



Water Main Renewal Planning (PARMS)

Background

This project is designed to address the need of water utilities to have tools which enable them to plan their water main renewal requirements into the future and demonstrate the basis for this planning to regulators and other stakeholders.

Stage 1 of this project involved the upgrade of the PARMS software to meet current IT requirements and extend the modelling approach to provide an integrated solution for strategic and tactical asset management based on risk and economic principles.

Stage 2 involved the further development of the functionality of the software. A PARMS management committee comprised of utility participants, prioritised requirements for the maintenance and support of the PARMS software.

This project was completed in 2014.

Outcomes and benefits

- **Improved Planning:** The updated PARMS software will provide utilities with a strategic and tactical planning tool for water main renewal, long-term planning and short-term water main prioritisation.
- **Increased efficiency:** The software enables various expenditure scenarios to be modelled while also providing a more rapid assessment for water main relay prioritisation to replace the existing manual processes.
- **Alignment with other Australian utilities:** Several other Australian utilities adopted the PARMS software as they entered regulation to justify water main renewal programs. Applying this tool will ensure utilities have consistent approaches for decision making with other Australian urban water utilities.
- **Cost savings:** Application of the software using utility data will provide a strong basis for justifying capital expenditure on water main renewals in future regulatory budget submissions. Integrating the tools, methodologies and guidelines into asset management decision-making processes will provide a more robust methodology for future capital planning.

How to purchase

This subscription project was funded by participating WSAA Member utilities. Non-participating WSAA Members and those without WSAA membership will be required to purchase the project deliverable. The deliverable will only be made available to water utilities. Prices will be calculated according to a utility's number of connections.

Participating members can access this project via the [WSAA Member Portal](#). If you do not have access to the portal please contact web@wsaa.asn.au.

Further Information

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