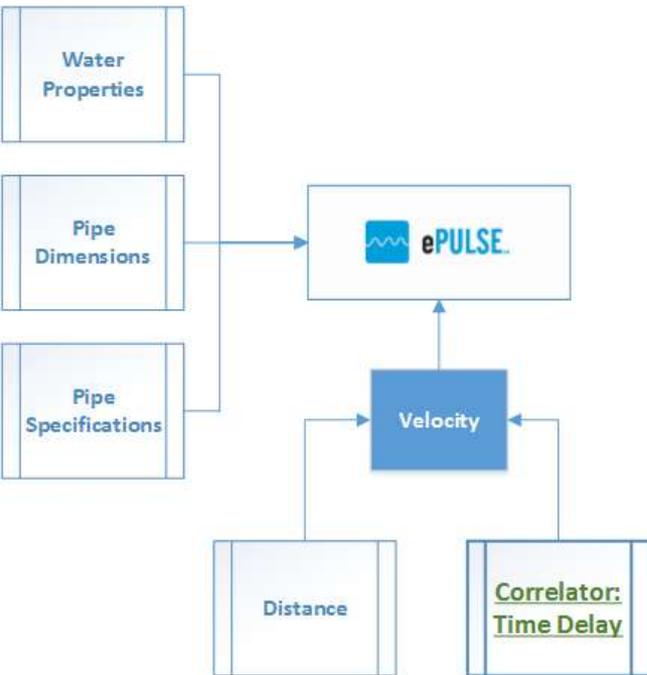


# APWTT Survey-Level Testing

## REQUIREMENTS

- **Pressure  $\geq$  15 PSI**
- **Minimal air in pipe**
- **Pipe information (maps, as-built, specs)**
- **Access points, ideally every 300' to 500'**

# APWTT Survey-Level Testing: *Structural Wall Thickness Only*

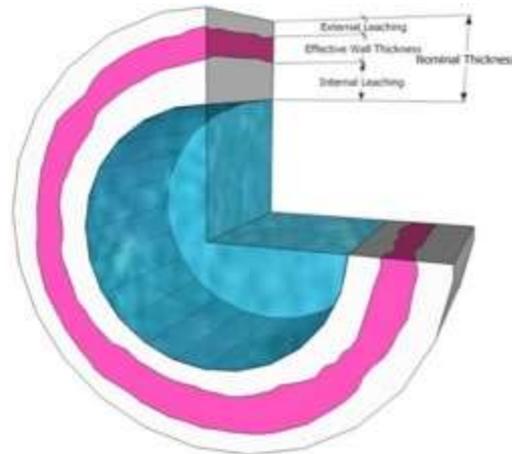
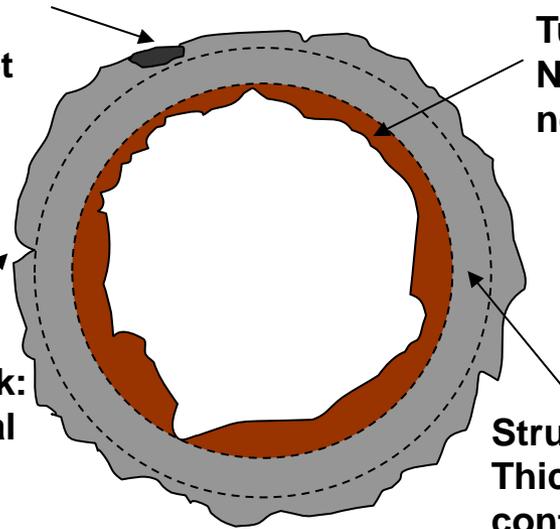


