



Solution Brief

Connectivity for Water and Wastewater Applications

With a water and wastewater application of any size, you're bound to have different protocols to connect, and barriers to communications between equipment. The range of these applications and changing service needs mean that a flexible, reliable communications setup is key.

In this solution brief, we'll explore how to connect disparate or wide-ranging devices in your application – and how you can monitor them from anywhere.

Benefits of reliable connectivity

As water and wastewater service areas and needs expand, robust, wide-ranging connectivity solutions are a must. In addition, equipment that requires monitoring across the application – including pump stations, flow meters, and filtration or sedimentation systems – may use a range of industrial protocols that are incompatible with your control system.

Using wireless, remote access, and industrial protocol converters can be beneficial across your operation:

- **Real-time visibility:** Connect smart RTUs to your PAC; securely and remotely connect your treatment plant's sedimentation and filtration systems to your MCC
- **Reduce energy costs:** Use data logs from smart energy meters to conserve resources
- **Decrease downtime and site travel** with a remote SCADA solution: Use a **managed network** to remotely monitor and troubleshoot flow meters and other equipment
- Implement **Defense-in-Depth security measures** to protect your remote equipment
- **Reduce connectivity costs** with reliable wireless radios, which can be seamlessly added to your network as your service area expands



Common water and wastewater communications

Like other industries, water and wastewater applications typically have different protocols across their sites that are used to connect back to an EtherNet/IP™ or Modbus® control system or SCADA.

Other common protocols in water and wastewater applications include HART and DNP3. Both protocols are vendor-neutral.

HART is ideal for operations that need additional diagnostic data from field instruments. This information can help you increase efficiency and decrease downtime – you could diagnose an issue remotely based on the data, or reduce the time you'd spend on-site by being able to pinpoint the source of an issue.

Meanwhile, **DNP3** allows you to prioritize event-based data, which is time-stamped and stored locally. This is beneficial in helping you increase data integrity, which is essential for regulatory reporting and predictive maintenance.

Apart from protocol conversion, cellular and wireless solutions can help you monitor wide-ranging water and wastewater applications – and easily connect new sites.

Cellular gateways can be used in conjunction with a remote connectivity platform, allowing you to monitor and troubleshoot sites from wherever you are. These can quickly be added as new sites arise, making it a scalable option for growing applications.

Industrial wireless radios are also a scalable option. You can connect a master radio and access points throughout your site to ensure real-time communications. Opting for wireless solutions also helps you reduce downtime and maintenance costs.

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Tech Support

ProSoft Technology's technical support is unparalleled in the industrial automation industry. To continue our world-class technical support, we have opened offices in most time zones in an effort to support our customers at a local level. See Regional Tech Support contact information above.



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