

## **Collaboration** & Innovation







## How learning from each other sets us up for success

**by David Marsh,** Supply Demand Compliance Manager

I had the pleasure of joining leading water companies and tech innovators at the Pressure Management & Control Forum facilitated by Utilitec and hosted by Bristol Water earlier this month. With representatives from Manx Utilities, Yorkshire Water, Anglian Water, Severn Trent Water, Welsh Water, South West Water, Wessex Water, Affinity Water, Southern Water, Thames Water, and of course Bristol Water, there was lots of energy in the room as we shared our innovations for reducing leakage and optimising pressure. It was a brilliant reminder that while we may serve different regions, we're united by a common goal - to deliver smarter, more sustainable water services for our customers.

We also had the chance to engage with some of the most exciting tech partners in the space, including SUEZ Group, Aganova, DNS-Software, Technolog, and Utilitec - each bringing cutting-edge solutions to the table. This wasn't just a chance to connect - it was a real opportunity to learn from others and bring back ideas that can help us at United Utilities push forward on our AMP8 goals.

## Here's a roundup of some of the key takeaways from the day:

Bristol Water shared their transformation journey under the Pennon Group, now serving 3.5 million people with 50 treatment works. Despite AMP7 hurdles, they're aiming for an ambitious 24% leakage reduction in AMP8 - driven by predictive maintenance and a dedicated leakage team.



**SUEZ Group** wowed us with their satellite leak detection tech, blending L-band sensors with Al dashboards.

Manx Utilities found 150 leaks from 180 satelliteflagged points - an incredible example of how data fusion can drive real-world results.

Aganova introduced their in-pipe Nautilus system for non-invasive trunk main inspections. Backed by Microsoft, they're already in early discussions with us at UU – which is an exciting prospect for future collaboration.

DNS Software/Aquavision showcased a real-time pressure optimisation tool using reinforcement learning. It's designed to reduce asset stress and energy use while keeping service levels high – and it's exactly the kind of smart tech we're exploring to build resilience into our network.

## Looking ahead...

The forum was a brilliant reminder of the power of innovation and partnership. At United Utilities, we're actively exploring these technologies to help us deliver smarter, more efficient and more sustainable water services. A great example of how working together helps us all waste less and save more.

#everydropcounts #innovationinwater #AMP8ready



