27th Annual
Leakage Conference

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2026
TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2026



www.leakageconference.co.uk

Day 1 | Monday 9 November
Registration & Networking Lunch 12.30pm
Conference starts 2.00pm
Conference close 6.30pm
Conference Dinner 7.45pm

Day 2 | Tuesday 10 November
Registration & Networking 8.15am
Conference starts 9.00am
Conference close 4.00pm

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Conference & Exhibition
The Eastside Rooms, Birmingham
Birmingham B7 4BL

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The Lodestar team have developed and delivered the Leakage Conference for the last 27 years, working closely with the Leakage Network to develop the content and direction of the programme.

We're a strategic marketing and communications consultancy working extensively in the utilities, property and construction sectors. We help corporate and public sector clients, charities and associations find strategic direction, improve business performance, develop new opportunities and connect effectively with their key stakeholders. We're experienced and knowledgeable – inquisitive and collaborative; turning thought into action.

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Welcome



Geoff Darch Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East



Bob Taylor Chief Executive Officer, Portsmouth Water

Welcome to the 27th Annual Leakage Conference. Whether you are joining us for the first time or are one of our many regular attendees, we are delighted you can join us.

The water sector is facing one of the most demanding operating environments in recent memory. Leakage management remains imperative but is part of a broader critical resilience conversation about how the whole system – water companies, regulators, customers and the supply chain – responds to a volatile climate.

Last year, we talked about the frequency of extreme weather events, not just freeze-thaw but long periods of hot and dry weather. This year, with Wales and large parts of England in drought and many companies experiencing summer breakouts and peak demand issues, those pressures are creating significant challenges for the delivery of performance commitments. Even with a benign winter, 2026-27 will be another challenging year.

Everyone recognises that the scale of required demand and leakage reduction is significant and there remains intense scrutiny of our performance as a sector. We must continue to push boundaries, be open to new developments and continue to do the basics really well. Smart meters and AI are two such developments. With the rollout of over 10 million smart meters planned for AMP8, we will have more data to work with. AI could help us use it to better understand water use and leakage, and target our leakage reduction activity more effectively. Making the most of these opportunities will mean learning from each other. That's why coming together, collaborating and sharing knowledge continues to be so important.

Across water companies and the specialist supply chain, we have a strong leakage community – and many are gathered here today. That depth of expertise and commitment will be essential as we work to meet leakage reduction targets in a dynamic climate. By sharing knowledge and experience, and by advocating for change where it is needed, we can make progress not only in this AMP but also for AMP9 and beyond.

The Annual Leakage Conference provides a much-valued forum to come together and discuss the important issues as well as share experiences and knowledge. We are looking forward to the discussions over the next two days and invite you all to contribute to the debate.



Geoff Darch
Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East

Bob Taylor
Chief Executive Officer, Portsmouth Water

Programme | Day 1

12.30pm	**Registration & Networking Lunch** | Networking Lunch sponsored by SMS
2.00pm	**Conference welcome** Bob Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, Portsmouth Water
	POLICY LANDSCAPE AND INDUSTRY INITIATIVES
2.15pm	**Reforming the water industry:** **The developing policy and political landscape** Jon Chappell, Deputy Director – Water and PR24 Delivery, Water UK
2.35pm	**The Environment Agency: The next chapter of leakage performance and preparedness for a resilient future** Aiken Besley, Senior Advisor – Water Resources, Security of Supply, Environment & Business – Water, Environment Agency
2.55pm	**An update from Ofwat: Where are we going with leakage?** Ian Pemberton, Principal Engineer – Engineering and Asset Management, Ofwat
3.30pm	**Leakage Routemap update** Glen Mountfort, Integrated Systems and Environment Director, WRc
4.00pm	**Panel discussion led by Karma Loveday, Editor, The Water Report** • Aiken Besley, Senior Advisor – Water Resources, Security of Supply, Environment & Business – Water, Environment Agency • Jon Chappell, Deputy Director – Water and PR24 Delivery, Water UK • Geoff Darch, Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East • Glen Mountfort, Integrated Systems and Environment Director, WRc • Ian Pemberton, Principal Engineer – Engineering and Asset Management, Ofwat
4.35pm	**Networking & Refreshments** | Networking Break sponsored by SMS
	OFWAT INNOVATION FUND: MANAGING BACKGROUND LEAKAGE – PROJECT FINDINGS
5.05pm	**Background Leakage: Barrier or opportunity?** • Richard Collins, Senior Lecturer, Water Engineering, University of Sheffield • Stuart Trow, Director, Trow Consulting
	SOAPBOX CHALLENGES
	Chaired by Jeremy Heath, Innovation Manager, SES Water
6.00pm	**PRVentor (Ofwat Innovation Fund Water Discovery Challenge project)** Matthew Harrison, Head of Operations, PRVentor **LeakSolve AI** Harry Smith, CEO, LeakSolve AI
6.30pm	**Close**
6.35pm	**Networking in the Leakage Lounge**
7.15pm	**Pre-Conference Dinner Drinks**, sponsored by Tetra Tech
7.45pm	**Conference Dinner with *ALC Awards 2026* presentation**, followed by networking
12.00am	**Close**

