Creating the Right Conditions to Enable Digital Innovation at Water Utilites

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Abstract

A basic ingredient to any smart water initiative is data. But where does this data come from? How do we get it? Where should it be stored? And, how do we make it available? These are all questions and challenges that must be considered when undertaking a digital approach to a Smart Water Network within a water utility.

This presentation will provide a review of some of the aspects have to be considered when developing data infrastructure to support smart data technologies. Included is a discussion of some of the pros/cons of trying out new technology and how to set up the optimal conditions for success. Lastly, the presentation will highlight several smart water projects that Guelph Water Services has recently undertaken that are used by Operations to increase operational flexibility, improve efficiency, enable savings in energy costs, and protect one of our most valuable resources: water.

About the Speaker

Graham Nasby, P.Eng, PMP, CAP holds the position of Water SCADA & Security Specialist at City of Guelph Water Services, a publicly-owned water utility located in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Prior to joining Guelph Water, he spent 10 years in the engineering consulting community after completing his B.Sc.(Eng) at the University of Guelph. He is senior member of the International Society of Automation (ISA) and co-chair of the ISA112 SCADA System Standards Committee. He is a member of both OWWA and WEAO, and currently sits on the OWWA Automation Committee. In 2014, Graham was recognized with a 'Mid-Career Achievement' award from his alma mater, the University of Guelph's School of Engineering. Contact: graham.nasby@guelph.ca