



Monitoring Long-term Source Water Trends with the YSI 6500

The City of Cheyenne, Wyoming wanted to monitor and trend long-term fluctuations in its source water quality. In the past, plant personnel drove 40 miles round-trip in order to make manual water quality measurements at the water treatment plant intake. The City of Cheyenne now uses a YSI 6500 Environmental Process Monitor and a YSI 6920 multiparameter sonde in conjunction with its Signal Conditioning and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. The 6920 measures temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, specific conductance, pH and turbidity in the lake prior to its withdrawal into the plant. Water quality data are transmitted every minute to the 6500's easy-to-read, weatherproof display as well as to on-line PCs in the SCADA network.

The 6500 converts the output of the 6920 to a 4-20 mA output which allows the 6500 system to be integrated with the City of Cheyenne's SCADA and process control system. The 6500 has four scalable relays that control several functions including alarm and beacon actuation as well as and automatic dial-out, which provides remote notification that an event, predefined with end-user criteria, has occurred. The Cheyenne water treatment plant uses maximum and minimum values as alarm criteria for all parameters being measured. "Now I can go to the [6500] monitor at the treatment plant and pull up real-time data from twenty miles away," said Rosie Pindilli, Lab Coordinator.

The 6920 multiparameter sonde can be calibrated while connected to the 6500 using its display and key entry panel or while disconnected from the 6500 by using YSI's field-rugged 650 MDS handheld display or a PC. This flexibility is possible because all calibration specifications are stored in the sonde. This also facilitates easy exchange and interchange of sondes. In addition, all YSI sondes have internal memory; the 600 OMS, 600XLM, 6920, 6600, and 6600 Extended Deployment System (EDS) also have internal power. With this powerful feature, any sonde can be instructed to store data internally; thus, in the case of the 6500, the sonde can provide quality assurance by serving as a backup datalogger.



YSI 6500 Environmental Process Monitor with a YSI 6920 Multiparameter sonde.

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