



IWN: shaping the future of the Victorian water industry

Background

Victoria's water industry faces a common set of challenges. Population growth, ageing infrastructure, changing customer expectations and climate variability mean we must look differently at how to get more out of our existing infrastructure.

That's where the Intelligent Water Networks (IWN) program comes in. The IWN is a significant investment in our industry, aimed at preserving Victoria's liveability by future-proofing a thriving Victorian water industry.

Collaboration

The Victorian Government aims to establish Victoria as a world leader in urban water delivery. This will only happen if we work together every step of the way, and that's what sets the IWN program apart – collaboration.

The IWN program is about 17 water corporations working together with VicWater and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning to identify and use technology and innovation to address the challenges we face as the one water sector.

Building the skills and capabilities of our water industry is a core part of the IWN program. We know that we can't adapt and maximise the use of new technologies unless we invest in our most important asset – our people.

To be successful we will also need to engage with our many partners and our customers. Our customers have different needs but all of them expect a safe, reliable and affordable water supply.

Innovation

Responding to the challenges we face gives us the opportunity to be truly innovative.

We will test and use new technologies to manage the delivery of water, wastewater and stormwater services.



We will also use new technologies to monitor the performance and condition of our assets.

New sensor and control - as well as communication technologies - will provide a wealth of information in real time on how networks are performing, enabling proactive decision making and network efficiency improvements.

The IWN program aims to better equip all Victorian water businesses to intelligently improve delivery of water, wastewater and stormwater for the benefit of all stakeholders.

Our programs

The key programs for the IWN are:

- Low cost leak detection
- Digital metering solutions
- Asset and energy optimisation
- Management and utilisation of big data systems
- Developing innovative leadership across the water sector.



Industry organisational comparisons

	IWN Intelligent Water Networks	VICWATER	IWA Institute of Water Administration	AWA Australian Water Association	WSAA Water Services Association of Australia	IWA International Water Association
COVERAGE:	Victoria	Victoria	Victoria	State/National	National (Urban)	International
EMPHASIS:	Collaboration Leadership Development	Peak Body Advocacy Policy	Networking Collaboration Learning	Advocacy Prof development	Peak Body National advocacy & collaboration	Networking Research Prof development
MEMBERS:	Victorian Water Corporations VICWATER DELWP	Water Corporations	Water Utilities Corporates Individuals	Private sector Utilities Individuals	Major urban water utilities	Primarily Individual
NOTES:	Business Improvement	Addresses strategic issues common across sector	Management orientation	Technical orientation	Deals with Fed Govt, NWC, Productivity Commission etc.	Close links AWA European centric

The Intelligent Water Networks program is a partnership between VicWater, 17 Victorian water corporations and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), investigating new technologies and innovations to meet common challenges such as population growth, ageing infrastructure and climate variability in a more efficient manner.

