

VAG Pressure Management

Managing pressure to reduce new pipe breaks

save water

protect the environment

save energy

reduce civil works
reduce civil works

reduce pipe breaks

save money

reduce roadworks

reduce costs and maintenance expenses

Effects of Pressure Management Systems

Every year, pipe bursts incur high costs. In the US alone, the direct costs incurred by burst water and wastewater pipes amount to \$36 billion per year¹. Pressure-reducing technology decreases the number of burst pipes and the costs they incur by up to 80 per cent.

These savings are the result of different factors. On the one hand, water use decreases because less unused process water seeps into the ground as the result of a burst pipe. On

the other hand, the energy and maintenance savings contribute considerably to the overall cost reduction. The careful use of the vital resource water also contributes towards a sustainable environment.

The below table shows the positive effects of pressure regulating systems. By reducing the pressure, new pipe bursts were reduced on all test systems between 28 and even 80 per cent.

Percentage reductions in break numbers, before and after pressure management ²⁾

Country	Water Utility or System	Number of Pressure Managed Sectors in study	Assessed initial max. pressure (metres)	Average % reduction in maximum pressure	Average % reduction in new breaks	Mains (M) or Services (S)
Australia	Brisbane	1	100	35%	28%	M,S
	Gold Coast	10	60-90	50%	60%	M
	Yarra Valley	4	100	30%	70%	S
Bahamas	New Providence	7	39	34%	28%	M
Bosnia Herzegovina	Gracanica	3	50	20%	40%	M,S
					59%	M
Brazil	Caesb	2	70	33%	72%	S
	Sabesp ROP	1	40	30%	58%	M
	Sabesp MO	1	58	65%	24%	S
	Sabesp MS	1	23	30%	38%	M
	SANASA	1	50	70%	80%	M
					29%	S
	Sanepar	7	45	30%	64%	M
					64%	S
Canada	Halifax	1	56	18%	50%	M
					23%	S
Colombia	Armenia	25	100	33%	50%	M
	Palmira	5	80	75%	50%	S
	Bogotá	2	55	30%	94%	M,S
Cyprus	Lemesos	7	52.5	32%	31%	S
					45%	M
England	Bristol Water	19	62	40%	40%	M
					55%	S
	United Utilities	10	47.6	32%	72%	M
					75%	S
Italy	Torino	1	69	10%	45%	M,S
	Umbra	1	130	39%	71%	M,S
USA	American Water	1	199	36%	50%	M
Total or Average		110		37%	51%	

¹⁾ CC Technologies Laboratories, Inc., "Corrosion Cost and Preventive Strategies in the United States", FHWA-RD-01-156, September 30, 2001

²⁾ Reference IWA Water Loss Task Force, Pressure Management Team, Julian Thornton and Allan Lambert

