

PRESS RELEASE

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Open Spatial Maintains Momentum in Victoria delivering Geospatial Solution to Western Water

AUSTRALIA, Sydney, Nov. 13, 2009 — Open Spatial Australia today announced that Western Water, has selected it to supply its Corporate Spatial Solutions. Western Water is owned by the Victorian Government and provides water and wastewater services to 49,200 customers servicing a population of 135,000 in towns and urban localities west of Melbourne including Bacchus Marsh, Gisborne, Melton, Sunbury and Woodend. They manage 2,850km of wastewater, water and recycled water underground networks. Residential customers comprise 94 per cent of its customer base and rapid housing development along one of Melbourne's growth corridor means Western Water is experiencing a regional annual growth rate of 3.6% and current forecasts indicate that the population will double by 2026.

After a thorough evaluation involving multinational vendor's solutions, Western Water selected an Australian solution based on Autodesk and Oracle technologies to deliver robust, commercial grade business applications specific to the water and wastewater business.

The Open Spatial Solution is used by seven out of 17 (41%) urban water authorities in Victoria, Australia. The solution, comprising **Munsys (Managed Utility Network System)** and **Enlighten ADSS (Asset Decision Support System)** delivers to the primary requirement of assuring Data Quality, Accuracy, Integrity and Remote Data Availability.

Open Spatial is an Australian company building geospatial solutions that meet the needs of the utilities sectors in Australia and New Zealand. The Open Spatial Utility Solution continues to be the fastest growing solution to Australian water and wastewater infrastructure asset managers.



Contract Signing – Anthony Jahshan, MD Open Spatial Australia (OSA) and John Wilkinson, MD Western Water (WW). 2nd Row: Paul Louws Asset Manager WW, Eddie Basile Operations Manager OSA, Gaby van Wyk, Solutions Architect OSA, Robert Franklin, Dir of Engineering WW, Omar Altaie, Snr GIS Consultant OSA, Tim Goss GIS Manager WW.

“The technology underlying the Open Spatial solution is mainstream, risk averse and built for our local conditions,” Western Managing Director John Wilkinson said.

“A major factor in the success of Open Spatial’s bid is its adherence to open industry standards and engineering best practice governing the management of geospatial infrastructure asset information.”

Enlighten ADSS – will distribute spatial information to users throughout Western Water. This will provide access to accurate maps through a browser based solution that is the same for both office staff and crews out in the field. **Enlighten** is an innovative solution based on Internet and Web Services technologies that will totally integrate the organisation’s Customer Relationship Management system (CRM) CARE and Field Operations Case Utility System (FOCUS) from ViryaNet and their new AquaRate billing system. Enlighten provides an easy to use common user interface that brings disparate data together to create easily accessible information.

Munsys – Manages the **Utilities Network System** through a popular CAD based Spatial Data Management business application. Munsys is a tailored solution to Utilities based on AutoCAD® Map 3D, it manages the converging technologies of CAD, GIS and the use of Database Management Systems to deliver modern Geospatial Business Systems. Munsys drives efficiency and productivity improvements by managing the capture and management of spatial data to Engineering Best Practice rules when managing Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Assets. The integration of Munsys to the Western Water Asset Management system means that data is captured at its source and managed throughout the its lifecycle.

Western Water GIS Manager Tim Goss said Open Spatial’s solution would ensure Western Water safeguarded its 10 year investment in GIS data.

“This new system will provide a firm foundation to further improve our business processes and manage our resources, particularly our bursts and leaks management program,” Mr Goss said.

“Water pressure boundaries managed in the GIS are linked to customer’s consumption, which is stored in our billing system and correlated to identify water losses.” Open Spatial Managing Director Anthony Jahshan said delivering innovative geospatial solutions required a clear focus on the better management of infrastructure assets to meet global financial, environmental and sustainability demands.

“Our proven Utility Solution meets these challenges through constant adaptability that delivers measured outcomes for our users,” Mr Jahshan said.

“Every implementation of an Open Spatial Solution is a partnership between vendor and industry that translates needs into solutions.”

“The Enterprise approach treats the management of Spatial Data to the same standard as other mission critical corporate data, such as financial and billing information.

“More and more utilities are managing the risks imposed on their organisations, for example by using geospatial information to alert private contractors digging up their infrastructure,” he said.

Jahshan said “ensuring such information is of highest quality will provide Western Water with the risk management tools it needs to ensure consistent services.”

“Open Spatial has provided a solution which allows for seamless interoperability between critical business systems that adds a new dimension to corporate information,” Jahshan said.

The provision of Asset Decision Support information through a common user interface into the organisation's corporate application databases places emphasis on the minimisation of data redundancy and data duplication, typically experienced by traditional GIS applications. Enlighten is a totally Australian built product that meets the increasing demands placed on Australian Water Authorities, including its ability to meet the Essential Service Commission's performance criteria (KPI's).

This is achieved through mathematical tracing capabilities, able to identify and isolate valves, pipes and service connections necessary to stop the flow of water when a pipe burst occurs, **in the field**. It will also advise crews immediately which properties will be affected by the planned outage of water services, which significantly reduces the turnaround time required by traditional methods.

John Wilkinson said: Open Spatial's solution has an enterprise approach, which went beyond traditional Geographic Information Systems (GIS) implementations.

"The ability to spatially enable our critical applications will improve business process and ultimately our bottom line," Mr Wilkinson said.

"Western Water is committed to Geospatial Information Technology to improve our productivity and better target the delivery of our services."

"Open Spatial Australia has positioned itself as a leading vendor of Geospatial Solutions to the Water and Wastewater industry in Australia. We have made it our business objective to understand the needs of our customers so that we can deliver solutions to their business problems," Jahshan added.

About Western Water

The year 2008/09 has been one of continued success and development for Western Water with the key achievement being the commissioning of the Surbiton Park 'Class A' RWP and the subsequent connection of the first residential customers to Class A recycled water at Eynesbury, near Melton. This significant accomplishment was recognised when it received the **United Nations Award for Excellence in Sustainable Water Management** for the substitution of potable water with Class A recycled water at this new Victorian town. Western Water is committed to securing its water supply for the future and providing services that are socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. This year, residential water consumption fell to 159 l/p/d from 164 last year. At the same time, Western Water recycled 88% of all wastewater and achieved 121% reuse of biosolids, whilst maintaining an active commitment to greenhouse gas reduction.
www.westernwater.com.au

About Open Spatial

Open Spatial Australia Pty Ltd is an Australian company delivering geospatial solutions based on Autodesk and Oracle technologies throughout the Asia Pacific region. Recognised for delivering applications to government and utilities sectors throughout the region, all our solutions are based on internationally accepted open standards and world-class best practices. Open Spatial offers innovative spatial infrastructure solutions to managing spatial data from Survey through to Design, Construction and Ongoing Spatial Data Management. Our clients manage more than 44,000 km of water wastewater utility networks servicing almost 3 million people across eastern Australia.
www.openspatial.com.au

About Munsys

Munsys Inc. is a leading software development company, offering unique spatial solutions that are specifically tailored to the growing needs of worldwide utilities and government.
www.munsys.com