Thames 'Act-on' The Need For Tighter Odour Control

Thames Water's Acton Storm Pumping Station is located in the London borough of Ealing. The surrounding area is predominantly residential and mixed use buildings with the nearest properties located adjacent to the northeast boundary of the site on Canham Road and Warple Way.

In 2014, prompted by regular odour complaints from local residents, Thames Water embarked on a project to upgrade the storm tank cleaning system at the Acton works. This involved renovating the Amajet cleaning units in the six open storm water tanks in an attempt to reduce odours emanating from site. Units with larger, more powerful motors were installed in four of the tanks aimed at preventing solids build-up on drain down and jet washing points were fitted for easy wash down.

To facilitate rapid, accurate odour detection at the works perimeter, Thames Water have recently procured six of the renowned Jerome J605 Gold Film Hydrogen Sulphide Analysers. Mirroring the model successfully deployed by Thames at their Mogden Sewage Treatment Works site, the analysers are to be installed in environmental housings along the perimeter fence line for reliable nuisance level odour measurement and reporting via interface with the site SCADA system.

> The J605 builds on the industry proven performance of its predecessor, the Jerome 631-X, with several new performance enhancing features: The J605 exhibits improved accuracy in the single figure ppb region, critical for nuisance odour monitoring. Its automated sampling and regeneration functions facilitate longer periods of unattended monitoring, as does its on-board data-logging with 20,000 data point capacity and USB connectivity for simple download.



Since its introduction, the J605 has become a recognised industry standard where high specificity, low level hydrogen sulphide (H₂S) detection is required. The instrument is used by water treatment companies throughout the UK and deployed by regulatory bodies such as the Environment Agency, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Natural Resources Wales.

Work has continued throughout 2015 with the performance of the automated control system being rigorously tested during storm conditions. The new equipment and procedures are working well and allow Thames to make sure each storm tank is used to its full capacity before another tank is filled as well as being able to confirm that the storm tanks drain down as soon as the levels in the local sewer have returned to normal. However, some residents are still being impacted by odours from site further bringing into focus the importance of reliable H_aS monitoring.

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