**Graphitized material: Not structural, not measured**

**Tuberculation: Not structural, not measured**

**Longitudinal Crack: Reduces structural thickness over its full length**

**Structural Wall Thickness: Maximum continuous band of metal**



# Case Study: City of Newark

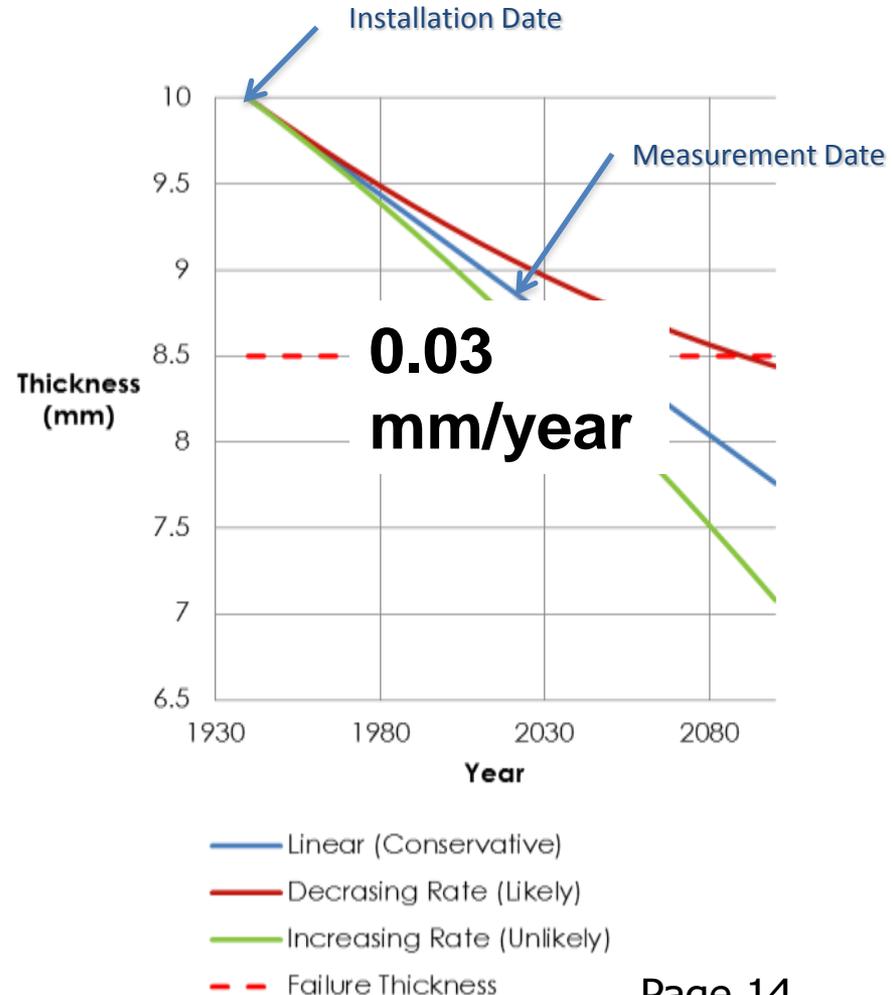


**This is the remaining structural thickness!**

# Remaining Service Life Analysis

## *Cast Iron, Asbestos Cement*

- The current thickness of the pipe is measured using APWTT
- A linear extrapolation is performed by using the measured thickness, the nominal thickness and the installation date
- The Failure thickness is predicted by calculating the minimum required thickness to carry the given loads
- The loads include: internal pressure from the water column and external pressure from the soil and traffic loads



# Case Study: Cleaning & Lining

## *New Jersey American Water*

- Used APWTT with Remaining Service Life to pre-assess township area targeted for *Cleaning & Lining*
- Minimal history of breaks
  - ▶ Expected pipelines to be in good to moderate condition
  - ▶ Expected entire area would be Cement Mortar Lined
- Unlined pit cast, pressure Class C: 4" to 12"
- **Results**
  - ▶ **8% of segments in Good Condition** ≤ 10% degraded
  - ▶ **26% of segments in Moderate Condition** 10 – 30% degraded
  - ▶ **66% if segments in Poor Condition** ≥ 30% degraded
- Verified results via coupon samples
- Used Echologics results to determine level of rehabilitation required, i.e., 3M liner or CML

# Condition Map: NJAW C&L Project

## *Good Pipe, Rehabilitate, or Replace?*



# Case Study: NJAW C&L Program

## Mapping Service Life to Level of Rehabilitation

Cement Total                      4839                      3365  
    19263                      19263

Segment Number	Street	Segment Length	Diameter	Nominal Structural Thickness	Measured Structural Thickness	Degradation %	Remaining Safe Service Life	Lining Type
		FT	IN	IN	IN	%	YR	
1	Euclid	452	6	0.49	0.14	71	1	Semi-Structural
2	Euclid	415	6	0.49	0.16	67	7	Semi-Structural
3	Euclid	660	6	0.49	0.21	57	19	Water Quality
4	Durand	501	6	0.49	0.22	55	32	Cement
5	Durand	460	6	0.49	0.17	65	11	Semi-Structural
6	Quentin	259	6	0.49	0.17	65	11	Semi-Structural
7	Roosevelt	684	6	0.49	0.18	62	8	Semi-Structural
8	Roosevelt	370	6	0.49	0.23	53	37	Cement
9	Roosevelt	660	6	0.49	0.13	73	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
10	Kermit	294	6	0.49	0.13	73	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
11	Curtis	759	6	0.49	0.28	43	50	Cement
12	Curtis	396	6	0.49	0.28	53	36	Cement
13	Curtis	536	6	0.49	0.24	51	36	Cement
14	Ridgewood	352	6	0.49	0.16	67	5	Semi-Structural
15	Ridgewood	799	6	0.49	0.17	66	6	Semi-Structural
16	Ridgewood	520	6	0.49	0.24	51	35	Cement
17	Clinton	828	6	0.49	0.17	65	6	Semi-Structural
18	Clinton	764	6	0.49	0.20	59	21	Water Quality
19	Mountain	653	10	0.63	0.34	46	23	Water Quality
20	Mountain	320	10	0.63	0.27	57	37	Cement
21	Mountain	701	10	0.63	0.4	36	50	Cement
22	Maple	440	6	0.49	0.13	73	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
23	Maple	694	6	0.49	0.16	67	5	Semi-Structural
24	Elm	740	4	0.48	N/A	N/A	N/A	REPLACED
25	Elm	706	6	0.49	0.13	73	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
26	Myrtle	407	6	0.49	0.14	71	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
27	Myrtle	367	12	0.68	0.28	59	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
28	Pine	738	6	0.49	0.13	74	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
29	Pine	372	12	0.68	0.25	63	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
30	Pine	379	12	0.68	0.23	66	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
31	Cypress	737	6	0.49	0.1	79	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
32	Cypress	755	6	0.49	0.12	76	Exceeded	Semi-Structural
33	Cedar	736	6	0.49	0.33	33	50	Cement
34	Cedar	786	6	0.49	0.13	74	Exceeded	Semi-Structural

