



## Benefits

- 40% to 60% of saving costs
- Perform a central control
- Provide a secure connection
- Quick and efficient communication

## Town of Ridderkerk uses internet and a eWON router to manage pumping stations

In 2010, the town of Ridderkerk has charged VMB Besturingstechniek of reducing costs for its water pumping stations which had to stay reliable and flexible. VMB designs and implements control technology (hardware and software) for clients in the water industry, chemistry, horticulture, food industry, manufacturing and engineering.

As it is the case for many dutch towns, until recently, the town of Ridderkerk in South Holland used KPN analogue telephone lines for the communication between its control centre and the sewage pumping stations; a solution that no longer meets the current requirements. The old control centre in Ridderkerk had 40 telephonic lines available to communicate with the stations. These had two crucial disadvantages: they were expensive to use and too slow.

VMB Besturingstechniek saw a solution of decreasing costs in reducing the communication between the sewage pumping station and its control centre by installing a new network structure based on the internet. A router is therefore all that is required. They chose eWON industrial router for their communication with HMI or control panel of the stations. The fact that a connection via eWON routers is not only possible with a LAN link but also with a GPRS connection seduced them as well as the router resistance to extreme temperatures.

### Central secure control

In means of eWON technology, the company can now benefit from a central and unique control tower instead of having to maintain a control staff in each of its 78 pumping station. Since they are using an ADSL connection to communicate, the data is always up to date in a real time system which is more efficient and even cheaper.

The company estimated the saving to be from 40% to 60% thanks to the cut in phone calls costs and other communication services which are now no more needed.



**Since Ridderkerk decided on this approach, many neighbouring towns in the region have shown a keen interest**



Customer: Town of Ridderkerk  
Country: Netherlands  
Sector: Waste water treatment  
Solution: eWON 2104



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Nearly all pumping stations have made the change and the network is running smoothly

## Secure remote maintenance

In term of security, the eWON technology answered the company's requests by using a reliable and secure connection, offering full integration of IT security standards.

eWON uses a firewall and VPN connection which links the station and the control tower through the online Talk2M service. VPN is short for Virtual Private Network and means that the communication between sender and receiver is run via protected tunnels. Talk2M is the server that makes the connection between the operator and the system without damaging their firewalls. To be able to connect to the server, the operator needs to install a simple and free software called 'eCatcher'. The use of the eWON technology is simple and doesn't request any specific skill.

« Since Ridderkerk decided on this approach, many neighbouring towns in the region have shown a keen interest. All towns are looking into this infrastructure as reducing costs is an important factor, though without neglecting their tasks. It was also the first time that we worked with eWON routers. Meanwhile, nearly all pumping stations have made the change and the network is running smoothly. We also log onto different sewage pumping stations using the network here in the office. The control centre is also able to do this », says Verhoeven.

With the eWON technology, the operators are in fact able to connect to the system of the station from anywhere in the world, as long as they have an internet connection, even from their smartphones.

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