

## REGIONAL WINNER

### Open Spatial Australia & GISSA Regional Collaboration between Wannon Water & Warrnambool City Council - As Constructed Submittal Process

#### What was the problem?

Warrnambool City Council has most of the growth areas in southwest Victoria, as a principal service centre and a popular tourist and retirement destination, which overlapped Wannon Water's jurisdiction, and so they decided to standardise the approach. The cost of making the wrong decisions is high, not just for the initial investment but for the ongoing maintenance and repair of those assets, as they age. Good decisions, underpinned by good asset information, facilitate and enable wise investments, enable policy makers to set prudent direction, and improve both investment and maintenance decision-making.

#### How did you address it?

A shared goal of establishing a regional approach in discussions to establish Regional Collaboration between water authorities and councils in Victoria. The project enables the industry to submit information in a consistent manner with a focus on Data Quality. They have also begun introducing this process to their internal workforce, to achieve consistency with their Asset & Asset Data Handover Processes.

#### What were the key outcomes?

The insights from the engagement were critical in informing Wannon Water's price submission to the Essential Services Commission but also in the development of customer promises. A further outcome of this engagement was the release of an update to the A-SPEC Standards. Additional benefits included future savings on asset maintenance through evidence-based decision making, resulting in savings to the community, and allowing consultants to procure additional business without creating new processes.

For more information about this project or to contact Open Spatial or GISSA, please visit their websites: <http://www.openspatial.com/>, <http://gissa.com.au>