# Case Study:

## *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission*

- **Level 1: Desktop Modeling**

- ▶ Develop condition scores based on decay curves by asset type and maintenance history.



- **Level 2: Inspection**

- ▶ Assess the condition of pipes targeted for rehabilitation to make rehab/replacement decisions and update Level 1 condition scores. Examples: acoustic-based testing, electromagnetic assessment, visual inspection, etc.



- **Level 3: Monitoring**

- ▶ Do selective monitoring of critical (high risk) pipelines.



# Case Study: WSSC Distribution

- Over \$1.0B is projected over the next decade to address water pipe infrastructure needs
- Increased condition assessment accuracy will result in better use of infrastructure renewal funds
- A pilot project was initiated in 2012 to inspect the pipes already scheduled for replacement to calibrate and verify the desktop model
  - ▶ Ultrasonic sensor remaining wall thickness measurements
  - ▶ Destructive testing and micrometer measurements for corrosion, graphitization, tuberculation, cracks, and degradation of internal lining

# Example Measurement Comparisons

Cooper 1-3:		Sheridan 1-3		
	Echologics	Correng Ladd 2-13	Dacco	
% loss	8.1			
Average wall thickness (inch)	0.35	53.6 0.34	0.35	0.32
Average wall thickness (inch)		0.23	0.27	0.37



# WSSC Results: Cast Iron Pipe

## *From Oct-2013 EAM Conference*

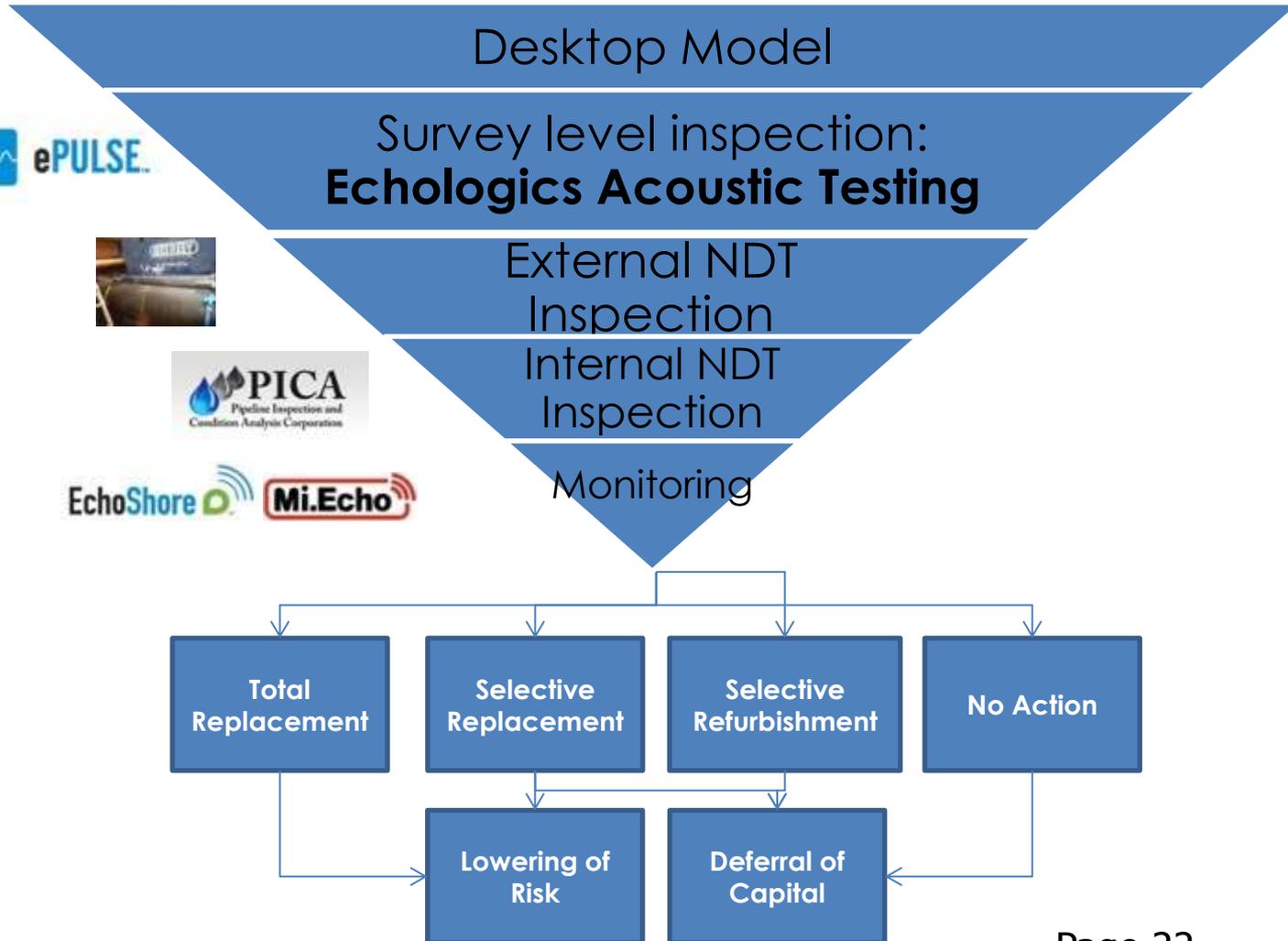
		CA Score FY2014 PIT Result				
35.30 mi		1	2	3	4	5
CA Score FY2013 AMP Result	5	4.00	1.63	0.46	0.79	0.86
	4	5.42	1.24	1.75	0.38	0.54
	3	9.60	2.88	3.28	1.22	1.01
	2	0.08	0.01	-	-	-
	1	0.06	0.11	-	-	-

