FINDING FROGS IN HAWTHORNE, CA
REDUCED SPILLS BY 99%

THE CHALLENGE
Hawthorne, CA -- home of SpaceX and the Beach Boys -- operates a small gravity-only system southwest of the Los Angeles airport. The sewer system includes 94 miles of gravity pipeline, no lift stations, no treatment and just two full-time collection staff.

Prior to 2006, Hawthorne was experiencing about 10 sewer overflows per year in their sanitary sewer collection system. After covering fines, clean-up, mitigation and legal costs, the City estimates these spills cost them $400,000 annually.

THE SOLUTION
The City of Hawthorne contacted SmartCover to position 50 real time remote level monitoring sensors covering 66 of the “hot spots” in their collection system.

Through data analysis, SmartCover provides wastewater managers real time early warnings of overflow events through advisories, alerts and alarms to web-enabled devices. The system detects an accumulation of FROG (fat, roots, oil and grease) when the water flow pattern shows distinct changes and then issues notifications to the response team.

THE RESULTS
Since installing their system, the City of Hawthorne has experienced a 99% reduction in sewer spills with only one overflow at a location that was unmonitored.

Using its two-man crew, and SmartCover technology, the City of Hawthorne has virtually eliminated sewer overflows in its collection system, saving more than an estimated $2 million in fines and litigation costs since 2006.

The City of Hawthorne was experiencing about 10 sewer spills per year, which have been virtually eliminated after deploying SmartCover.
REDUCTION IN OVERFLOWS
ENABLES DRAMATIC COST SAVINGS

HAWTHORNE INSTALLED 50
SMARTCOVER UNITS IN THEIR
COLLECTION SYSTEM – ABOUT
2.5% OF ALL MANHOLE-AND
VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED ALL
OVERFLOW.

A 99% reduction
in sewer overflows
is saving millions of dollars.

SUMMARY:
Hawthorne uses SmartCover to detect FROG
build-up in pipes and then cleans “as needed”
before serious problems occur. This prescriptive
approach is eliminating spills while saving sig-
nificant time and money. Thus far, the City has
been able to achieve over $2 million in savings
on fines, clean up, and legal costs - all without
having to increase resources or staff and, at the
same time, avoiding huge capital improvement
expenses.

SmartCover
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