MAKING DATA FLOW LIKE WATER IN MISSISSIPPI

THE THIRD-LARGEST CITY IN MISSISSIPPI IS USING GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE IN ITS WATER AND SEWER OPERATIONS.

PROJECT
The work to modernize records of the City’s water and sewer system utilizes Trimble GNSS to gather detailed information and precise locations.

SUMMARY
The Southaven, Mississippi Utilities Division needed to develop a comprehensive database of its water distribution and sanitary sewer systems. The Division worked with a local consulting firm to use Trimble GNSS to collect locations and attributes on utility assets. Utility field technicians can access the information using smartphones. The technicians can use precise positions to save time in navigating to meters and valves.

PROJECT DATE
The three-phase data collection project began in 2012.

The rapid growth provided an opportunity for Ray Humphrey, director of the Southaven Utilities Division. He recognized that the City and its residents would benefit from a GIS-based approach that could help locate and manage the utility system assets.

Southaven contracted local consulting firm Civil-Link to gather data and implement a GIS on nearly 25,000 valves, meters and manholes. Civil-Link used data collected with Trimble R10 and R6 GNSS receivers to develop a GIS, which Southaven utility crews can access via smartphones. To provide precise navigation for its field technicians, Southaven uses a Trimble GeoXH™ 6000 series GNSS handheld and Trimble TerraSync™ software.

The real-time precision of the Trimble handheld aids crews in locating crucial valves buried by landscaping or in flooded intersections. Humphrey expects rapid payback and long-term benefits from the GIS and Trimble GeoXH 6000. “Knowing what you have and where it is in real time is invaluable,” he said. “We can easily share accurate information across departments and throughout the city.”

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Ray Humphrey, Director of the Southaven Utilities Division, Mississippi, USA

The third-largest city in Mississippi is using geospatial information to improve efficiency and customer service in its water and sewer operations.

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Southaven technicians can use the GIS to view information on the utility assets. The Trimble GeoXH 6000 lets them navigate to assets within a few inches.

**PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Southaven utility crews and contractors utilize Trimble technology to gather data for a GIS-based solution to manage and share information.
- Precise navigation with Trimble GeoXH 6000 enables field technicians to quickly find valves, meters and other assets for service and repairs.
- Information can be shared across city departments for maintenance and fire protection.