	LF	miles	% of Total
No change in CA Score:	24,212	4.59	13%
Better* CA Score:	146,978	27.84	79%
Worse CA Score (probable accelerated aging):	15,210	2.88	8%
Potentially deferrable replacements:	76,539	14.50	41%
PIT-assessed critical replacements:	12,718	2.41	7%

# WSSC Program: Ferrous Water Mains

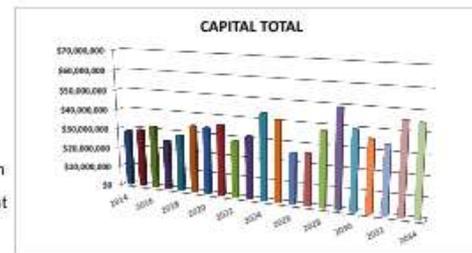
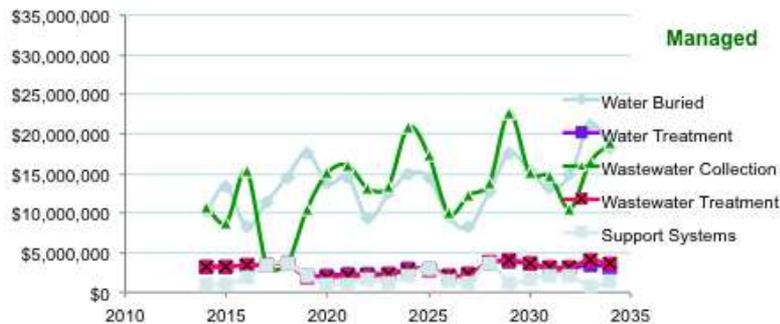
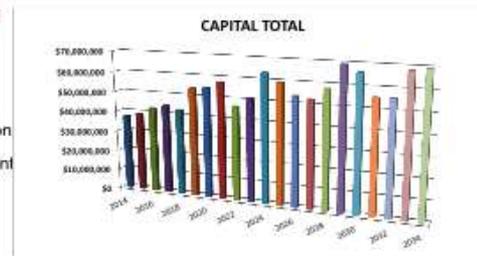
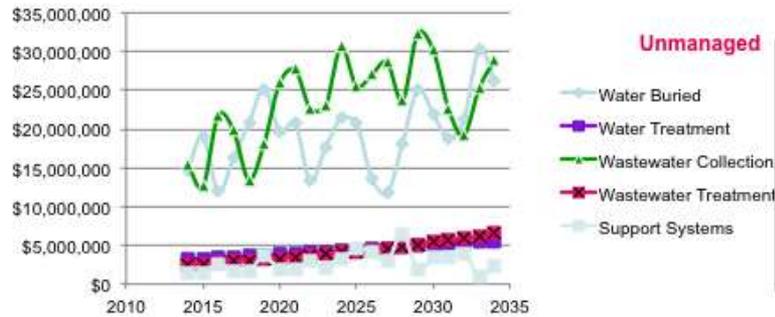
*75 Miles/Yr: 65 Distribution and 10 Transmission*

- GIS Map / Data
- Leak Detection
- Wall Thickness 
- Electromagnetic External 
- Electromagnetic In-Pipe 
- Monitoring
  - ▶ Distribution
  - ▶ Transmission



