

Meter Health Analytics Success Stories

Top 5 investor owned utility validates Meter Health Analytics

A top 5 investor owned utility recognized the accuracy of large meters can negatively impact utilities revenues. Therefore, Olea Edge Analytics installed the Meter Health Analytics (MHA) solution on 50 meters in two cities. A group of 10 failed meters representing an estimated \$250,000 in lost annual revenue were selected for further testing and evaluation. One meter was tested, repaired, and returned to service resulting in verified increased annual revenue of \$66,644.50 based on analysis of customer bills before and after the repairs.

The first-year payback period on Olea’s MHA solution deployed on the 50 meters is less than 4 months based on the estimated revenue and less than 14 months based on validated revenue on one failed meter. The following 10 failed meters were selected for evaluation:

Customer	Estimated Revenue ¹	Verified Revenue ²
A	(\$35,324.10)	\$66,644.50
B	\$62,773.30	
C	\$54,176.61	
D	\$29,492.48	
E	\$27,961.36	
F	\$18,271.90	
G	\$18,195.10	
H	\$1,367.13	
I	\$1,153.23	
J	\$812.82	
Total Revenue	\$214,203.93	\$66,644.50

Seven failed meters were flow tested and one meter’s billing was analyzed after repairs were completed. Two failed meters were not able to be tested due to poor access and one failed meter was not tested as it did not have correct piping for a flow test. In addition to the 10 failed meters selected above, another meter deficiency was identified during the meter survey. A customer installed meter unknown to Suez was identified. This meter was delivering unbilled water to the customer.



Figure 1-Customer installed hot tap and meter unknown to Suez

7 failed meters were flow tested by a third party. 5 failed meters failed the flow test and 2 failed meters passed the flow test. The two failed meters which passed the flow test were not tested in the range of customer consumption. Specifically:

- Meter J saw flowrates of 0.1 to 1.1 GPM during the evaluation period. The lowest flowrate the meter was tested at was 12 GPM.

¹ Estimated revenue calculated by the Meter Health Analytics Solution

² Validated revenue based on analysis of billing before and after meter repairs

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- Meter F is served by a compound water meter and saw flowrates between 15 and 40 GPM during the evaluation period. The flow test for this meter was performed at 10 GPM, 50 GPM, and 500 GPM.

Flow testing per AWWA recommendations, as described above, highlights a challenge to the validity and appropriateness of physically flow testing water meters. Fundamentally, flow testing a water meter at 2, 3, or even 5 flowrates does not ensure the meter is tested with in the range of actual service flow. Additionally, the process for flow testing typically occurs at different pressures than service which may contribute further to a difference between flow testing accuracy and service accuracy.

Overall, the implementation of Olea's Meter Health Analytics solution successfully realized over \$66,000 (a 50% increase) in verified annual revenue improvements and over \$214,000 (a 31% increase) in additional estimated annual revenue improvements. The solution was further validated with failed flow tests on 5 meters.

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Who we are

Big Ideas are flowing at Olea Edge Analytics. Our team includes the best minds in the business. With extensive knowledge, specialized skills and deep experience, there is no limit to our thinking. As technology leaders in the maker movement, we are continually looking for new ways to add value to our clients, and to our communities. Based in Austin Texas we believe everyone deserves clean, safe, and affordable drinking water. From our disruptive edge computing technology and artificial intelligence to our personal focus with those on the front lines operating and fixing assets in the water industry, we help Water Utilities and Cities to become more connected. Closing the information gaps that will help us all do more with less and build financially and environmentally sustainable communities in the future.

What we do

Olea Edge Analytics’ Meter Health Analytics solution is leading the way for Smart Water in Smart Cities. Our sustainable, one-of-a-kind technology generates revenue and manages critical utility assets, enabling operators to best maintain the health of the assets under their care. Our robust, secure, and fully configurable platform, including both edge and cloud, will deliver no matter how challenging the environment. Our homegrown technology provides real-time results and is simple to use. Connecting with people is at the center of our Smart Water approach because we understand value creation



Figure 2-An Old Clock Face register still actively used by a large city utility.

with technology only happens if the people using it trust and believe.

How we do it

Olea Edge Analytics uses advanced technology combined with tools and training for people to help cities and utilities find revenue and operate more efficiently. Our EdgeWorks platform enables the simple placement of sensors on critical assets, like large water meters, to quickly understand how the asset is performing and what specific actions need to be taken to optimize performance. We use disruptive edge computing technology to process more data faster and cheaper than alternative approaches. We design our products and solutions for simple implementation minimizing the need for utility resources. We support the people using our technology with easy to use applications, interfaces, and training to make them successful and confident with advanced technology.

Learn More at www.OleaEdge.com

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