

# Cathodic Protection Co. Ltd

## UK's Wales & West Utilities chooses American Innovations Pipeline Compliance System and Allegro™ Field Computers

Operators of pipeline equipment know the importance of monitoring to detect corrosion problems. Regular surveys form the backbone of a successful cathodic protection corrosion monitoring program, which is paramount for pipeline integrity. Regulators such as the HSE expect to see that this data is being collected, and increasingly, that it is being used effectively to direct corrective action.

Whilst this sounds simple, the collection and analysis of survey data can be an onerous task for the engineer. Some pipeline operators have elected to develop bespoke systems to do this, but more are now turning to proven commercial packages, which combine hardware for the collection of data and software for analysis and reporting.

A recent example of this is Wales and West Utilities who have implemented such a system with the support of Cathodic Protection Co Limited. Wales & West is a regulated gas distribution business that serves a population of 7.4 million with around 34,000 kilometers of gas distribution pipelines located in Wales and the Southwest of England. They chose the American Innovations (AI) Allegro™ Field Data Computers for data collection, integrating with AI's Pipeline Compliance System for analysis and reporting.

The Allegro Field Computer is a versatile Windows CE-based field computer used to capture pipeline and facility cathodic protection data, increasing efficiency and accuracy. The Allegro device will save Wales & West data collection and transcription time as well as eliminate errors associated with manual data entry. Technicians will use Allegros to conduct close interval surveys and annual inspection surveys.

The data collected with the Allegro Field Computers transfers seamlessly into two modules of AI's Pipeline Compliance System (PCS). Wales & West will utilise the Cathodic Protection Data Manager (CPDM), which will schedule routine field data collection, help evaluate their system's effectiveness, pinpoint CP problem areas, and prepare data for regulatory audits. They will also utilize the Close Interval Survey Manager (CISM) to manage and analyse close interval survey data, eliminating stacks of hard-copy printouts and allowing their survey data to download directly from the Allegro to the desktop software. CISM provides graphing and analysis capabilities and imports data directly from close interval (CI) vendor electronic reports.

"Wales & West Utilities evaluated a number of cathodic protection databases as a replacement for an existing DOS-based system," explained Tony Perry, Pipelines Network Officer at Wales & West. "At the end of the evaluation, we chose American Innovations PCS software & the Allegro field data computer for a number of different reasons. First of all, we were able to easily transfer data from our existing database to the PCS system. In addition, the pipeline information entered can be used across all modules, and we have the ability to add additional functionality whenever we want with add-on modules. We're getting comprehensive management information and compliance reports." He added, "We've also been impressed by AI's positive attitude and willingness to take on Wales & West's requirements in the future development of PCS."

### About American Innovations

Based in Austin, Texas, American Innovations is a fast growing provider of products and services for the oil & gas and water pipeline industries including web-based remote monitoring and equipment control; total survey solutions for corrosion monitoring; automatic meter reading; alarm point monitoring; and integrity management. AI product lines include Bullhorn® Wireless Remote Monitoring, MicroMax® Interrupters, CP Logger, Allegro™ Field Computer, Pipeline Compliance System (PCS), and Integrity Management Program (IMP). AI also offers international cathodic protection services via Bass Engineering. For more information about AI, visit [www.amerinnovations.com](http://www.amerinnovations.com) or call 800-229-3404.

### About Cathodic Protection Co. Ltd

Based in Grantham UK, Cathodic Protection Co Ltd has been active in the field of Cathodic Protection design, manufacture and installation for over 50 years. They are an exclusive agent for PCS software and Allegro field computers in the UK, Europe and North Africa.

For more information visit [www.cathodic.co.uk](http://www.cathodic.co.uk) or call +44 (0)1476 590666



Capturing of Data on field computer