



SURVEY ON ASSET MANAGEMENT (Confidential Questionnaire) Asset management is becoming the “buzz” word as the water and wastewater industry is facing rapidly increasing costs to repair and replace aging systems. A significant amount of this interest is centered on the release of the Governor’s November 1, 2008 “Sustainable Infrastructure Task Force Report”. This report concludes that the anticipated needs to upgrade, operate and maintain our existing infrastructure in Pennsylvania for the next 20 years is estimated to be \$113.6 billion. To read the report in its entirety, visit DEP’s website, www.depweb.state.pa.us, and click on the “Sustainable Infrastructure Task Force” link under the Hot Topic header. One specific solution mentioned throughout the report necessary to match the growing needs is the recommendation that:

“All water and wastewater systems be required to prepare long-term asset management plans, which analyze asset condition, risk of failure, expected costs, dates of renewal and the ultimate replacement of infrastructure components.”

CET regularly conducts original research on many municipal and environmental topics for the purpose of providing informative and useful feedback to facility owners and operators. We feel that it is important to get a sense of the perceived benefits of asset management from the water and wastewater industry. Please complete this questionnaire and either mail or fax it to CET by May 29, 2009. The results of the survey will be provided directly to you and published in a future article. Your name and the facility will remain confidential. Optionally, complete the questionnaire online at www.cet-inc.com. Thank you for participating in CET’s survey on asset management.

REACTION TO GOVERNOR’S

“SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE REPORT”

1. Given the report’s recommendation that all water and wastewater systems should implement a long-term asset management plan, which choice below best represents your opinion of the long-term sustainability of an asset management program?

- 15% Only a “buzz word”, unlikely to be a sustainable program
- 21% Likely to be implemented by systems as a standard business practice
- 65% Likely to be required through funding or regulatory compliance

2. The Task Force also suggests that future public subsidy to municipal authorities be dependent upon user rates and effective system management such as asset management. Which of the following three choices below best describes your opinion of such a requirement?

- 23% Not necessary and will not guarantee efficient use of funding
- 46% Necessary, but level should vary with size of utility
- 31% Asset management is necessary for all systems and distributes funding efficiently

BENEFITS OF ASSET MANAGEMENT

3. Many benefits have been touted for the implementation of an asset management program. For each of the following areas, indicate your opinion of the impact of implementing an asset management program for your own system:

- a. Improve coordination, communications and operation of the utility
0% Adversely 14% None 49% Minimal 34% Significant 3% Dramatic

- b. Assist with knowledge retention and information transfer
0% Adversely 11% None 34% Minimal 49% Significant 6% Dramatic
- c. Prolong asset life and value
3% Adversely 9% None 34% Minimal 51% Significant 3% Dramatic
- d. Assist with managing risk
0% Adversely 6% None 29% Minimal 51% Significant 14% Dramatic
- e. Improve regulatory compliance
0% Adversely 14% None 46% Minimal 40% Significant 0% Dramatic
- f. Improve security and safety of assets, employees and the general public
3% Adversely 14% None 49% Minimal 34% Significant 0% Dramatic
- g. Reduce disruptions to service and protect business risk exposure
0% Adversely 18% None 26% Minimal 47% Significant 9% Dramatic
- h. Assist with decision making approach for capital improvements
0% Adversely 0% None 23% Minimal 60% Significant 17% Dramatic
- i. Reduce operating and maintenance costs and long-term capital expenses
3% Adversely 11% None 40% Minimal 40% Significant 6% Dramatic
- j. Assist with public confidence and developing justifiable rates
6% Adversely 15% None 35% Minimal 44% Significant 0% Dramatic
- k. Improve the utilities bond rating, lower interest rates and lower insurance premiums
0% Adversely 18% None 26% Minimal 56% Significant 0% Dramatic
- l. Improve ranking for funding for grants and low interest loans
3% Adversely 21% None 12% Minimal 52% Significant 12% Dramatic

Indicate other benefits that you anticipate will result from the implementation of an asset management program:

IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSET MANAGEMENT

- 4. Which choice below best represents your current level of asset management implementation?**
 14% None
 26% Minimal (implemented some of the basic principles for tracking assets, managing risks, and reducing costs)
 37% Partial (implemented some specific asset management tools and are developing an asset management plan)
 20% Significant (developed an asset management plan and are in the process of implementing it)
 3% Full (fully implemented a long-term asset management plan)
- 5. Which of the following software packages are you using to track your assets? (Choose all that apply)**
 51% Database or spreadsheet based asset inventory
 17% Computerized Maintenance Management System
 26% Geographic Information System
 23% Financial Management System
 14% Asset Management program
 6% Other (*describe*)
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 6. Treatment Facility(s)**
 a. Do you manage treatment facilities of?
 Water Wastewater Both
 40% 54%
 b.

Average Design Capacity (mgd)	Water	Wastewater
- 7. Distribution/Collection System(s)**
 a. Do you manage distribution/collection systems of?
 Water Wastewater Both
 43% 63%
 b.

# of Residential Customers	Water	Wastewater
- 8. Comments, including but not limited to, specific asset management topics you would like us to address in the coming newsletters (Please attach additional sheets if necessary)**
- _____
- _____
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- _____
- _____
- _____

Name/Title _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

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CET Engineering Services is a full-service environmental engineering firm and is dedicated to providing practical, cost-effective services from planning through operation. For more information on CET Engineering Services, please call or e-mail us, or visit us at www.cet-inc.com.

I am willing to share my experience and knowledge of asset management in an interview for CET's newsletter, *etcetera*.