Day 2 | Operational and technology developments

8.15am	**Registration & Networking** | Networking Break sponsored by SMS
9.00am	**Introduction** Geoff Darch, Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East
	INNOVATION AND RESEARCH UPDATES
9.10am	**UKWIR update: Innovation heatmap and other developments** Jeremy Heath, Innovation Manager, SES Water
9.40am	**Spring on leakage: Where we are and how you can contribute** Natalie Lamb, Senior Manager, Sector Intelligence, Spring
	PREVENT (**P**ALM)
	CALM NETWORKS, PREPARING FOR AMP9 AND PR29
10.00am	**Calm networks pressure transient management process: Moving to proactive management of transients** • Matt Burrows, Leakage Smart Networks Manager, Portsmouth Water • Reagan Hawkins, Head of Calm & Smart Networks, WRc • Joshua Ketley, Leakage Consultant, WRc
10.30am	**Developing unconstrained thinking to drive longer term demand-side options** • Matthew Hughes, Smart Systems Strategy Manager, Anglian Water • Tom Woolley, Chief Revenue Officer, Optimatics
11.00am	**Networking & Refreshments** | Networking Break sponsored by SMS
	AWARENESS & LOCATE (P**AL**M)
	NON-HOUSEHOLD CUSTOMER-SIDE LEAKAGE
11.30am	**Shadow flow: Hidden water loss and business demand across brownfield development sites** • Ken Cartwright, Senior Associate Engineer, AtkinsRéalis • Anastasia Cottrell, Mechanical Engineer, AtkinsRéalis
12.00pm	**Non-household leakage: Challenges and opportunities** • Elliot Howell, Customer Leakage Manager, Southern Water • Phill Mills, Independent Chair, UK Water Retailer Council (UKWRC) • Rosie Rand, NHH Smart Metering & Demand Reduction Programme Manager, Thames Water Presentations followed by discussion session
1.00pm	**Networking Lunch** | Networking Lunch sponsored by SMS

Day 2 | Operational and technology developments

2.10pm	**Welcome back** Geoff Darch, Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East
	AWARENESS & LOCATE (P**AL**M) (Continued)
	THE DEVELOPING LEAK DETECTION TOOLBOX
2.15pm	**Fibre detection – learnings from rollouts: Challenges and opportunities for the detection toolbox** • Thomas Coleman, CRO and Co-founder, Lightsonic • Alex Hayton, Head of Leakage, Customer Delivery, Affinity Water • James Ramsay, CTO and Co-founder, Lightsonic
2.45pm	**Satellite as BAU** • Shane Gloster, Head of Leakage, Thames Water • John Marsden, CEO, Origin Tech
	OFWAT INNOVATION FUND – PREVENT AND MEND
3.15pm	**What's 'designer' about this liner? (Ofwat Innovation Fund project – P**ALM**)** • Dr Prabhakar Muchukota Narendra, Research Associate in Polymer Engineering, University of Bristol • Dr Joe Sanders, Senior Technical Director, Tetra Tech • Dr Xiaohan Wang, Advanced Research Engineer, National Composites Centre
3.40pm	**Rethinking interruptions: Unlocking innovation, minimising impact (Ofwat Innovation Fund project –** PAL**M)** Rachel Cunningham, Networks R&D Manager, Thames Water
4.00pm	**Conference close** Geoff Darch, Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East

Speaker and contributor profiles



Aiken Besley

Senior Advisor – Water Resources, Security of Supply, Environment & Business – Water, Environment Agency

Aiken specialises in water resources policy, planning and regulation. He has more than nine years' experience in water resources planning locally and nationally, including more than seven years of regulatory work on demand management and leakage. His work has helped underpin England's national water demand target. Aiken plays a leading national role on water demand within the Environment Agency, working closely with Defra and the water industry, and has advised senior government officials on key water resources issues. As a member of the International Water Association, he has also presented internationally on England's water resources challenges and policies.



Matt Burrows

Leakage and Smart Networks Manager, Portsmouth Water

Matt began his career at Portsmouth Water as a leakage technician in 2014, and has since held roles in leakage analytics, leakage operations and smart network optimisation. His current responsibilities include leakage detection operations, leakage and water balance reporting and assurance, and smart network logger maintenance, optimisation and analysis. Matt has helped build the Leakage Department at Portsmouth Water from a small team of 10 in 2022 to a team of 45 in 2026. He is also responsible for pressure optimisation and DMA/PMA design, where there has been a large active roll-out programme across AMP8, with an additional 40 PRVs and 100 DMAs installed so far – a 100% increase from the end of AMP7.



Ken Cartwright

Senior Associate Engineer – Leakage Service Line Lead, AtkinsRéalis

Ken has more than 30 years' experience in the water and leakage industry, and leads the AtkinsRéalis Demand Management Workstream. He champions a whole-system approach to water management that spans abstraction, treatment, distribution, leakage reduction and customer demand. In recent years, Ken has specialised in upstream leakage, helping develop industry best practice and contributing to recommendations to Ofwat on the transition from leakage estimation to flow balance-based reporting. He has also led and supported a wide range of water demand reduction initiatives within the UK and internationally, including pressure management, network water loss reduction and customer water efficiency, delivering sustainable improvements in performance and resilience.



Jon Chappell

Deputy Director – Water and PR24 Delivery, Water UK

Jon leads reforms to planning for water supply, from source to tap and supporting infrastructure delivery. He previously worked on the Government's 10 Year Infrastructure Strategy at HM Treasury and led water policy at the National Infrastructure Commission, authoring reports on costs, planning reform, asset resilience standards and climate-resilience.



