

# Media Release



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## GIS upgrade to Open Spatial puts Western Water's pipeline performance on the map

Western Water will be better able to isolate and manage pipeline leaks and bursts and other infrastructure incidents, as well as monitoring the performance of its systems more accurately, after signing up with Australian geospatial experts Open Spatial to replace its geographic information system (GIS).

Managing Director John Wilkinson said Open Spatial is well recognised for delivering mapping software and individualised applications to government and utilities sectors throughout the Asia Pacific region.

"Western Water's GIS capability was developed several years ago and has required extensive refinement over the past four years within the capabilities of the initial system," Mr Wilkinson said.

"This system reached the end of its use-by date and Western Water has now put in place a specialised water industry mapping facility (enlighten & Munsys) that is compliant with its other databases to record and manage its 2,850km underground pipeline network."

Mr Wilkinson said Western Water conducted a select tender assessment process that targeted companies present in the Victorian water industry.

"The tender put forward by Open Spatial offers Western Water innovative spatial infrastructure solutions to managing spatial data, from the survey through to the design of infrastructure projects, throughout construction and as a daily tool for maintenance and ongoing management of systems and services," he said.

"As a result, Western Water will have greater capacity to move quickly to isolate problem areas but, more importantly, to monitor performance and to better plan the network.

"With a regional annual growth rate of 3.6% and current forecasts indicating the population to double by 2026, Western Water now has the strategic advantage it needs to plan for the future," Mr Wilkinson said.

Western Water GIS co-ordinator Tim Goss said Open Spatial offers solutions based on Autodesk and Oracle technologies, all based on internationally accepted open standards and world's best practice.

"Open Spatial was chosen, primarily, because of its proactive development philosophy and strong presence in the Victorian water industry," Mr Goss said.

"The company already manages the mapping and database capabilities of more than 44,000km of water wastewater utility networks, servicing almost three million people across eastern Australia.

"With the existing major challenges of climate change and a growing population, Western Water has strengthened its incident response capability and significantly increased its risk analysis and performance appraisal capacities," he said.

### About Western Water

Western Water is one of Victoria's 13 regional urban water corporations. We provide water, recycled water and sewerage services to over 53,000 properties and 134,810 people in an area of 3,000 square kilometres. Our region extends from Lancefield in the north to Melton and Rockbank in the south and from Myrning in the west to Bulla in the east. We incorporate parts of Hume City Council and Melton, Moorabool and Macedon Ranges Shire Councils.

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