

Feature

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The failure to address the underlying complexity of data management issues is often the reason why the potential savings forecast by implementing an EMS are not realised in full.

EDMSs could also enable businesses to make appropriate decisions on business cases centred around carbon trading opportunities and threats. In addition they will obtain a clearer understanding of how the climate change levy might affect their performance.

It's good news but not all good news

EDMSs can reduce the cost of regulatory compliance and increase the responsiveness of the business to external pressures. Delivering a software solution enables relatively quick implementation and provides in-built quality control, audit trail facilities and standardised reporting which brings peace of mind.

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People news - software development



Stuart Smith

This is the man who could provide your software solution!

Stuart Smith (26) joined *Monitor-Pro* in 1999 as a senior software developer. He helped develop *Monitor-LT* software for use by organisations such as Southern Water and Cleanaway and various county councils.

He is also responsible for creating product upgrades, new product development as well as telephone and on-site customer support. Earlier in his career he was an analyst programmer for a Shrewsbury-based IT consultancy firm.

Stuart started programming computers at the age of nine thanks to a ZX Spectrum produced by entrepreneur Sir Clive Sinclair.

He was educated in West Sussex and studied Computer Aided Chemistry at Surrey University.

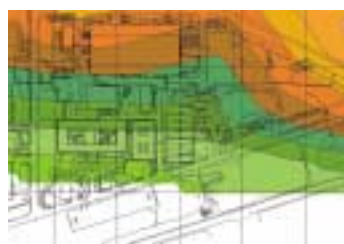
During an industrial placement scheme with ICI he worked on projects to develop more ecologically friendly chromium-based catalysts and the design of new laboratory management systems.

Technofile: Surface Mapping

We now offer a versatile surfacing mapping add-on option across our range of software solutions. Based on the acclaimed Surfer™ engine, the module fully maximises the impact of gridded geographical data.

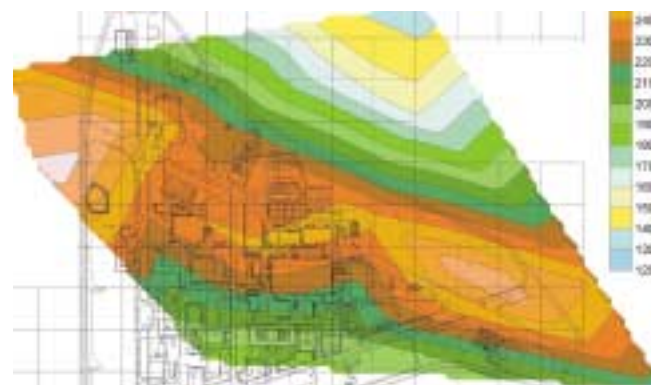
Whether you want to look at energy consumption at different locations across a site, or water quality or gas emissions at different measurement points, you can readily view spatial trends across the area of interest.

User-selected points of interest are quickly added to the mapping system through an intuitive interface that allows gridding and viewing of interpolated surfaces for any variable in two and three dimensions.



See your data spectacularly transformed into colourful contour, wireframe, shaded relief or image maps in seconds.

Anyone wanting to visualise data as an interpolated surface will benefit from this convenient add-on.



Software solutions

Advanced data management

Monitor-Enterprise:

This suite of packages operates over networks and handles large volumes of data. Various editions are available:

- **Monitor-AQ:** Air quality data management.
- **Monitor-LAQM:** Local authority air quality data management.
- **Monitor-Landfill:** Landfill data management.
- **Monitor-Airport:** Airport EHS data management.

- **Monitor-Energy:** A utilities management tool.

- **Monitor Site Manager:** Industrial site management.

Desktop data management

Monitor-LT: An entry-level desktop program well suited to most routine monitoring programmes such as landfill, industrial, air quality and contaminated land monitoring.

Extra modules available include:

- **Mapping**
- **Diary Manager**
- **Advanced Reporting**
- **Monitor-UXO:** Unexploded ordnance.



Editorial



John Birchall

Welcome to the second issue of Spot-Lite, *Monitor-Pro's* data management affairs newsletter.

In this issue our main feature is the second part of "accounting for environmental performance" together with a product review on *Monitor-LT* and a case study with Shell Global Solutions. We also provide an outline of our scoping service while technofile looks at our new surfacing extension package.

As *Monitor-Pro* offers a software package that handles air quality data (*Monitor-LAQM*), I was especially curious about an interesting observation reported in the national press recently.

According to the report the Scouse or Liverpool accent may shortly become extinct due to improved air quality throughout the north-west of Britain. It appears the proportion of people with the famous nasal twang is steadily declining.

The accent probably originated during the industrial revolution when heavy air pollution was a feature of the region.