Thomas Coleman

CRO and Co-founder, Lightsonic

Lightsonic uses distributed fibre optic sensing to turn existing telecom networks into underground acoustic microphones that help water utilities find leaks. Thomas founded Lightsonic with three co-founders in 2024 and is responsible for its commercial, legal and delivery-related activities. He works closely with UK water companies to help them meet their AMP8 leakage commitments. He focuses on showing how earlier and improved detection delivers measurable operational, financial and regulatory benefits. He is passionate about tackling the UK's growing water scarcity challenge and believes cutting the water lost from our networks is one of the fastest ways to protect future supplies.



Richard Collins

Senior Lecturer in Water Engineering, University of Sheffield

Richard graduated from the University of Sheffield with a degree in aerospace engineering in 2005. He completed his PhD on the use of smart materials in valves in the departments of Materials and Mechanical Engineering. In 2009, he joined the Department of Civil Engineering as a researcher looking into the risks of hydraulic transients in water distribution systems. Now, as Senior Lecturer in Water Engineering at University of Sheffield, his research is focused on understanding and ensuring the future of all kinds of buried pipe infrastructure. This involves understanding the condition and deterioration of the systems but also how this is affected by the ways in which they are being used and managed. A vital component of this is determining the information we can extract from the water systems to give us real-world actionable knowledge, whether from high frequency transient information or making use of the increasing levels of consumer smart meter data.



Anastasia Cottrell

Mechanical Engineer, AtkinsRéalis

Anastasia has four years' experience specialising in water and wastewater projects. She has worked on a wide range of schemes for major UK utilities, including treatment works design, asset condition assessments, water regulations compliance and sludge treatment projects. Her experience spans design and asset management, with a strong focus on improving the reliability and resilience of critical water infrastructure. Based on recent projects for non-water company clients, Anastasia has a newly found growing interest in leakage and, combined with her understanding of the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations and strong technical background, is keen to further develop her knowledge of the leakage industry.

Speaker and contributor profiles



Rachel Cunningham

Networks R&D Manager, Engineering Innovation, Thames Water

Rachel has worked for Thames Water for almost 30 years within its Innovation/R&D team. Rachel is the R&D manager for all network research, both water and waste, and leads a multidisciplinary team of 15 researchers delivering and embedding innovation across the business. Her experience includes the Tideway tunnel, in-pipe inspection, fatbergs, cast iron pipe failure research – and even sludge treatment.



Geoff Darch

Head of Strategic Asset Planning, Anglian Water and Non-Executive Director, Water Resources East

Geoff leads teams responsible for supply and demand forecasting and monitoring (including the water balance and leakage), supply-side and demand management strategy and resource trading. He is also a non-executive director of Water Resources East, the regional, multi-sector membership organisation pioneering new approaches to managing water resources. Prior to joining Anglian Water in 2017, Geoff spent 17 years in consultancy, advising on infrastructure climate risks and adaptation for international finance institutions, government departments, environmental agencies and utility companies. He has a PhD in hydro-climatology from UEA, is a Chartered Scientist, and a Fellow of CIWEM and the Royal Meteorological Society.



Shane Gloster

Head of Leakage, Thames Water

Shane has worked at Thames Water for almost 12 years in roles spanning operations, asset management and transformation, and has been Head of Leakage for the past two-and-a-half years. He currently leads Thames Water's leakage strategy, and the operational teams' approach to active leakage control. He is a mechanical engineer, and has spent his career improving asset performance from a strategic and delivery perspective. He has played leading roles in building Thames Water's calm system capability, shaping their approach to upstream leakage, moving the company to a more qualitative-driven approach to ALC, and building local ownership capability within the business.



Matthew Harrison

Head of Operations, PRVentor

A Chartered Accountant and former Royal Marines officer, Matthew provides strategic and commercial leadership at PRVentor, drawing on experience across industries from farming and leisure marine to economic regulation, defence technology and SaaS. He is focused on the commercialisation and adoption of PRVentor, working with water companies and industry partners to demonstrate the potential of precise, stable, full-range pressure control. Matthew's particular interest is in broadening the role of pressure management, from reducing leakage in the short-term to protecting assets in the long-term, with the wider leakage, resilience and water-quality benefits that brings.



Reagan Hawkins

Head of Calm & Smart Networks, WRc

Reagan has more than 20 years' experience in the water industry, combining operational expertise with data analysis and strategic leakage management. His operational experience includes managing leakage detection activities, deploying and maintaining acoustic logging technologies, and overseeing pressure management installation, optimisation and servicing. He is experienced in DMA verification and calibration, monitoring performance and improving leakage detection processes. His data analysis and strategic experience includes developing and managing performance dashboards, analysing data from multiple sources to support leakage targeting and developing the Sustainable Economic Level of Leakage (SELL). He continues to work with diverse teams of utility staff and contractors in the UK and overseas on projects delivering tangible leakage reduction, customer service improvements and robust regulatory reporting.



