

Taking Calibration to the Next Level

Using Documenting Calibrators

Joel Gregory, Robert Hopkins, and Francisco Morales

DC water 5000 Overlook Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20032

(Joel.Gregory@dcwater.com 202-787-4413)

SUBMISSION TYPE

30 minute presentation

6-12 page paper plus 30-minute presentation

3 foot wide x 4 foot high large format poster

KEYWORDS

Documenting Calibrator, Calibrations, Reports, Documentation,

ABSTRACT

Documenting calibrators are a costly resource that pose several questions to plant staff. The main question is, "How do I get the most out of this equipment to justify the purchase cost?" and How do I get started? This presentation will give an overview of DC Water's implementation of Documenting Calibrators and Calibration Database Software at the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The requirements for more data collection and documentation has resulted in plants adding more instrumentation to both new and legacy systems. Some facilities have hundreds, or even thousands of instruments that need to be maintained and calibrated. How do you keep track? A documenting calibrator can help manage a large number of instruments, and help maximize workforce productivity. The use of a documenting calibrator and database software, allows the user to easily track and analyze calibration history of each instrument. This information can be used to make informed decisions on calibration frequency and maintenance. Secondly, the use of a documenting calibrator will greatly reduce human error. In a large facility it is not uncommon for either the wrong instrument to be calibrated, or the correct instrument with the wrong calibration procedure. A documenting calibrator reduces this problem by verifying device and/or tag names via HART, and automatically providing the technician with procedures, notes, and test points. Lastly, a documenting calibrator saves time by automatically generating standardized calibration reports. This helps the technician be more productive and reduces errors in reporting.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Joel Gregory *has been in the automation industry for 28 years and is a CCST-III*

Contact: Joel.Gregory@dcwater.com

Robert Hopkins *has been in the automation industry for 13 years and is a CCST-II*

Contact: Robert.Hopkins@dcwater.com

Francisco Morales *has been in the automation industry for 20 years and is a CCST-II*

Contact: Francisco.Morales@dcwater.com