If you have any queries or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at john.birchall@monitor-pro.co.uk

John Birchall

Company news: New airport, energy and site data management tools

Three exciting cost saving data management solutions have been introduced by *Monitor-Pro* as it drives forward into developing markets.

Monitor-Airport is designed to satisfy the diverse monitored data management requirements of airports throughout the world. Environmental, health and safety (EHS) data as well as information from support services are integrated in one single package.



As environmental issues such as the Climate Change Levy (CCL) have increased the cost of energy, understanding energy usage patterns has become increasingly important to a wide variety of companies. *Monitor-Energy* addresses these needs by combining data from many sources and allowing it to be managed coherently. The energy usage report templates are designed and verified by ETSU.

Environmental managers at IPPC-affected industrial sites handle monitored data such as contaminated land, air quality, noise, energy efficiency, waste, water, landfill, etc. *Monitor-Site Manager* collects all the data together, tracks performance against limits, analyses trends and produces reports for permitted processes.

Product review: - Monitor LT

Monitor-LT - an entry-level desktop environmental management tool - is well suited to most routine monitoring programmes such as landfill, industrial, contaminated land and air quality. It is the UK waste industry standard for data management.



Monitor-LT provides peace of mind by keeping you in control of your data. It is entered, validated and stored securely with ease and, subsequently, accessed rapidly.

As environmental standards such as ISO 14001 require you to monitor and measure key operational characteristics, you could significantly benefit from the structured and integrated data management capability of *Monitor-LT*. It is simple to query data, produce visual trends and share data with stakeholders via customised reports. Operational cost savings over DIY spreadsheets are guaranteed. Further advantages include:

- ◆ Reduced costs due to lower data validation and report preparation times
- ◆ Better information leading to improved decision making
- ◆ Clear, consistent and validated reporting to regulators and other stakeholders

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Feature: Accounting for environmental performance - part 2

In the final part of a two part feature Malcolm West, AEA Technology, and Asger Eriksen, Monitor-Pro Limited, continue to discuss the benefits offered by a step change in environmental data management by taking a look at an Environmental Data Management System (EDMS) application at the Waste Recycling Group (WRG).

When operating its landfill sites WRG found that regulatory compliance reporting was time consuming and complicated due to the volume of data and number of monitoring points. To improve compliance management and apply EDMS techniques, the company installed *Monitor-LT* - a desk-top data management tool - at a number of trial sites. Following successful trials, the software was installed at six sites throughout the UK.

WRG is now working with *Monitor-Pro* to tailor *Monitor-Enterprise* - a networkable company-wide product - to satisfy its specific needs. This application draws together the data from all WRG landfills to a single source, provides all sites with access to their own data and ensures the central environmental management team is supplied with all appropriate information. Further cost savings are therefore made in central internal reporting and benchmarking operations.

Meeting regulatory needs

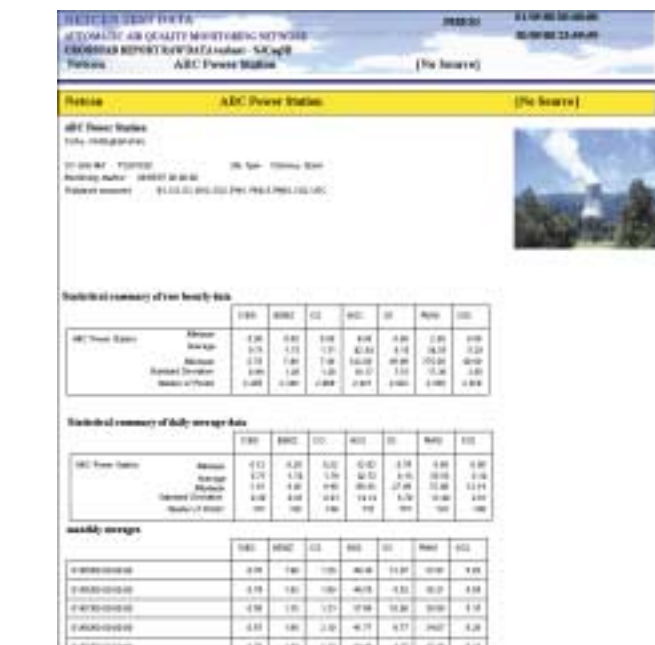
Most of the process and manufacturing industries are likely to move towards continuous emissions monitoring systems (CEMS) over the next few years. To validate this move the MCerts scheme was introduced to bring about improved consistency in instrument readings.

In the future it is logical to assume that the information management systems which take the raw data from these instruments will, in turn, have to be certified to ensure that final reports are acceptable.

Internal pressures on the regulators will also steadily reinforce their push towards Operator Monitoring and Assessment (OMA) which will put further pressure on businesses to implement their own environmental performance management systems.