Alex Hayton

Head of Leakage, Affinity Water

Alex Hayton has more than 26 years' experience in the UK water industry. Throughout his career, Alex has held a range of operational and senior leadership roles, developing extensive experience across water abstraction, treatment, distribution and network operations. Having previously led large operational teams responsible for maintaining essential water services, Alex brings a strong understanding of the challenges facing the industry, balancing day-to-day operational performance with long-term resilience, efficiency and customer expectations. In his current role, Alex is responsible for leading Affinity Water's leakage operations and delivering its leakage reduction strategy. He is passionate about developing high-performing teams, challenging traditional ways of working and embracing innovation and emerging technologies to deliver meaningful operational improvements.



Jeremy Heath

Innovation Manager, SES Water

With more than 30 years' experience in the water industry, Jeremy is responsible for the management of innovation within the Pennon Group's clean water businesses. He has a keen interest in innovations that will transform how we manage our water networks, in particular smart metering, smart networks, artificial intelligence and IoT communications. In addition to his role at Pennon, Jeremy is also the lead for the UKWIR national zero leakage project and is responsible for driving the UK leakage research programme.



Elliot Howell

Customer Leakage Manager, Southern Water

Elliot has been in post for two years, developing a new team and process to help Southern Water reduce customer leakage quicker. The team will soon move from leakage to the company's customer department. Elliot previously spent 10 years at Affinity Water, where he worked in water efficiency before heading up their CSL programme. Before that, he spent time as an inspector with Thames Water and Severn Trent Water.

Speaker and contributor profiles



Matthew Hughes

Smart System Strategy Manager, Anglian Water

Matt brings broad experience from across the water industry, spanning operational leadership, asset management, major infrastructure investment, optimisation and smart water networks. He has led teams responsible for delivering safe, clean drinking water and, more recently, specialist programmes covering network optimisation and pressure management, energy efficiency, treatment works optimisation and smart network solutions. These programmes have delivered significant reductions in leakage, water loss, operating costs and carbon emissions while maintaining excellent customer service. Matt also led the Safe Smart Systems Ofwat Innovation Fund project on behalf of Anglian Water and the wider industry, alongside several AI initiatives. He now leads the strategy and implementation of Smart Water Networks, creating value from source to tap.



Joshua Ketley

Leakage Consultant, WRc

Joshua specialises in data-led, evidence-based approaches to leakage management and strategy development. His experience includes building and refining Sustainable Economic Level of Leakage (SELL) models, Natural Rate of Rise (NRR) studies and pipe-level leakage hot spotting models. Joshua has also worked across water balance calculations, uncertainty modelling, upstream losses targeting and reporting, and hydraulic modelling. He has supported projects in the UK and internationally, combining analytical and modelling approaches to help water companies of varying size and maturity better understand, target and deliver leakage reductions.



Dr Natalie Lamb

Senior Manager, Sector Intelligence, Spring Innovation

Natalie drives centralised intelligence for the UK and Ireland water sector across water companies, the supply chain, academia and regulators. Alongside her day role, she chairs the UK Young Water Professionals for the International Water Association and serves as Global YWP Chapter Coordinator. She is also Vice Chair of the Institute of Water's Eastern Area and a visiting researcher at the University of Sheffield. Spring Innovation recently ran a global call for innovation in the no dig space, drawing on international expertise to surface new solutions for the sector, and is now coordinating cross-sector efforts around leakage to bring together water companies, suppliers and researchers to accelerate progress in this priority area.



Karma Loveday

Editor, The UK Water Report

Karma Loveday is a specialist water sector journalist and advisor. She founded and continues to edit The UK Water Report, which specialises in policy, regulation and finance. She also works as an advisor to the Major Energy Users' Council, a membership body for large water and energy consumers, and to British Water, which represents the water supply chain community. She is a regular chair and speaker at industry events.



John Marsden

CEO, Origin Tech

John is an experienced business leader, co-founding Origin Tech in 2019. Motivated by a passion to make sustainable impacts in the water industry through innovative technology, he has dedicated his career to pushing the boundaries of technology. He is committed to fostering trust-based relationships throughout the water industry and creating a workforce of specialists from around the world. One of John's greatest achievements has been the commercialisation of satellite leak identification and repair services that proactively reduce leakage, carbon emissions and save water at a global scale.



Phill Mills

Independent Chair, UK Water Retailer Council (UKWRC)

As chair of the representative body for retailers in the business retail market, Phill has a keen interest in water efficiency and is a member of the Water Efficiency Campaign (WEC) Stakeholder Group and NHH working group. He is also an independent consultant in the water sector and supports other organisations, including the Energy and Environment Awards. He carries out the Competent Operator Scheme audits of water companies and the National Association of Drainage Contractors as an advisor to the Board. Phill's previous roles include Deputy Chief Executive at Water UK and Divisional Manager at Wessex Water, where he was responsible for water supply from source to tap.



Glen Mountfort

Integrated Systems and Environment Director, WRc Group

Glen joined WRc in 2020, and is part of the Exec team, and has specialised in leakage and water resources planning in a career spanning 23 years. He has previously worked for Jacobs and prior to that, South Staffs Water. Glen has been involved in business planning and water resources planning between PR09 and PR24, and has also undertaken technical assurance for water companies during his career. He continues to support UK water companies and has been involved in the delivery of a number of international projects.



