

PRODUCT info

CARLOW'S DRIVE-BY AMR



As Ireland faces the transition to the introduction of domestic water meters, Carlow County Council exploit the benefits of true drive-by technology from Germany. With 1,800 non-domestic premises metered, the cost of reading the meters dropped from 10% when manually read to under 1% with drive-by AMR. The time taken to read all the meters dropped from over 100 man days to just 3 for each quarter. This generates the cost benefit allowing investment in drive-by AMR.

Carlow County Council installed water meters supplied by CSL and manufactured in Germany by Hydrometer. Each meter is fitted with a

true drive-by radio transponder which transmits a reading every 8 seconds - the transponder never has to "wake up" allowing the driver to drive past each meter at up to 60 km/hour. The battery powered transponder has a battery life of 12 years. More frequent meter reads allows more frequent billing - this reduces customer complaints, leakage problems and improves cash flow.

Automatic leakage alarms has assisted Carlow County Council to identify and reduce costly leaks. The rapid drive-by also reduces health and safety concerns and releases manpower resources for other work. CSL staff assisted Carlow County Council in managing their meter database - a key requirement in effective automatic meter reading. The collected data is fed directly into the Agresso billing system - eliminating transcribing errors.

Looking to the future, the time taken to read additional domestic meters is very small. Carlow County Council had been impressed by the Hydrometer system used by the four Dublin local authorities. Over 25,000 meters were installed in Dublin with clip-on transponders on new meters and external transponders on bulk meters. The Dublin system currently boasts a read rate of 98% as well as a 500 water meter fixed system, where meters are read continually by a fixed receiver and aerial system. Hydrometers latest generation of water meters, available through CSL, now brings the option of "smart metering" to the water market. As local authorities face the prospect of rolling out domestic meters Carlow County Councils investment in drive-by metering stands them in good stead for the future.



CSL

www.cs ltd.ie

CREATIVE PLAY SOLUTIONS BY WOODEN DELIGHTS

Creative Play Solutions by Wooden Delights have recently launched their new on-line catalogue.

Featuring their full range of products from toddlers springers to adults fitness equipment www.creativeplay.ie is the one stop shop for all your outdoor play requirements.

The site includes details on suitable equipment for childcare providers, community and public play areas as well as skate parks, street furniture and the ever-expanding outdoor fitness and MUGA ranges.

The fresh new site will make planning a new play area a simple process and customers can easily browse through the hundreds of equipment pieces available.

The site will also keep you up to date with the latest developments in play strategy, best practice and new products. Creative Play Solutions have been busy for 2009 installing a number of large-scale play projects throughout the country. And details of these projects can be seen in the News section.

2009 has also seen the introduction of a new play equipment manufacturer. Husson International is a French based manufacturer who specialise in sports and leisure equipment for local authorities. One of their most unique range is their covered multi sport areas. Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo will be the first location for this type of MUGA in Ireland in the New Year.

For more information on Creative Play Solutions by Wooden Delights, their products and services please contact them today on www.creativeplay.ie or 091 525709.