# WSSC Monetization of Results

## *Managed versus Unmanaged Consumption*



**No Condition Assessment  
(Historic Practice)**

**REPLACE: \$150-400/ft**

**Condition Assessment**

**REHAB: \$50-200/ft**

**GOOD PIPE: \$0**

# Acoustic Pipe Wall Thickness Testing

## *Conclusions*

- Summary of the APWTT Approach
  - Targets survey zones within a transmission or distribution main network
  - Completely non-destructive, non-invasive technique
  - Works on any diameter, most materials
- What APWTT results are used for:
  - Direct indicator of the pipeline structural integrity
  - The fitness of the pipeline for service
  - The pipeline remaining useful life

### APWTT Benefits - \$\$\$

- ✓ Identifies the 'good pipe'
  - Only 'bad pipe' are replaced/rehabilitated
- ✓ Leaks are identified in the process
  - Leaks are independent of condition





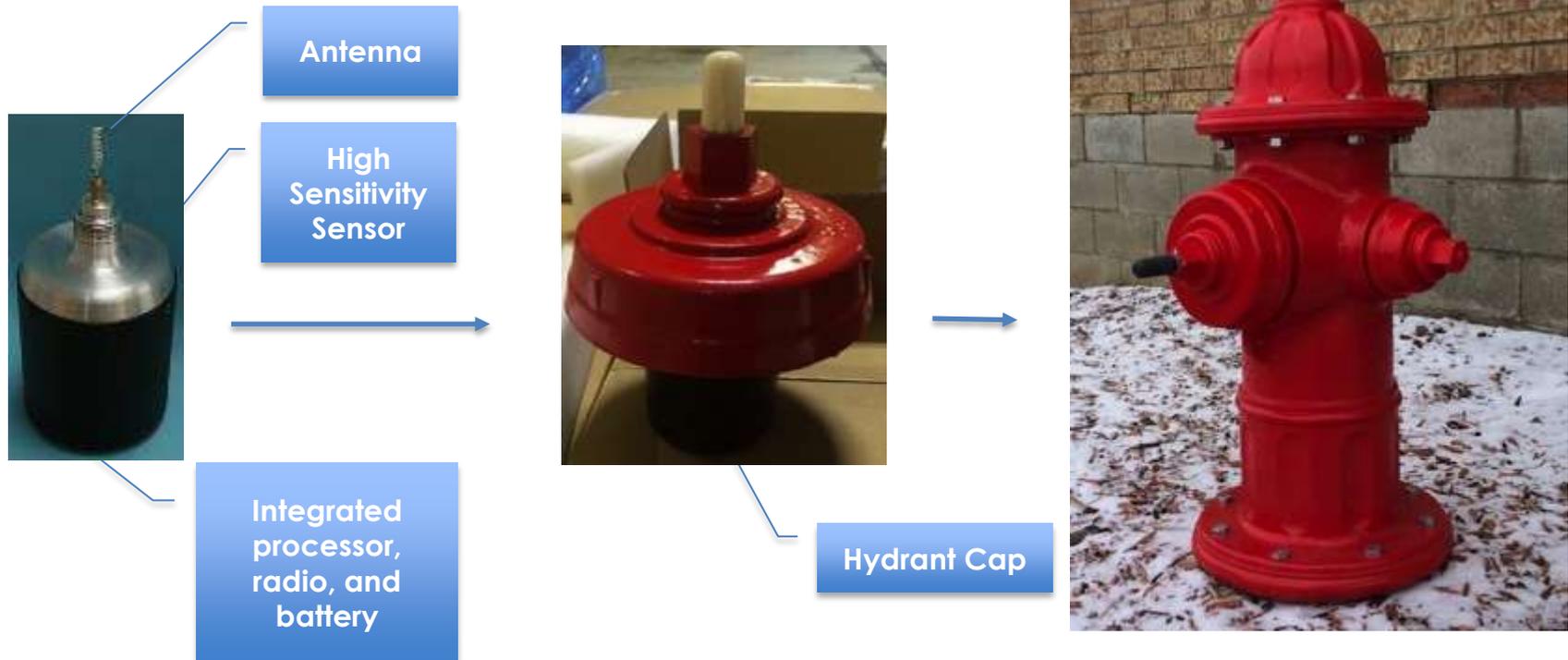
# Water Efficiency and System Resiliency

# Benefits of Fixed Leak Monitoring

- **Reduces *Non-Revenue Water*** with early leak detection
  - Average leak goes undetected for up to 9 months
  - Decreases background/quiet leaks which may account for up to 3% of water loss
- **Avoids catastrophic bursts** by fixing leaks early
  - Liabilities \$1M+ including collateral damage for transmission mains
  - Avoid bad publicity and customer dissatisfaction
- **Saves repair costs** by planning out repairs instead of emergency repairs
  - Prioritizes limited capital and maintenance spending
  - Significantly reduces *false positives*
- **Extends Asset service life**