An EDMS enables a business to be confident that compliance reporting is as accurate as possible and it has taken account of all the data available. With IPPC approaching fast, the pressures to manage a broad range of data types and an ability to learn where savings and improvements can be made will gain importance.

IPPC could well prove to be the straw that broke the camel's back for traditional spreadsheet-based environmental data management.



EDMSs enable companies to be confident about compliance reporting.

Meeting stakeholder and consumer management needs

Wide scale access to the web and other mass media has significantly increased consumer and other groups' expectations about the speed and degree of access to information. Many companies have found that ethical consumerism - driven by pressure groups and other campaigners - has left them with an eroded reputation when they have not produced defensible statistics and information in the timescale dictated by today's media or even the courts.

An effective EDMS enables

business critical information to be assembled quickly and in a professional manner so that threats can be handled more effectively.

On a more routine basis environmental performance reporting can be undertaken faster, more cost effectively and delivered in web-friendly formats for rapid dissemination of good news or mitigation of less promising news.

EDMS would enable the majority of FTSE350 companies that do not currently report environmental performance to do so more quickly. That is, in line with the



Asger Eriksen

suggestions made by Michael Meacher, the Environment Secretary.

Widespread uptake of EDMS would enable sector benchmarking to be undertaken easily providing percentile performance characteristics for KPIs agreed by industry trade associations.

Meeting internal business needs

An effective EDMS enables the business to focus on its core activities by automating the more mechanical elements of environmental management. Taken to its full capabilities EDMS could become a web-delivered out-sourced service.

They can be configured with existing business information systems such as finance, purchasing and operations management models. Environmental and health and safety issues can therefore be considered on an equal footing with traditional business measures thereby potentially making the triple bottom line a reality.

Traditional environmental management systems (EMSs) and, in particular, EMS implementation consultancy has focused on the less numerical side of compliance. They established procedures-based management systems and often did not address the validity and consistency of the data which an effective EMS has to rely on.

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Case study: Shell Global Solutions

Through its activities on behalf of numerous clients, Shell Global Solutions has a large volume of different types of data arising from various environmental monitoring programmes. All require a structured approach to data management.

This led to *Monitor-Pro*, Shell Global Solutions and AEA Technology to fund a joint programme under which *Monitor-Pro* developed the next generation of air emission data management systems for both internal and commercial applications.

Entitled *Monitor-AQ*, this powerful package is specifically designed to satisfy the air quality management requirements of organisations.

Monitor-AQ provides consistent data handling, verification and interpretation throughout an organisation.

Testing has also demonstrated the product's ability to harvest,



validate and display different environmental data automatically, including real-time emissions data. It therefore allows users to monitor large operations very closely. Key benefits include:

- ◆ Control of data input and verification
- ◆ Audit trails and access level control, as required by upcoming legislation
- ◆ Automatic harvesting from air quality data loggers
- ◆ Professional quality graphing and reporting tools

Powerful reporting tools provide consistency and save time when regulatory and stakeholder reports have to be produced.

Software modules on show at IWM Exhibition

Monitor-Pro occupied stand 546 at the IWM Exhibition at Torbay Park, Paignton this year. The event was held between 12 to 14 June.

The company demonstrated three of the latest modules for its *Monitor-LT* data management package - the mapping, diary manager and advanced reporting modules.

The mapping module allows trends to be visualised throughout a geographic area in seconds rather than hours by rapidly superimposing monitoring data over a map.

The Diary Manager ensures a report deadline is never missed while the advanced reporting module enables a range of reports to be produced at the touch of a button and in a wide range of formats including for distribution over the web.



The English Riviera - host to the IWM Exhibition.

Scoping service

Not surprisingly many people are sceptical when a potential supplier states: "Our product is guaranteed to save you money".

On the other hand, they will rarely miss an opportunity to benefit from cost reductions.

Monitor-Pro likes to prove its claims before potential customers commit themselves to a purchase.

Working with specialist consultants appropriate to prospects' sectors, we offer to conduct a feasibility study that will quantify the savings to be gained from implementing an integrated data management and reporting system.

Based on a site visit to your premises and interviews with appropriate personnel within your organisation, you will receive a professionally written report outlining our conclusions.

Any bottlenecks in the management of information derived from process and environmental impact monitoring will be highlighted.

Part of the cost of this service will be discounted from subsequent purchases of any of our *Monitor-Enterprise* range of software.

Alternatively, the service can be paid for separately. Typical daily rates for this stand-alone service are between £400 and £600 depending on the complexity of the operation.

Waste 2001, Cairo

A copy of the paper presented to Waste 2001 in Cairo by Phil Ely, technical manager, *Monitor-Pro*, is available from our web site: www.monitor-pro.co.uk/Document_Library/Conference_Papers/conference_papers.html The paper is entitled "The benefits of integrated environmental data management".