

**San Francisco Public Utilities Commission/Santa Clara
Valley Water District Intertie Pump Station
350 Turquoise St., Milpitas, CA**

- I. Presenter:** John Cook, Water Plant Supervisor, Santa Clara Valley Water District

II. Treatment Plant Characteristics:

- Water Distribution Pump Station
- Three employees a couple days per month
- Three retail agencies serving the east San José foothills

When active, the Intertie could serve most of east San José including portions of Milpitas, if the pump station were operating at capacity, which is 40 MGD. The intertie is staffed only when it is being prepared for service. One or two operators can prepare the facility for service. Once it is operational, it is checked twice-per-day by one operator. It is basically operated remotely from the Penitencia Water Treatment Plant. Maintenance staff performs monthly preventive and corrective maintenance. Three crafts (electrical, mechanical, and control systems) spend one to two days per month at the site.

III. Innovation:

A. Description

The Intertie pump station has allowed both agencies to maintain treated water to its customers while preventive or corrective maintenance has been performed on treated water pipelines or treatment plants. The station is a bi-directional facility allowing movement of water from or to each agency.

B. Type of Innovations

- Increased use of Information Technology
- Inter-agency agreements or other administrative changes
- Optimization of existing resources

C. Motivation for Innovations

Back-up supply for SFPUC and SCVWD

D. Barriers/Challenges

Getting two large agencies to work together on a relatively small project and still meet everyone's objectives in a timely manner.

E. Benefits

Able to complete major pipeline and treatment plant rehabilitation project without affecting customer delivery

F. Effect on Staff Training

The pump station has added to the knowledge base of both Operations and Maintenance staff. Equipment at the pump station varies from what is found at the treatment plants. More frequent refresher training is needed for a facility that is not in operation more than two to three times a year.

G. Lessons Learned

Less use of a facility doesn't necessarily mean less maintenance. All involved with the project, from engineers to operator and maintenance staff, learned a lot about each other's operations.

IV. Information Sharing:	Yes	No
Willing to host on-site tour	X	
Willing to visit another regional water/wastewater facility to provide presentation on innovation	X	
Willing for staff member from other utility to conduct a follow-up visit to learn more about innovations	X	
Interested in on-line forum to discuss water/recycling/waste-water treatment issues	X	