# Fixed Leak Monitoring

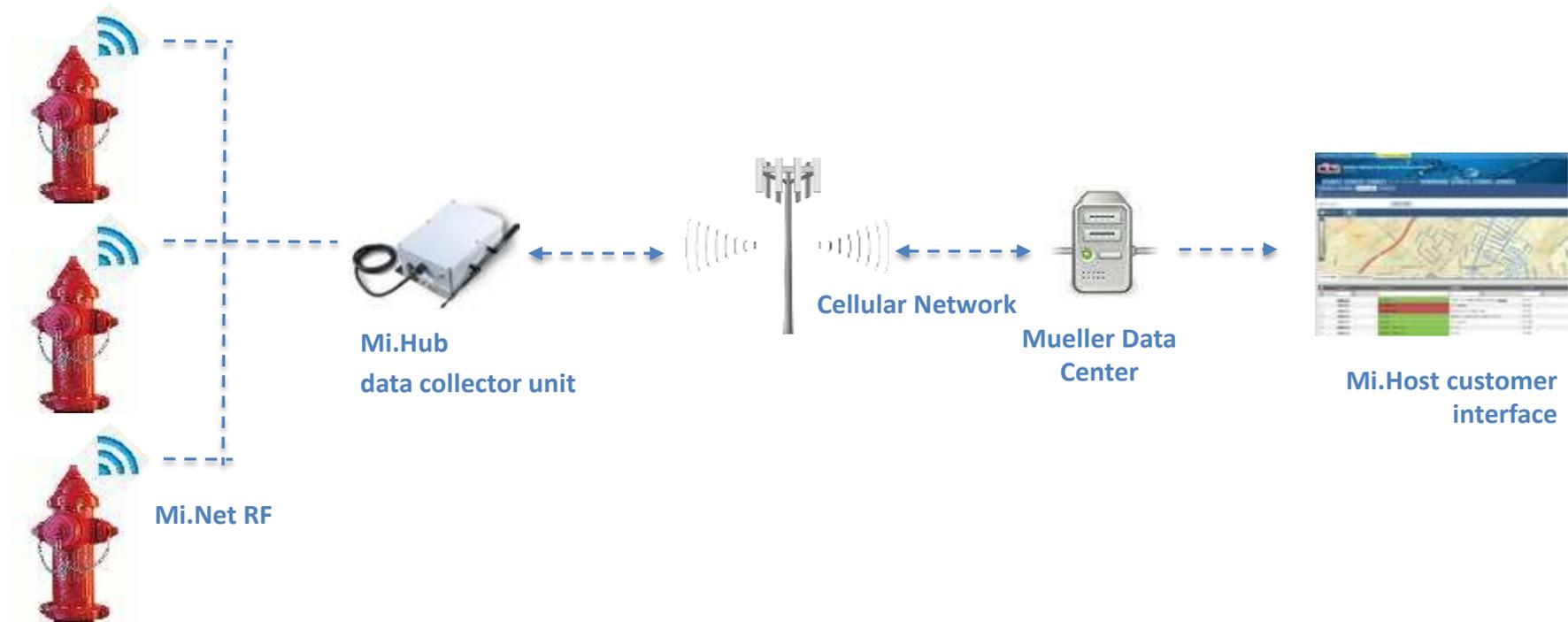
## Sampling node installed in standard hydrant cap



Based on the next-generation proven LeakFinder™ technology

# System Description

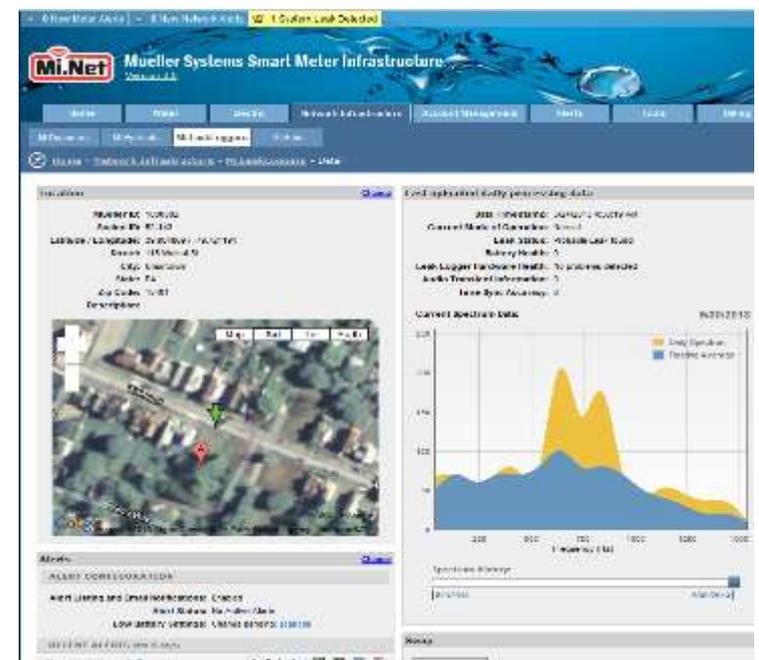
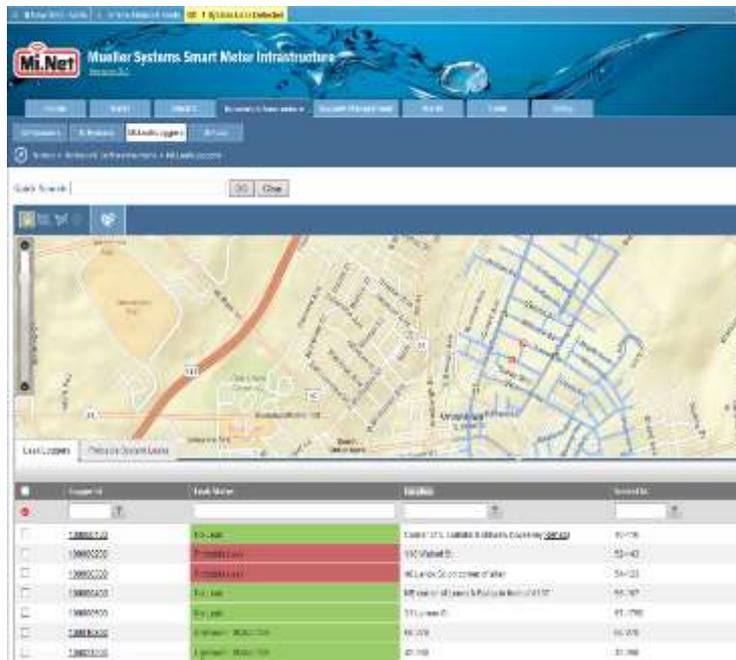
System comprised of a series of nodes and radio infrastructure:



Network of interconnected nodes monitors a service area

# User Interface

- Leverages existing functionality of Mi.Host
- Graphical and visual display of system status
- Leak events geospatially positioned within water infrastructure



Advanced leak detection integrated with Mi.Host interface

# Primary Detection

## *Node Level*

### Single Channel Leak Detection:

1. Node collects data over a 2-hr period
2. Node processes the data
3. Nodes determines leak likelihood

### Once/day data packet is transmitted to EAM:

- Leak likelihood score
- Node vitals



Node-level intelligence reduces false positive rate and extends battery life

# Secondary Leak Detection

## Central Server

### Multi-Channel Leak Detection:

1. EAM identifies leak groups
2. EAM requests data files from the leak group
3. Nodes compress and transmit data files [MB  $\rightarrow$  kB]
4. EAM performs correlations on all node pairs in the leak group



### Autonomous LFRT correlation algorithm

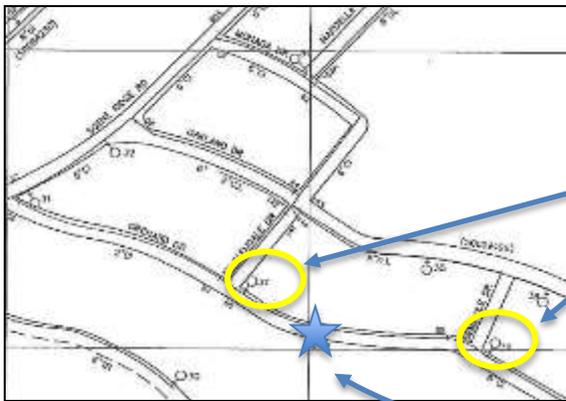
EAM-level intelligence increases LD probability and conserves radio bandwidth & battery life

# Fixed Leak Monitoring

## *Case Study: Liberty, Pennsylvania*

### Confirmed leak occurrence on May 1, 2014

- PA American Water first informed of the possible leak on April 4
- PA American leak detection crew investigated the area using other leak detection products – could not confirm the leak.
- Based on proprietary indicators, the fixed monitoring system registered the progressive severity of the leak over 4 weeks.



*Correlating  
hydrant nodes  
961 ft. apart*

*Leak  
location at  
337 ft.*

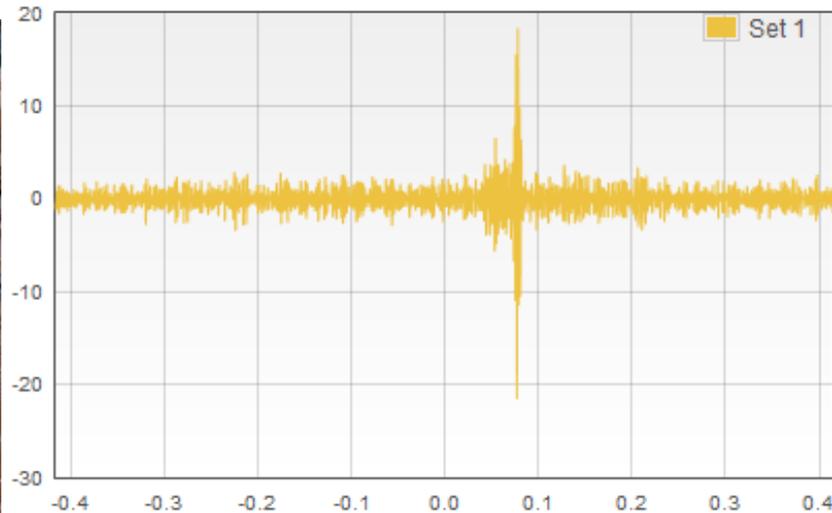


# Continuous Monitoring

## *What is the potential?*

Ability to track the progression of a leak from...

