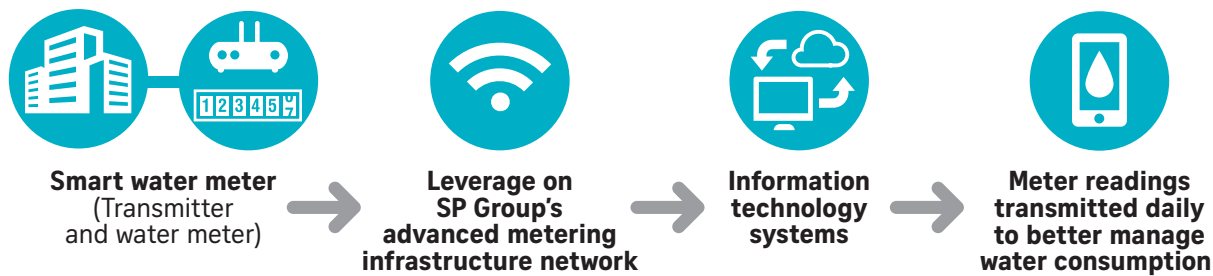
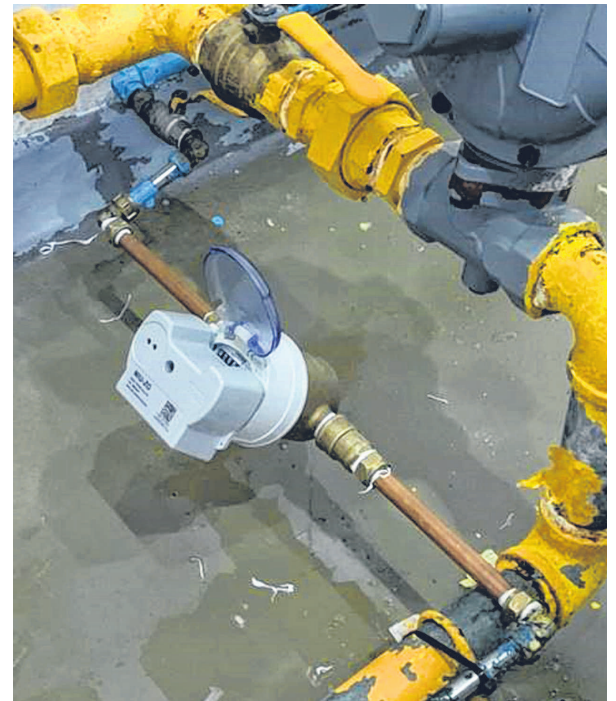


SINGAPORE

How the smart water meter works



Source: SP GROUP STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS



SP Services to install smart water meters at 7 locations

Customers will bear no cost, can monitor leaks and high water usage in near real time

Ang Qing

SP Services will install Singapore's first 300,000 smart water meters from early next year as part of the national plan to digitalise the water system.

At no cost to customers, these meters that use digital technologies to monitor water usage and leaks will be rolled out to homes as well as commercial and industrial buildings at seven locations, said national water agency PUB yesterday.

The locations are the new housing estates of Tampines North and Tengah, Bukit Batok, Hougang, Jurong West, Tampines and Tuas.

The first phase of PUB's smart water meter programme is set to be completed by 2023.

The award of the estimated \$123.7 million project to the subsidiary of SP Group follows an open tender exercise which attracted seven local and foreign tenderers.

PUB said that SP Services was selected as it demonstrated a strong

track record and the necessary technical resource capability to undertake this project, alongside its network solutions provider Itron's experience in deploying nearly 800,000 smart water meters in Baltimore and Cleveland in the United States.

SP Services will be responsible for the supply and installation of the smart meters and supporting infrastructure, as well as their operation and maintenance for 15 years.

Households and businesses in the first phase of the programme will receive notification letters from PUB prior to installation.

"In selecting these locations, PUB had considered a range of factors including property mix, efficiency of deployment and the

need to replace older conventional water meters," it said.

With the new meters, the agency can automatically access meter readings without the need for labour-intensive manual reads, which are currently conducted once every two months.

Paired with a customer portal, users will be able to monitor leaks and high water usage in near real time.

Pilot trials in 800 households in Punggol and Yuhua in 2016 and 2018 found that about 10 per cent experienced leaks that often went unnoticed until they received a higher-than-usual water bill. With the smart meters, these households had savings of about 5 per cent due to early leak detection and the adoption of water-saving habits.

PUB director of water supply (network) Ridzuan Ismail said: "With increasing water demand and challenges posed by climate change on our water resources, we

SP Services will roll out the first 300,000 smart water meters to homes as well as commercial and industrial buildings in seven locations in Singapore. They are the new housing estates of Tampines North and Tengah, Bukit Batok, Hougang, Jurong West, Tampines and Tuas.

PHOTO: SP GROUP

CONSERVING WATER continued on B2

Meters will help boost water conservation efforts

FROM B1

are also constantly challenged to find more efficient ways to supply water and conserve water in order to safeguard Singapore's water security.

"Smart water meters that can provide near real-time water use information will help to change con-

sumer behaviour (and) can give a major push to our water conservation efforts."

Following the first phase roll-out, PUB intends to review the results before implementing the programme for the rest of Singapore.

The first phase was slated to begin early this year, but it was delayed due to the Covid-19 pan-

demic, PUB told The Straits Times.

Mr Stanley Huang, group chief executive officer of SP Group, said: "In deploying a smart water metering system for Singapore, SP Group is building on our track record in establishing and operating our nation's islandwide smart electricity metering system."

As at March 31, SP Group has in-

stalled over 500,000 smart electricity meters nationwide and intends to complete installation for all 1.4 million households by 2024.

To find out more about the smart water meter programme, visit pub.gov.sg/smartwatermeterprogramme

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