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Aqualiner successfully completes the world's first live drinking water installation of its unique fully-structural pipe lining with Severn Trent Water

The installation was in a 9" cast iron distribution water pipe with significant tuberculation and used Aqualiner's MIPP, the only DWI (REG31) approved liner for UK drinking water pipes

Aqualiner Limited, a company commercialising a unique trenchless pipelining technology for the water markets and **Severn Trent Water**, one of the largest water companies in the UK, have announced that the first commercial installation of Aqualiner's MIPP™ (Melt in Place Pipe) in a drinking water pipe was a success. The installation was completed near Wrexham, Wales, for Hafren Dyfrdwy who are part of the Severn Trent Group.

The installation was on a 9" cast iron pipe suffering from significant tuberculation. The result was the equivalent of replacing the pipe especially in terms of improvement in water quality but without having to dig the pipe up. Pipe renewal options are currently limited to open cut replacement, pipe bursting or slip lining. They all have an impact on the customer or on the capacity of the network. The water industry is continually seeking new and innovative ways to reduce these issues. After many years of research and development, a novel structural liner has been developed by Aqualiner, in conjunction with Severn Trent, Yorkshire Water, Anglian Water and Wessex Water.

Aqualiner's fully structural stand-alone liner, comprising of glass fibre reinforced Polypropylene, is environmentally friendly as it involves no hazardous chemicals/resins and uses minimal amounts of power to install. The liner is thin-walled (3mm), minimising any loss of hydraulic capacity, yet strong enough to withstand all the internal pressures and external ground loads thereby extending the life of the pipe for up to 60 years. Once the lining process is completed and cooled it can be rapidly returned to service and requires minimal future maintenance.

Aqualiner was provided with excellent project and site support by the operational teams from both Hafren Dyfrdwy and Severn Trent Water. Severn Trent Water is the UK's second biggest water company serving more than 4.2m homes and business customers in England and Wales. The company delivers almost two billion litres of water every day through 46,000km of pipes.

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"This is a key achievement for Severn Trent Water and Aqualiner in the planned development of our MIPP process that offers the water companies a more efficient, less disruptive way of renewing their aging network of pipes by structurally lining them. We are extremely excited by the significant commercial implications having completed our first live drinking water installation." stated Archie Adams, Aqualiner's Managing Director, who added, "Aqualiner now plans to raise additional investment to rapidly focus on the expansion of its lining capabilities by producing "utility contractor ready" commercial equipment with 100mm-300mm diameter range capability, increase the lining length and develop associated lining materials. At the same time, Aqualiner plans to expand the business to meet the demands of global licensed contractors conducting commercial installations"

About Aqualiner's MIPP (Melt in Place Pipe) Process

Aqualiner's MIPP is a reinforced thermoplastic liner formed within an aging pipe by the application of heat and pressure to a woven fabric tube made of co-mingled polypropylene and glass fibres. Heat supplied from an electrically powered air driven heating pig raises the temperature of the fabric to above 200˚C, the thermoplastic melts around the oriented glass fibres and pressure is applied using a removable silicon inversion bag to position and consolidate the composite liner tightly against the host pipe wall. It is melted and consolidated to form a thin high strength liner able to perform as a stand-alone AWWA Class 4 liner, a fully structural replacement for the existing pipe, rapidly installed with a minimum of excavation. It is a simple process meeting the requirements prescribed by the stakeholders. Aqualiner has UK & US Regulatory approval for installation in drinking water pipes.

About Aqualiner Limited

Globally, water utility companies are losing, on average, 20% of their drinking water through leaks. Stakeholders, regulators and politicians are demanding a move to a permanent reduction in water loss. The lack of an effective solution has led to this situation and the industry is now facing growing compulsion to renew their aged pipes and meet the onerous regulatory leakage targets. Aqualiner has a unique solution that forms a thin-walled pipe inside the existing pipe without the need to dig up the pipe. As opposed to existing pipe replacement methods, it is up to 50% cheaper, 10 times faster and provides a replacement pipe that has virtually the same capability as the original pipe in the ground. The process has significant added environmental benefit as there are no chemicals involved in the installation while also having a low carbon footprint. On current projections, the global water industry needs to renew annually over 50,000 km of pipe to match the ongoing deteritation of their existing pipe networks. Aqualiner is gearing up to produce, for global utility contractors, commercial equipment and materials for its water mains rehabilitation process. The Company is now well positioned to produce a significant return for not only the water companies but also for its shareholders.

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