**\$95,000 system price**



**+4 weeks**

(prior to excavation)



***“It was a time bomb diffused” – Dave Hughes, American Water***  
**~\$100,000 repair cost from a 5 gpm leak mitigated**

# Transmission Main System

Start with a sampling node:



Antenna

Power Source

Processor &  
Comm.  
Hardware

Hydrophone



EchoShore node installed in an access chamber

Based on the next-generation proven LeakFinder™ technology

# Installation Details

## In-Chamber Equipment



## Antenna Options



Traffic Rated Dome



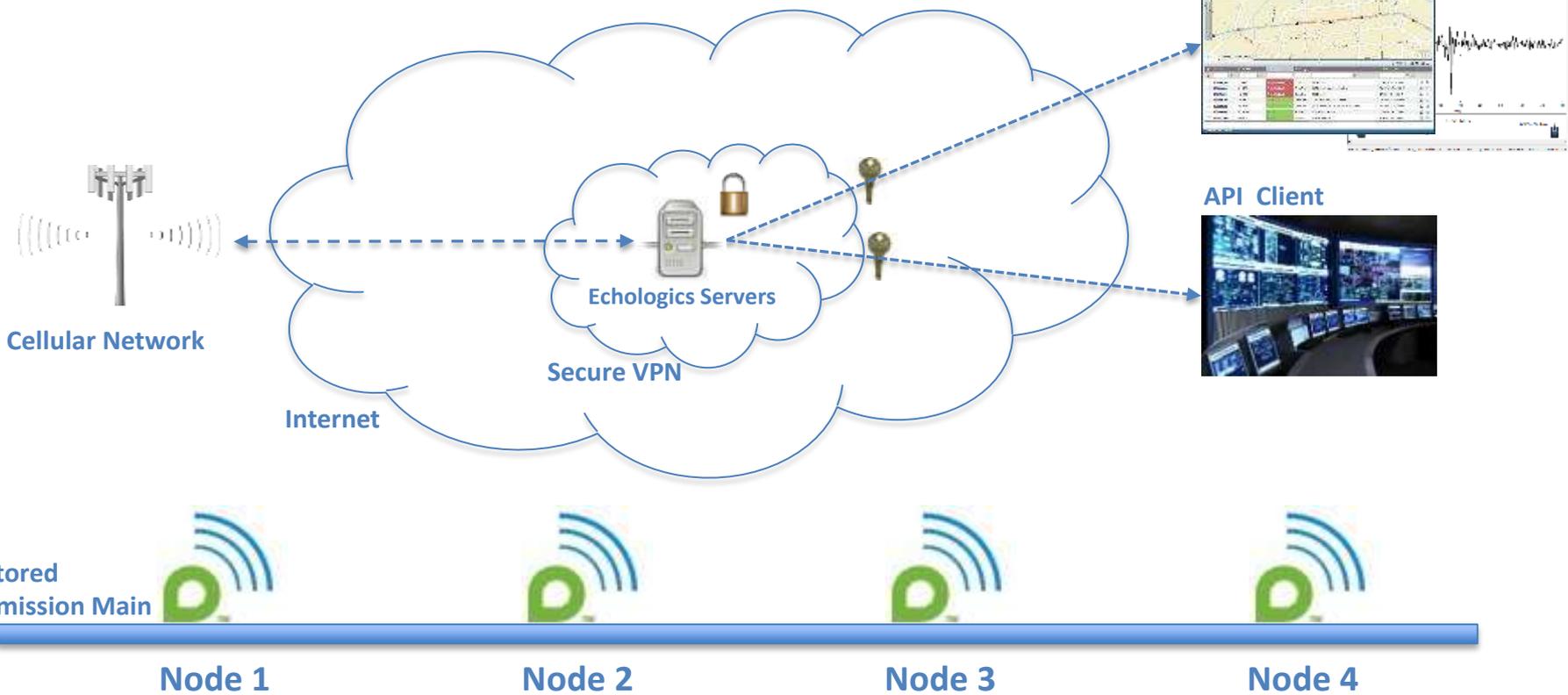
Traffic Rated Flush

## Other Options:

- Pole Mounted
- In-Road

Simple installation reduces system costs

# EchoShore TX Network



**Network of interconnected nodes monitors a service area**

# Expandable Platform

Pressure/Flow



Temperature



Chlorine



Other Customer Requirement

4-20 mA  
Signal

**Additional input  
ports reserved for  
sensor signals**

**Opportunity to expand from advanced leak detection to  
customized pipeline monitoring**