Ian Pemberton

Ian Pemberton, Principal Engineer – Engineering and Asset Management, Ofwat

Ian is a chartered engineer with ICE and CIWEM and, for the last ten years, has been an engineer at Ofwat. His keen interest in leakage and particularly the accuracy with which leakage can be reported has been instrumental in Ofwat establishing their ongoing review into leakage reporting methodology for England and Wales. Ian has a background in metering and data acquisition, and has an interest in how all stakeholders can best define meter accuracy and, therefore, derive the best value from metered data. Ian also advises colleagues on technical issues related to clean water supply including innovation, casework, assessment of company performance and the definitions for performance commitments.

Speaker and contributor profiles



Dr Prabhakar Muchukota Narendra

Research Associate in Polymer Engineering, University of Bristol

Dr Narendra has extensive international research experience in polymer science, advanced composite materials and sustainable material technologies. His research interests include polymer formulation, fibre-reinforced composites, mechanical characterisation, fracture mechanics and self-healing materials. He has contributed to peer-reviewed scientific publications, patented innovations and internationally collaborative research projects. At Bristol, he contributes to the £3.5m Ofwat-funded Designer Liner programme, focusing on the development and characterisation of innovative polymeric liner materials for water distribution infrastructure. His current research investigates the mechanical performance, damage behaviour and healing potential of fibre-reinforced polymer composites, with the aim of supporting more durable and sustainable water infrastructure.



James Ramsay

CTO & Co-founder, Lightsonic

James Ramsay is co-founder of Lightsonic, a UK company that uses existing telecoms fibre as distributed acoustic sensing (DAS) networks to detect leaks on water distribution pipes. He leads engineering and product development, including the signal processing and machine learning that turn raw fibre data into leak locations for water utilities. James has more than a decade of experience in data science and data platform design. Before founding Lightsonic, he worked at LYTT, where he developed a cloud-based fibre-optic analytics platform for BP and spent several years applying distributed fibre sensing in the energy sector. At Lightsonic, his focus is on making fibre-based monitoring practical at network scale. That means reliable detection, accurate location and outputs that leakage teams can act on in the field.



Rosie Rand

NHH Smart Metering & Demand Reduction Programme Manager, Thames Water

Rosie leads the roll-out of Thames Water's large-scale smart metering programme for businesses (with more than 50% of all business meters now smart). The programme focuses on using smart data to drive down demand, improve efficiency and deliver value for business customers and retailers. With 21 years in the water industry and six specialising in smart metering, Rosie is an expert in smart meter programme delivery, data insight, water efficiency and demand reduction, and stakeholder engagement. She is a member of the MOSL Metering Committee and the steering group for the upcoming Smart Meter Read Hub, and is passionate about tackling continuous flow and leakage through data-led insights. Rosie shares lessons from roll-outs and outlines future priorities for scaling smart metering across the NHH market to maximise the benefits.



Dr Joe Sanders

Senior Technical Director, Tetra Tech

Joe has more than 18 years' experience working in the water industry as an academic, water company employee and consultant. His areas of expertise include asset management, leakage, water resources and network optimisation. He has extensive knowledge of leakage assessment, reporting and calculation techniques. Before moving to Tetra Tech he held a number of positions at Affinity Water and Artesia Consulting, where he focused on leakage and network asset management. Joe is still involved in academia, assisting in primary research on a number of projects. He co-authored Water UK's *A Leakage Routemap to 2050*, which sets out the needs of the industry for the next 25 years. He is a chartered engineer, scientist, environmentalist, and water and environmental manager, and a Fellow of CIWEM and Vice Chair of their Engineering Standards Committee.



Harry Smith

CEO, LeakSolve AI

Harry is a cyber security graduate with a passion for building a business that makes a real difference. An initial conversation with a leakage specialist, combined with attending the Annual Leakage Conference and Future Water events, helped him identify a gap in the market and a problem worth solving. From this, LeakSolve AI was born, capturing experienced technicians' knowledge and making it available to the next generation with AI to close the leakage skills gap.



Bob Taylor

Chief Executive Officer, Portsmouth Water

Portsmouth Water has a 160-year history of providing water services on the south coast of the UK, and today serves a population of around 800,000. The company has a well-established reputation as one of the consistently best performers in the sector at lowest price and has embarked on the first major reservoir project to be built in the UK since privatisation. Prior to joining Portsmouth Water, Bob was Operations Director – Drinking Water Services for South West Water, part of the FTSE-listed Pennon Group.



Stuart Trow

Consultant, Trow Consulting

Stuart Trow has recently retired after a career of exactly 50 years in the UK water industry, most of which was directly involved with leakage management from all perspectives. He has managed leakage data and leak detection teams as a water company manager, has owned and managed a company specialising in ELL estimation, pressure management and leak detection, and has been a director of two pressure management companies, and two mains rehabilitation companies. He has undertaken regulatory and strategy reviews for several UK water companies, Irish Water and some other international work. He was Ofwat reporter for Anglian Water and was the Leakage Reviewer for WICS and Scottish Water from 2009 to 2022. Stuart has acted as Project Director for the Ofwat funded Managing Background Leakage initiative for the past four years.

