Stormwater Monitoring
Biberach, Germany
Case Study

The Signature Flow Meter with TIENT 350 Area Velocity (AV) Sensor from Teledyne Isco is used for stormwater monitoring at a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Biberach, Germany. The results are used to estimate runoff from the WWTP.

Rain Retention Basin Overflow Monitoring

Combined sewer systems where both wastewater and rain water arrive at the inlet of a WWTP can be challenging. During rain events, the water volume could become greater than the plant capacity. To protect the treatment process, the WWTP AZV Riś diverts a portion of the incoming water into large rain retention basins. These basins act as a storage and pre-treatment area where larger particles settle to the bottom. The water is then pumped to the inlet as time and capacity allow. If the rain event is large, the retention basins might become full. During such events, the water is released directly to the river without any other treatment than the settling process of larger particles. The WWTP must report to local authorities the number of events, time period of each event, and quantity of untreated water that has been released directly into the river. A reliable system for monitoring of flow in a stormwater pipe leading from the retention basins was therefore needed.

Site Challenges

A stormwater pipe is normally empty; water is only present a few times during the year, requiring flow monitoring. The volume of water can vary greatly, depending on the size of the event. The pipe’s large dimensions make the installation of a primary device such as a weir or flume technically difficult and/or costly. AZV Riś concluded that the best solution was an area velocity flow meter that could remain stable over extended dry periods, and handle rapid changes in temperature and flow rates during rain events.

TIENT 350 Area Velocity Flow Sensor

After careful review with Teledyne Isco’s distributor Deinlein & Lunz Umwelttechnik GbR, the WWTP AZV Riś selected the Signature Flow Meter with 350 TIENT AV sensor to install in the stormwater pipe. The Signature/350 TIENT Flow System utilizes optimized Doppler technology to accurately measure the true average velocity across the entire flow section, in a wide range of applications.

Expertise in Flow

- Smart sensor interface (TIENT)
- Multiple simultaneous technologies including:
  - Non-contact Laser Area/Velocity
  - Contact Doppler Area/Velocity
  - Bubbler
  - Ultrasonic
- Connect up to 9 sensors simultaneously
- I/O options and communication:
  - pH/temperature
  - SDI-12
  - RS485 input/output
  - 4-20mA output
  - Ethernet
  - GSM/GPRS modem.
- Rugged (IP66) even if cover lid is open
- Data logging with variable rate data storage
- USB drive for data and report retrieval, and programming.
- Data Integrity Verification

"The Future of Flow!™"
The 350 is a smart sensor with built-in digital electronics, with all depth and velocity signals processed within the sensor itself. The sensor stores its own temperature and pressure calibration data for the entire measurement span (0-3 m) internally, eliminating temperature drift, providing long-term stability, and eliminating the need for span recalibration. This makes the sensor ideal for stormwater applications with extended dry periods. Velocity quality and diagnostic data can be logged for every reading, providing data verification, as well as excellent real-time evaluation of site conditions during installation or post-analysis.

Customer Feedback

“The Teledyne Isco Signature Flow Meter with 350 TIENet Area Velocity sensor has been installed and in operation since early 2013. The system is working well with our expectations and has measured every overflow event that has occurred. The 350 TIENet Area Velocity sensor has been stable over time with no re-calibration needed. The Signature Flow Meter is easy to install, with little maintenance. The flexibility of the system makes it easy to upgrade and can meet any of our future needs.” – Plant Manager Maier, ANZ Riß

Features and Benefits:

- Digital sensor smart sensor measures both level and velocity
- Low level velocity measurement
- No velocity profiling needed during installation
- Factory calibration stored in sensor ensures long-term stable level readings
- No level span calibration needed
- Advanced velocity diagnostics for data quality evaluation and analysis

Features and Benefits:

- Graphical and tabular reports
- Data editing
- Diagnostics
- Export/import
- Automated tasks

TIENet 350 AV sensor
Mounted in stormwater pipe

Signature Flow Meter input and output options