



Directing the Flow



Oliena, Sardinia

A.R.I. air valves featured on Italian Best Practices List 2017, following Hitachi water saving project in Sardinia

Background

The Su Gologone spring supplies water to more than 7,000 inhabitants of the Sardinian municipality of Oliena.



Challenges Intermittent water supply

The aging local water network worked only intermittently, and experienced high levels of leakage. A sustainable solution was required to ensure a consistent supply and reduce water loss.

Solution

Pressure management, air control and prevention of pressure variations

A pilot project was commissioned by local integrated water services provider, Abbanoa SpA, with the support of Hitachi's water management division. An audit was carried out of the existing water network, followed by analysis and technical enhancements such as network design, air and water pressure management, and leak detection.

Taking an innovative approach that became known as the 'Oliena Model', the project prioritized pressure management, air control and prevention of pressure variations. As part of the framework of interventions put in place to solve the existing issues, A.R.I. air valves were installed – D-070, D-040, D-040 LP (Low Pressure), D-040 NS (Non Slam)









Results

A model water system

As a result of the Hitachi water project, Oliena's water network was stabilized, water loss was reduced by more than 50% and significant energy savings were achieved through improvements to the main pumping station.

What's more, the 'Oliena Model' was featured in an Italian Best Practices list for 2017, and has since been replicated in over 100 municipalities around Sardinia.

For more about this project, and a beautiful glimpse into life in Oliena, see this video