

The City of Salina, Kansas improves water meter reading system with help from Siemens

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Client Background

The City of Salina is located in the heart of Kansas, at the crossroads of two major interstates, and is one of the world's largest wheatproducing areas. Business Week recently named Salina to its list of "Best Places to Raise Kids in 2010" thanks to low crime rates, low cost of living, and good schools. In addition, the City's local government is committed to providing its citizens with the best possible public services.

In 2011, the City of Salina engaged Siemens Industry, Inc., to replace the water meter reading system with an automatic, more advanced system that would address the City's goals and objectives.

Objectives

The City of Salina, Kansas established the following goals for this project:

- Replace the city-wide water meter reading system with an automatic system to improve system accuracy and efficiency
- Reduce costs and risk associated with traditional, manual water meter reading
- Take advantage of state-of-the-art customer service

Siemens Solutions

To address the City's goals for the new water meter reading system, Siemens is implementing a new automated meter infrastructure (AMI) system throughout the city, encompassing more than 20,000 total radio-read meters. In addition, Siemens solutions allow:

- Re-reads and transfer of service requests to be handled from the City office
- Reduced workers compensation exposure
- Meters to be read regardless of weather conditions
- Leak detection, tamper alerts,

Customer Results

In addition to providing state-of-the-art customer service, the advancements available with the new automatic meter infrastructure mean the project is expected to generate additional income for the City of Salina. In the fifteenth year following implementation, the project is estimated to be more than \$13.6 million cash positive.

Siemens Industry, Inc.
Building Technologies Division
1000 Deerfield Parkway
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

(847) 215-1000

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