Speaker and contributor profiles



Dr Xiaohan Wang

Advanced Research Engineer,
National Composites Centre

Dr Wang is a chartered engineer with 15 years' research and development experience in aerospace and turbomachinery, marine, energy and civil engineering. He specialises in engineering analysis, including finite element analysis, automation and optimisation, and has been the technical lead on process development for cooperation in space programmes at NCC, and the leading analysis engineer across multiple other projects. He has participated in multiple innovation programmes with large OEMs such as Rolls-Royce, Airbus and Siemens. His experience also covers test rig design and application for R&D programmes. His work for Design Liner focuses on the mechanical design of liners with composite materials, and derisking the design concepts by improving the understanding of failure modes through structural analysis. His work is closely correlated with manufacturing trials and testing to enable prototyping and demonstration of the lining technology.



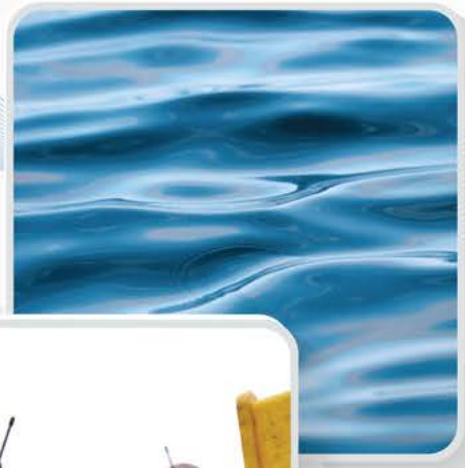
Tom Woolley

Chief Revenue Officer,
Optimatics

Tom has more than 20 years' experience in market development across the water and renewables sectors. His background spans IoT, smart metering, analytics, AI and real-time optimisation, giving him a practical view of how data and technology can improve network performance. A qualified engineer, he has lived and worked in several countries, including five years in Zambia. Tom is known across the industry for building collaborative, innovative solutions, and he brings that approach to Optimatics, helping utilities tackle operational and regulatory challenges with new tools and thinking.









TETRA TECH

Tetra Tech's Cutting Edge Leakage Solutions

Tetra Tech delivers a comprehensive suite of digital solutions, engineering services and operational support designed specifically for the water sector's toughest challenges.

WaterNet

WaterNet is purpose-built to support UK water companies meet demanding regulatory requirements with confidence. WaterNet simplifies the complex process of data capture, analysis and regulatory reporting.

Benefits

- Multi-source Data Integration
- Interactive Mapping
- Real-Time Monitoring & Alerts
- Advanced Analytics & Reporting
- Remote Access
- Scalable Architecture

Asset Survey and Inspection

Our operational teams conduct efficient field surveys for leakage detection, pressure management, valve inspection and other distribution network investigations.

Benefits

- Improved Asset Health Visibility
- Early Leak Detection
- Reduced Leakage Risk
- Improved Network Reliability
- Better Maintenance Planning

WaterNet

Learn More

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Tetra Tech will be sponsoring this year's Conference Dinner Drinks Reception

Our exhibitor supporters

Reduce leakage faster, improve network performance and deliver measurable water savings with Aqualogic's integrated approach to water conservation and demand management. With roots going back to 1979, we've helped water companies across the UK cut waste for more than four decades. At this year's Leakage Conference, we're showcasing the iQuarius 100B, our mobile leak detection unit. Compatible with any mobile device and built for rapid deployment, it performs across both urban and rural networks. It combines acoustic technology, real-time data capture and integrated reporting, giving field teams clearer information and faster, more accurate results. Visit our stand to see the iQuarius 100B in action and meet the team behind our approach to intelligent water conservation.

Jonathan Adler
Commercial Director
www.aqualogic-wc.com

BERMAD is a global leader in customised water and flow management solutions, offering cutting-edge hydraulic control valves, air valves, advanced metering systems and innovative digital technologies. Established in 1965, we are proud to have celebrated our 60th anniversary – marking six decades of collaboration with major end-users across diverse industries and markets. Over this time, we've accumulated unparalleled knowledge and expertise.
Most recently, we've expanded our offering with the launch of a dedicated support division. BOSS is focused on optimisation, maintenance and tailored solutions for our products. It supports day-to-day operations, maximises system performance and keeps your water management running smoothly – so you can focus on what matters most.

Ryan Pascoe
Managing Director
www.bermad.com

CLA-VAL are leading suppliers of pressure management control valves. We have served the UK water industry for more than 40 years and have gained a proven track record for precise pressure regulation and exceptional reliability. We will be exhibiting our latest e-Line product range, including datalogging and intelligent valve controllers that perform a variety of tasks, such as advanced pressure modulation and remote flow control. Our ValveFlow package upgrades CLA-VAL valves to an all-encompassing instrumentation system that calculates and records Instantaneous Flow and Totalised Flow (without a flowmeter), including the logging of upstream pressure, downstream pressure and valve position.

David Humphrey
Managing Director
www.cla-val.co.uk

FIDO is a UK-based global technology company using deep learning from its vast curated water data sets to rapidly improve global water management and business resilience at scale. Its market-leading AI uses acoustic analysis to accurately detect non-revenue water events on any distribution pipeline network and ranks leaks by size for effective prioritisation. FIDO AI is used around the world, and the company has offices in the UK and the US.

Phil Tomlinson
Chief Revenue Officer
www.fido.tech

At Gutermann, we are dedicated to tackling the worldwide problem of water loss in water infrastructure. Gutermann is a global technology leader and innovator in intelligent leak detection technology. We are a third-generation, privately owned, family enterprise with headquarters in Baar, Switzerland, and regional offices throughout the world.

