The Problem

Thames Water was using inconsistent, time-consuming tools in its operations control centre and for its shift handover process, including spreadsheets, paper forms, word processor documents and verbal meetings, resulting in organizational risk and inefficiency.

To solve this problem, Thames Water commissioned an electronic logbook project to provide greater visibility, retrievability and auditability of water control information. A data repository for trend analysis was also required. Thames Water wanted to standardize shift logs, event logs and escalation processes across all shift patterns in water control.

The company also wanted a solution with excellent reporting functionality that would benefit stakeholders across water supply, with the aim of reports being available to support asset investment decisions and event wash-ups.

How j5 Operations Management Solutions Solved the Problem

Thames Water evaluated several electronic logbook solutions in the marketplace, and selected j5 Operations Management Solutions (j5 Operations Logbook, j5 Shift Handover, j5 Work Instructions, j5 Standing Orders) and j5 IndustraForm® Templates to fulfill their electronic logbook requirements.

j5 Operations Management Solutions is used to log crucial routine information and provides an effective and informative shift handover that facilitates the sharing of relevant information between operational teams.

The structured escalation process within j5 Operations Management Solutions benefits Thames Water customers, with emerging risks tackled quicker, reducing the risk and severity of events. Additionally, a custom j5 application for the handling of events was created to support the work of the duty managers.
Benefits of j5 Operations Management Solutions

j5 Operations Management Solutions provides wider business benefits to Thames Water, such as:

- Contributing to company-wide outcome delivery incentives in water quality, energy, etc.
- Meeting the security and emergency measures direction recommendations that water companies have an electronic logging system
- Aiding demonstration to both the Environment Agency and the Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) that requirements can be met as a control function
- Supporting the standards required to maintain their quality management accreditations such as ISO9001
- Reducing the risk of compensation to external parties

The implementation of j5 Operations Management Solutions across the water control function has given greater visibility of ongoing issues and given us a consistent and accountable shift handover tool.”

Ant Tyler
Systems Operations Compliance Manager
Thames Water

Employee buy-in was a crucial part of Thames Water’s electronic logbook project. j5 Operations Management Solutions users find it quicker and clearer than the older processes (spreadsheets, paper and word processor documents), providing enhanced visibility to returning shift workers. Many teams across water supply have benefited from j5 Operations Management Solutions and the improved business processes, which have been aligned to get the best out of the j5 applications, for example:

Operations Management Teams: a system for shift and event entries to replace existing spreadsheets and documents. Clear standardised processes for logging and escalations. Support structure for escalations and quicker resolution of emerging risks. Reporting data to support asset investment decisions. Reduced risk and severity of events, such as reducing reactive works at Water Treatment Works.

Compliance Teams: easier to identify compliance risks and spot opportunities for further process improvements.

Water Quality Teams: standardized processes for logging and escalations on water quality events, with reduced likelihood and severity of event impacts.

Event Learning Teams: visibility of entries and escalations in a single location, to aid the event-learning process.

About Hexagon

Hexagon is a global leader in sensor, software and autonomous solutions. We are putting data to work to boost efficiency, productivity, and quality across industrial, manufacturing, infrastructure, safety, and mobility applications.

Hexagon’s PPM division empowers its clients to transform unstructured information into a smart digital asset to visualize, build and manage structures and facilities of all complexities, ensuring safe and efficient operation throughout the entire lifecycle.

Hexagon (Nasdaq Stockholm: HEXA B) has approximately 20,000 employees in 50 countries and net sales of approximately 3.9bn EUR. Learn more at hexagon.com and follow us @HexagonAB.