

World-Class Ski Resort Chooses the Multi-Mag

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The Resort Municipality of Whistler, located in British Columbia, Canada is home to the number one ski resort in North America and is currently bidding to host the 2010 Winter Olympics. Recently, Whistler Resort was awarded the 2005 World Snowboarding Championships and is steadily gaining recognition as the premiere travel destination for skiers and snowboarders around the world.



The municipality occupies an area of 12,630 hectares and maintains about 100 km (62 miles) of water and wastewater pipe and has one of the most advanced wastewater treatment plants in North America, classified as a Level IV treatment plant (aerial photograph shown below). A large multi-million infrastructure grant recently approved ensures a significant upgrade to the wastewater plant to accommodate their growing population, from 7,800 residents in 1996 to the current estimate of 11,000 permanent residents in 2002. Whistler is Canada's fastest growing municipality and between the years 1996 to 2000 attracted over \$381 million in construction investment.

With such significant growth in recent years and a strong reliance on tourism as a primary income source, the maintenance of world-class facilities including reliable potable water supplies and wastewater treatment facilities is essential.



In the past two years, the Resort Municipality of Whistler has successfully installed four Marsh McBirney Multi-Mag flowmeters, (8", 10", 12", 14" diameter) and has provided excellent testimonials and has become a strong advocate of the product. EST Environmental Technologies (www.estcanada.com), the Marsh McBirney representative for British Columbia, Canada working in alliance with Canadian Distributor, C&M Environmental (Woodbridge, Ontario) have identified an excellent niche market for Marsh McBirney's Multi-Mag: difficult retrofit flow monitoring applications for tight bends or short vertical or horizontal pipe sections.

In particular, two recent installations of the Multi-Mag at the Whistler Resort highlight the significant advantage of Marsh McBirney's approach. In November 2001, a ten-inch (10") Multi-Mag was installed at Spring Creek. The unit was selected for its ability to be easily retrofit for a vertical pipe application without the traditional five to ten pipe diameters of straight run. In fact, if a traditional flowmeter were to be installed, a



basement would need to be constructed below the existing pump station at a significant infrastructure cost (estimated in the tens of thousands). Consequently, the Multi-Mag was selected for its ease of installation, requiring only a two-inch hot tap, electrical wiring, and insertion of the monitoring probe. The utilities crew and consultants on-site quickly identified the cost-savings, and flexibility by going with the Multi-Mag approach.

In early 2002, the Whistler municipality selected an eight-inch (8") Multi-Mag Model 285 at the Emerald location (their fourth Multi-Mag to-date) for yet another application difficult for most flowmeters. For this case, potable water flow monitoring was required for a short 30" length of pipe located close to a pipe bend. Pre and post-installation photos of the Emerald installation are shown below.



The particular eight inch (8”) underground pipe line shown above is located in a chamber with very tight space limitations. This main pipe accepts delivery of water from an interconnected maze of piping with numerous on-off valves and pipe bends and is driven by a series of up to three delivery pumps at one time. For this application, traditional flowmeters would be unworkable and once again, the Multi-Mag came to the rescue with a retrofit solution that was both cost-effective and easy to install. For Whistler, the Multi-Mag has become a reliable, and well-known tool for their flow monitoring applications.

With the recent multi-million infrastructure grant approval received by Resort Municipality of Whistler it is foreseen that there will be even more significant waterworks upgrades in the near future. Currently, the Multi-Mag is being considered for numerous applications in the municipality. The four recent successful applications of Marsh McBirney Multi-Mag in the Whistler Resort are an example of how reliable, accurate flow monitoring, backed with ease of installation, significant cost savings and strong customer service lead to repeated sales and world-class results, now and in the future!



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