Gutermann has been specialising in the design, manufacture and distribution of all acoustic leak detection equipment for more than 60 years. With a constant focus on innovation, we have often been at the forefront of new product developments in our sector, always pushing the boundaries of water leak management technology. Thanks to our tireless commitment to product quality, functionality and user-friendliness, Gutermann has become a synonym for precision, quality and reliability in leak detection technology worldwide.

Paul Chandler
UK Sales Manager
www.gutermann-water.com

HULO.ai is a Dutch deep tech company helping water utilities turn existing network data into actionable water intelligence. Combining physics-based hydraulic modelling with machine learning, HULO software provides continuous, network-wide intelligence. It detects anomalies, localises potential leaks, identifies network blind spots and enables what-if simulations to support better operational and strategic decisions. Built for interoperability, HULO works with existing sensors, infrastructure, data platforms and technology providers. Rather than requiring utilities to replace their systems or invest in new infrastructure first, HULO unlocks greater value from the data they already collect. For UK utilities facing ambitious AMP8 commitments, this means smarter leakage reduction, better-informed investment decisions and more efficient network management. Founded in the Netherlands in 2021, HULO works with water utilities across the UK, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East.

www.hulo.ai

Our exhibitor supporters

Since 1979, HWM Global has been helping utilities around the world better manage their clean water, wastewater and energy systems. Our team combines technical knowledge with a passion for problem-solving – designing and manufacturing solutions for leak detection, flow monitoring and network optimisation. Built on decades of experience and continuous innovation, our technologies deliver the reliable, data-driven insights that utilities need to make faster, smarter decisions – protecting resources and improving efficiency at every level. As a wholly owned subsidiary of Halma plc, we are part of a global group of life-saving technology companies dedicated to growing a safer, cleaner and healthier future for everyone, every day. Headquartered in the UK with offices in the United States and China, we engineer solutions to help customers on every continent meet new requirements as the pressures on improved clean water, wastewater and energy management continue to increase.

Sam Wood
Head of UK Sales
www.hwmglobal.com

Origin Tech develops innovative technologies that help the water industry reduce water waste, tackle leakage and maintain infrastructure integrity. Specialising in remote sensing leak detection and trenchless water pipe repairs, we help water companies find and fix problems quickly, efficiently and with minimal disruption. Through innovation and collaboration, we support a more sustainable and resilient water network.

John Marsden
CEO
www.origintech.co.uk

SME Water combines advanced data science with extensive engineering expertise to tackle some of the water industry's most pressing challenges and drive innovation across the country. Its flagship platform, Cadence, puts analysts at the centre of network improvement. SME Water's industry-leading demand modelling tool, Paradigm, helps water companies better understand customer consumption, identify network anomalies and target leakage reduction opportunities. Building on Paradigm's success, Dynamo is SME Water's latest industry club project, bringing water companies together to develop a new approach to network calming and pressure optimisation, while monitoring performance to ensure improvements are sustained. Sonar complements these capabilities through the use of advanced spatial analysis to optimise fixed and lift-and-shift logger deployments, and evaluate fleet performance to support smarter leakage detection. Through specialist expertise, innovative technology and industry-wide collaboration, SME Water is shaping the future of intelligent water network management, delivering measurable, sustainable improvements and supporting the industry's ambitious leakage reduction targets.

Stuart Mawditt
Managing Director
www.sme-water.co.uk

SMS, formerly Horizon Water Infrastructure (HWI), helps water companies successfully deliver and operationalise complex infrastructure programmes through a lower-risk, fully integrated and outcome-led approach. With extensive experience in water infrastructure, SMS combines proven delivery capability with technology, data expertise and a deep understanding of customer and operational transformation. Acting as a single accountable partner, SMS brings together funding, technology, data, operations, customer engagement and delivery partners into one integrated ecosystem, enabling utilities to focus on outcomes rather than complexity.

As prime contractor for Southern Water's industry-first metering programme, replacing more than one million meters, SMS is demonstrating how an integrated Alliance model can deliver complex infrastructure at scale, helping utilities improve efficiency, strengthen resilience and create better outcomes for customers and the environment. SMS's capabilities extend across water, energy and low carbon, bringing together technology, infrastructure, data, funding and long-term asset management to support customers across critical infrastructure. This broader capability builds on SMS's heritage in metering and its experience managing more than 7.5 million meters.

www.sms-solutions.co.uk

SUEZ is a global leader in water and waste management, offering innovative solutions to optimise water resources. In the UK, SUEZ specialises in advanced water network management, focusing on reducing leakage. Our expertise includes state-of-the-art technologies such as real-time monitoring, predictive analytics, satellite leak detection and pressure transient monitoring to enable the rapid detection of bursts and leaks. SUEZ's solutions enhance the efficiency and sustainability of water networks, and help utilities reduce water loss, improve service reliability and meet regulatory requirements. Our commitment to innovation ensures responsible water resource management, safeguarding the environment and communities.

www.suez.com/uk

Our exhibitor supporters

SYNTHOTECH

Synthotech is a leading supplier of own brand and branded location, survey and detection equipment for the utilities industry, including grey, black and potable water. As exclusive UK distributors of SebaKMT and FASTgmbh equipment, Synthotech can supply acoustic, gas leakage and in-pipe leak detection systems.

