

## Case Study

# Derby University

University achieves major reductions in its water consumption within months

### Background

The University of Derby joined the Watermark Project in 2001. It has around twenty separate tutorial buildings and halls of residence, which are serviced by forty different water accounts covering fifty fiscal meters. Before joining Watermark, the University's annual water cost was £285,000. To date, ten of its largest campuses have taken up a Water Services Contract (WSC) and have implemented action plans in close co-operation with ADSM, OGCbuying.solutions' appointed Watermark contractor.



### Kedleston consumption halved

Work started on site at the University's Kedleston Road campus in November 2001. By April 2002, just five months later, the project team had achieved a reduction of over 50% in water consumption on campus.

University officials are naturally delighted and acknowledge that some initial concerns have been more than laid to rest. Mrs. Jo Seabrook, Facilities Manager, explained: "Although in the initial stages of the watermark project I was concerned it was just another information gathering exercise, the link to ADSM has certainly proved pro-active. We have been able to make value judgements about where to start saving on our water consumption levels and indeed we are now doing this. A comprehensive survey resulted in a number of remedial measures being put in place, the elimination of underground losses and ongoing maintenance and service. We saw a significant reduction in our night time wastage immediately. I think the watermark project has been beneficial in many ways to the University but mainly because it follows through with giving real help rather than just a report."

### High Peak, low projections

The project team has also begun work at the University's High Peak Catering College, housed in 1950s-built former Army premises. The complex consists of several buildings, incorporating nine kitchens, a restaurant, bar, sports hall and gym, totalling 16,362m<sup>2</sup> of floor space. All are open to the public and are in constant use.

ADSM's consultancy report assessed current water performance in terms of amenity (quality of supply) and efficiency (a better service for less). As a result, potential savings of over 47,000m<sup>3</sup> of water per annum were identified, representing a potential reduction of over £45,000 in annual water charges.

### Savings to Date

Since Derby University joined the project, savings of **£270,000** have been achieved.

### OGCbuying.Solutions

Neil Kitchen, OGCbuying.solutions' Watermark Project Leader, said: "The work carried out at the University of Derby is a fine example of how Watermark helps to reduce bills and improve the quality of water supply - a real double boost for participating organisations".

OGCbuying.solutions is the trading arm of the Office of Government Commerce (OGC), which is itself an office of HM Treasury. OGC was launched on 1 April 2000 as a result of a review of civil procurement in Central Government. Its aim is to achieve substantial value for money improvements in the Government's procurement budget.

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