



A clear view on documentation at Waterschap Brabantse Delta



Customer Story



Customer Profile

Waterschap Brabantse Delta is a water board in the Netherlands that provides protection against flooding, purifies waste water and sees to the purity of surface water and the groundwater levels.

Industry

Utilities – water and waste water/Government

BlueCielo Solution

InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise

Application Environment

- AutoCAD
- StabiCAD
- Plant-4D
- Corsa post registration

Key advantages

- Rapid, simple access to complete and up-to-date documentation
- Increased efficiency
- Meets Aquo standard and NEN requirements
- User-friendly

Implemented by:



Customer Overview

Waterschap Brabantse Delta or Brabantse Delta Water Board is a governmental organization in the Netherlands. If the operation of Waterschap Brabantse Delta were to be interrupted, life in West-Brabant would be impossible – towns and villages would be flooded; rivers, streams and pools would turn into stinking open sewers and become a health threat, which is why Waterschap Brabantse Delta ensures strong and safe dikes and river banks, purifies sewage water, regulates the groundwater level and protects the environment for more than 750,000 inhabitants and 24,000 companies. Its operating area covers the part of the province of Noord-Brabant to the west of the line Waalwijk/Baarle-Nassau and to the south of the Hollandsch Diep, the Amer and the Bergsche Maas. Day-to-day tasks are performed by more than 500 employees such as researchers, lock keepers, enforcement officials, roadmen, technicians and process operators.

Recent History

Waterschap Brabantse Delta came out of a 2004 merger of five water authorities. One of these, the Hoogheemraadschap van West-Brabant, had been using AutoManager WorkFlow (now discontinued) from as early as the first half of the 1990s to manage 10,000 project and as-built drawings. After the merger, a document management review was carried out at the other water authorities: it turned out that only a small percentage of the drawings were available in digital form and that approximately 20,000 drawings had to be scanned. Although InnoCielo TeamWork (formerly AutoManager TeamWork) had already been acquired as the successor to WorkFlow, it was decided that InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise (formerly AutoManager Meridian) was a better option. In view of the previous positive experience with InnoCielo, comparable products from other software suppliers were not considered.

Compliance to the Aquo Standard

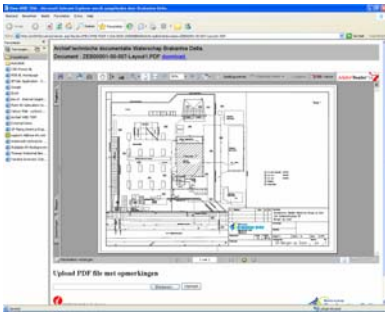
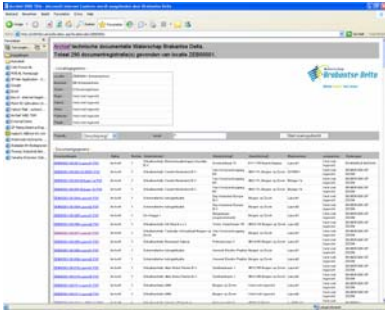
In 2004 an initiative taken by – among others – the Dutch Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management and the Union of Water Authorities led to the introduction of the Aquo standard. Its aim is to standardize and simplify the exchange of data between the information systems or organizations working in the Dutch water sector so that the information can be used more efficiently. According to a national guideline, the coding of all documentation of all the water authorities must conform to the standard by January 1, 2008.

Implementing InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise

To successfully introduce the new document management solution Waterschap Brabantse Delta composed a detailed specification of its requirements. After a number of suppliers were invited to present their solutions, Issue Information Technology was selected in January 2006. In addition to ensuring a complete migration of all data and documentation from WorkFlow, links to programs such as AutoCAD, StabiCAD, Plant-4D and the Corsa post registration system that managed all incoming mail, had to be realized.

According to Mr CAM Bon, application manager at Waterschap Brabantse Delta, "As well as setting up and delivering InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise on time and in conformity with the program of requirements, Issue also played a crucial role in our joint thinking and user-friendly implementation of the Aquo standard in our new document management system."

In parallel to the implementation of InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise, all existing paper drawings were scanned. Once a document was scanned, the information in the document heading was input into a database. Using the Aquo standard as a benchmark, the drawings were subsequently renamed and then imported and categorized in InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise together with the titleblock information from the database.



Project Management, Standardization & Accessibility

The water authority outsources the majority of their drawing work. As a consequence the emphasis of the document management system is placed on filing all as-built documentation, checking work which has been outsourced and maintaining document standards.

Currently there are more than 45,000 documents available as as-built documentation. These also include – in addition to drawings – operating instructions, reports on measurements and calibrations, photos and any further documentation related to the technical installations. It is expected that the final number of documents in InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise will total 60,000, and that all of them will have been coded as required by the Aquo standard by mid-2007.

Three groups of users can be distinguished:

- The document managers. These are mainly the draftsmen and GIS managers employed in the Construction and Water Systems and Water Defenses departments who are responsible for creating and managing projects and for updating as-built documentation.
- Other users within the organization. These are employees working in regional offices or fitters working on site. They have access to all as-built documentation via Waterschap Brabantse Delta's intranet. As well as being able to consult the documentation, it is possible to use InnoCielo's redlining function to comment on a document, with the comments being immediately processed by the draftsmen so that documents are always kept up to date.
- Temporary employees. Within the user group there are also temporary employees who only have access to documentation for their own location via the read-only web clients.

"The smaller water authorities involved in the merger were at first suspicious of a digital document management system," comments Mr Bon, "but they are starting to become more enthusiastic. What I'm hearing is that they find InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise extremely interesting and easy to use."

The location management system built in by Issue Information Technology not only makes it possible to manage all the locations, but people are also able to use location codes, discipline and part processes to retrieve all relevant documentation quickly and simply within InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise.

If drawings are received by post, the drawings are logged in Corsa and it is possible to use Corsa to retrieve project and object codes from InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise. Subsequently the drawing is registered in Corsa with the correct data and at the same time is automatically saved in InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise with the relevant project.

Documentation & Environmental Legislation & Standards

Standards set by NEN, the national standardization institute of the Netherlands, require the documentation for all the installations run by Waterschap Brabantse Delta to be complete, available and up-to-date at all times.

Such installations include, for example, the small siphons out in the field, but also all 82 sewage pumping stations and the 343 kilometers of transportation piping. The most important stretch of piping is the 60-kilometre-long Waste Water Pressure Pipe (*Afvalwaterpersleiding* – AWP) between the Moerdijk industrial estate and the sewage purification plant at Bath.

The set of documentation relevant to the AWP was always stored in a special cupboard. After the introduction of InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise it was decided to scan the entire set of documentation and, using InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise, make it available online. Since this information is of a crucial nature and must always be available, the scanning and importing operation was carefully planned beforehand and executed in less than 24 hours.

With the use of InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise, ISO certification has been awarded to the water board's Constructions department.

"The introduction of InnoCielo Meridian Enterprise has brought a clear improvement in the efficiency of our water authority. This applies particularly to those working out in the field who now have access to complete and up-to-date information. What sometimes used to happen was that once on site they realized that the drawing they had was the wrong version. That problem has now been definitively solved."
 — Mr CAM Bon, Applications Manager, Waterschap Brabantse Delta

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