Synthotech's own brand in-pipe potable water and dirty water CCTV systems, along with the Easysight Crawler integrated with iTouch, provides total survey solutions. All products are provided with knowledge, sales, training, technical support, repairs and maintenance. A number of our products are available for hire or hire to buy.

Craig Duthie
Director for Water
www.synthotech.com

TECHNOLOG

Technolog has specialised in smart monitoring solutions for 45 years, helping utilities optimise network performance and reduce water leakage. Our intelligent, end-to-end systems enable proactive leakage detection, pressure management and data-driven decision-making across water networks worldwide. At the core of our water offering is the Cello range of GSM-based data loggers, designed for rapid deployment, seamless SCADA integration and high-frequency data transmission – with over five years of battery life. Today, more than half a million Cello units are deployed globally, monitoring district meters, customer connections and critical pressure points.

Technolog's solutions allow utilities to identify leaks early, minimise non-revenue water and maintain service levels during peak demand. Our technologies have helped utilities save hundreds of megalitres of water per day by enabling real-time insight, intelligent pressure control and targeted intervention. With robust hardware, resilient connectivity and powerful analytics, Technolog empowers utilities to deliver more sustainable, efficient and reliable water networks.

Luke Thornton
Business Development Director
www.technolog.com

TETRA TECH

Tetra Tech is a leading, global consulting and engineering firm. With more than 25,000 employees working together, Tetra Tech provides clear solutions to complex problems by Leading with Science® to address the entire water cycle, protect and restore the environment, and design sustainable and resilient infrastructure. We are leading water specialists with deep technical and operational expertise, offering support from high-level strategy to on-the-ground operations. This includes WRMP and AMP planning, leakage analytics, network modelling and asset survey field teams to help our clients reduce leakage from source to tap. Our WaterNet software supports day-to-day asset management and helps ensure regulatory compliance. Discover more about our One Water solutions at www.tetratech.com/solutions/one-water.

Dr Joe Sanders
Senior Technical Director
www.tetratech.com

THE UK WATER REPORT
POLICY | REGULATION | FINANCE

GWI
GLOBAL WATER INTELLIGENCE

The UK Water Report is a monthly publication launched in 2014 in response to UK water market reform. It is published by Global Water Intelligence (GWI) and is available in print or as a PDF emailed to your inbox. We focus on the UK water and sewerage industry, providing reports and in-depth research and features on topical issues. Every Monday, we provide an online bulletin, The Week in Water, which reports on the week's top stories in water sector regulation, policy and competition. Our publisher, GWI, is the leading market intelligence provider for the global water sector. Its flagship offering, the GWI Executive Membership, combines insights from over 40 experts to deliver cutting-edge weekly articles, datasets and project opportunities, and is the leading resource for developers, suppliers, financiers, governments, utilities and municipalities seeking to unlock new water opportunities and optimise their strategic decisions. Find out more at: www.globalwaterintel.com/memberships

Karma Loveday
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www.thewaterreport.co.uk

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Name	Job title	Organisation
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Andy Fowler	Commercial Director	**Edge Analytics**
Giles Fox	Senior Consultant	**Stantec**

Delegate list

Name	Job title	Organisation
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Name	Job title	Organisation
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Name	Job title	Organisation
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Paul Taylor	Assurance Manager – Leakage	**Severn Trent Water**
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Sam Wood	Head of UK Sales	**HWM Global**
Wes Woodley	Leakage Area Manager	**Essex & Suffolk Water**
Daniel Woodworth	Smart Solutions Director	**Dayworth Consulting**
Tom Woolley	Chief Revenue Officer	**Optimatics**
Chris Woolls	Project Director	**Technolog**
Ben Yau	Network Analyst	**Northumbrian Water**
Roy Zenou	Technical Account Manager	**Asterra**

SMS

Turning data into action for a more resilient water network

Formerly
Horizon Water Infrastructure

SMS, formerly Horizon Water Infrastructure, is proud to partner with the 27th Annual Leakage Conference, bringing together the leakage community to explore the challenges, innovation and opportunities shaping leakage management across AMP8 and beyond.

As the water sector works towards ambitious leakage reduction targets, better data, technology and insight will play an increasingly important role in understanding demand, improving network performance and supporting more informed decision-making.

At SMS, we combine funding, technology, data and programme delivery through our Funded Data-as-a-Service (FDaaS) model, helping water companies deliver large-scale metering programmes while managing complexity and reducing delivery risk.

As part of the Southern Water Alliance, SMS is delivering a major metering programme designed to support the replacement of more than one million meters over five years.

With more than 200,000 installations now delivered, the programme is demonstrating how large-scale delivery, connected technology and data can support wider water efficiency, customer and operational outcomes.

Our approach brings together funding, technology, data, operations, customer engagement and delivery partners, providing a single integrated model designed around customer and operational outcomes.

As sponsors of the networking breaks, we are excited to collaborate with colleagues from across the leakage community, share ideas and explore how data, technology and innovative delivery approaches can help the sector tackle leakage and build greater resilience.

200,000+
Installations

1 million+
Meters

Five years
Metering programme



Tanya Dady
Smart Solutions Design Partner



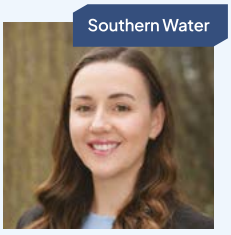
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