
12

electrical and mechanical teams
deployed across the country

150

pump control panels designed
and manufactured to date

78

sites completed by the end of
2025

Sulzer's field service teams lead project to reduce CSO spills

Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) present a significant issue for all utility companies in the UK during periods of heavy rainfall. Rather than waiting for AMP 8, one UK water utility has invested in a series of projects to boost flood water storage with new tanks, pumps, valves and controls installed in the worst affected sites. As a framework contractor, Sulzer was initially due to supply the pumps, but this contract was broadened to include installation and commissioning of all mechanical and electrical aspects of the upgrade.



Retrofits and
reliability upgrades





The challenge

Environmental pollution is headline news in the UK, and utilities are working to significantly reduce the number of discharges of raw effluent into watercourses and the sea. Creating additional concrete storage tanks with pumping facilities requires considerable time and a large budget. The utility in this case wanted a faster, more cost-effective solution that could be delivered quickly across many sites. This comprised circular steel tanks with automated pump controls.



The solution

To deliver the project, Sulzer supplied the pumps as well as 12 mechanical and electrical teams within two weeks of instruction. In addition, Sulzer designed and built over 150 control panels to manage the operation of the pumps and actuated valves. The teams have installed pipework, pumps, valves and controls across 78 sites with more being completed each week. In addition, Sulzer's teams have also delivered temporary submerged aerated filter (SAF) units and reed bed schemes.

Customer benefit

With Sulzer's support, the water utility has ensured every pump matches its duty requirements for long-term reliability. The pump control panels include the ability to add future automation that will enable a seamless, operator-free solution. As a result, the water authority has started making improvements to CSO systems before AMP 8 budgets are made available. With the success of Phase 1, Sulzer has been awarded a contract for Phase 2, which will involve another 90 sites.

“Our speed of response and the wide skill sets of our field service teams were crucial to the success of this project.”

Dave Higgins, Sulzer Project Manager

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