

March 2006 Team of the Month
Water Management SCADA System (WMSS)

Although many staff and contractors ultimately contributed to the project, the following District personnel deserve special recognition:

SCADA and Hydro Data Management Department

Bo Billings	Cheryl Danz	Madhu Edara
Miriam Figueroa	Renee Hammett	Larry Latour
Kiyuana Murphy	Dan Ross	Karl Schwartz
Ken Stewart	Rudi Vyhnanek	Ron Zetouni

Operations Control, Engineering, and Vegetation Management Department

Paul Ryan	Thom Scanlan
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Information Technology Department

Jim Betzhold	Marlene Fink	Paul Lowery	Shane Mears
Bill Meyers	Les Richards	Al Seifert	Tracie Streltzer

Finance and Administration Department

Candida Heater

Procurement Department

Mary Meier	Gabe Ocasio-Davila	Matt Padgett
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Environmental Resource Assessment Department

Brian Turcotte

March 2006 Team of the Month

This cross-organizational team was responsible for specification, acquisition, and implementation of the new Water Management SCADA System (WMSS).

The WMSS project began in 2000 with an independent, District-wide needs assessment. After receiving Governing Board approval to proceed, more detailed specifications were developed and requests for proposals were solicited. A primary contract was awarded to Telvent USA, and the implementation phase began in June 2002. The WMSS was formally accepted in September 2005, and has been in production operation throughout the 2005 wet season.

Budgeting, procurement, and financial administration were also challenging endeavors during project implementation because of the multi-year time frame and cross-organizational funding.

Unlike many projects executed mostly by the District or mostly by the primary contractor, this was largely a joint effort between Telvent and the District that required consummate teamwork across multiple organizations, both internal and external. The technical complexity and broad scope of the project – as measured in impact across multiple District systems – could only be addressed by diverse personnel with complementary skills working collaboratively toward common objectives.

The unifying goal was to put in place a new approach to central data-acquisition and control that would position the District for the tremendous growth projected in the field – driven by CERP, Acceler8, LOER, and other initiatives – providing the automation needed to operate and maintain our field infrastructure. This would also provide a framework for building better real-time information-management systems serving internal customers, partner agencies, and the general public.

By these measures, the team's work has been an unqualified success. They deserve much credit for their teamwork, professionalism, and long hours in putting together a new system while continuing to operate our existing systems in parallel.