



MONITORING AND CONTROLLING WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

MIKE STOUP, VICE PRESIDENT, ELECTRICAL & INSTRUMENTATION GROUP MANAGER

Even in the time of coronavirus, water and wastewater utilities must keep functioning. But this can be a real challenge. Over the past month we've heard horror stories of operators being sequestered onsite to keep treatment processes going.

SCADA offers a better way.

SCADA has the great ability to provide remote visibility and control of systems using both wired and wireless networks as well as software and hardware. This provides operators and maintenance workers the access needed to perform many of their functions without having to be in the facility. This is an important consideration especially in the time of coronavirus.

Operators can connect remotely to a SCADA system through a secure internet connection. From there they can verify how the system is performing, view display screens, see trends, produce reports and modify controls as needed.

SCADA systems can even be configured to automatically text, email or call staff to notify them of process issues and alarm conditions. This feature allows O&M personnel to perform other

duties with the knowledge that the system will tell them when something is wrong elsewhere.

For utilities that don't have the in-house expertise to modify programming or perform serious troubleshooting, McKim & Creed's instrumentation & controls specialists are available to provide remote services. By connecting to the systems through a secure internet connection, we can assist without traveling to your site or entering your buildings. This maintains safe space requirements and minimizes the risk to our people and yours.

By using advanced analytics and control schemes, systems can be programmed to make complex operations decisions remotely. This allows processes to continue efficiently, safely and securely while preserving the health and safety of your staff.

If you're interested in adding remote connection or visibility to your existing system, please contact me at mstoup@mckimcreed.com. We can work with your IT and OT groups to implement a safe and secure connection acceptable to your utility's requirements