

Monitoring of water intake from Panama Canal

Application: Monitoring of a water intake to detect oil contamination

Sector: Clean Water

Problem: The constant transit of vessels results in a high risk of collisions with the banks or structures of the canal and produce an accidental spill of oil. This would compromise the supply of potable water for consumption and general uses in the Canal Zone.

Product: MS1200-03-SYS, Profibus

Customer: Canal de Panama

Installation date: 2014

Installation Facts. The Canal Authority decided to use the MS1200 system as an early warning system in case of contamination, thus preventing the suspension of the service, high maintenance costs and cleaning tasks that could arise from an oil spill. The instrument is installed in a pumping station about 30 metres from the banks of the Canal from where the water is taken. The water is analysed for the presence of oil and VOCs every 15 minutes and if there is an increase in the level, an alarm is activated and an action is taken.

The environment is constantly warm and humid, which is very hostile to all electronic equipment.

The MS1200 has performed reliably since installation



Photo showing the MS1200 installed in the Pump Station. The unit is connected to a SCADA system (Ethernet) using the Profibus Protocol (TCP / IP), which records the data and, in case of an accident, activates the alarms that shut off the suction pumps.