

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Saving water, saving money, stopping leaks

Immediate Release

5 November 2009

The Water Loss Project - a South East Water program to detect water leaks on non-residential properties - has worked with 250 local commercial and industrial businesses finding and repairing on site water leaks. The project is delivering big savings in water use and, through locating and repairing leaks, is also saving customers money.

“Working with our business and industrial customers has shown that we can be proactive in managing onsite leaks and limiting the loss of water literally ‘down the drain’,” said Murray Goddard, General Manager – Customers and Community, South East Water.

“The Water Loss Project is focused on working together with our customers to meet their water needs, while supporting the sustainable use of our water resources.”

The project involved conducting leak tests on customer’s water meters at night, when no water use would be expected. The leak tests were carried out at random sites across South East Water’s licence area.

“What the tests showed was that almost half of the sites tested had unexplained water usage, which was a likely indication of a leak. Where the test highlighted a suspected leak, South East Water contacted the customer and recommended the use of a professional plumbing or leak detection contractor to fix the problem,” said Mr Goddard.

### **CASE STUDY: ITW Australia P/L (visit [www.itwdeltar.com.au](http://www.itwdeltar.com.au))**

ITW Australia P/L, a manufacturer of automotive plastic products located in Oakleigh South, participated in the program earlier this year. The test discovered a leak of 1,100 litres of water over a two hour period. A number of checks over the course of months could not discover the site of the leak. Recently, a SCUBA diver entered the on-site fire services tank and discovered a leak in a submerged valve. The leak has recently been repaired. Photos and video footage are available to the media.

“The real lesson in this program is that we can all be proactive in saving water. Most of the sites where we found a leak were unaware there was a problem. By keeping an eye on their water meter and performing regular leak checks themselves, businesses can act early if there are unusual spikes in usage that may indicate a leak,” said Mr Goddard.

“If you identify a suspected leak, call a plumber to investigate; taking the initiative will help you to save precious drinking water and save money.”

For more information on checking for water leaks, visit [www.southeastwater.com.au/personal/myaccount/Howto/Pages/Checkforleaks.aspx](http://www.southeastwater.com.au/personal/myaccount/Howto/Pages/Checkforleaks.aspx)

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