



Tech notes



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Pre-engineered Package Lift Stations for Wastewater and Stormwater

Sept./Oct. 2006 Product Information & Updates • Installation & Technical Tips

THIS EDITION OF

TECH NOTES takes a look at the City of Camas, Wash., which has opted to use Romtec Utilities' pre-engineered package lift stations throughout its municipal wastewater system. Each pump station is tailored to the specific needs of its purpose and its site, but all are standardized within the City of Camas wastewater collection network.



Romtec Utilities is a Dedicated Integrator of submersible pumps and lift station equipment manufactured by ITT Flygt, the world's leading manufacturer of pumps and monitoring systems.

Camas, Wash.: A standardized network



Construction workers check the wet well base at Lacamas Meadows. Top, alignment marks on the wet well barrel sections and top slab ensure accurate installation.

The city of Camas, Wash., is typical of many small towns in the West, which are expanding rapidly as retiring Baby Boomers find their slice of heaven and settle down. In 1990, the Columbia River town had a population of about 6,500; today 15,000 residents call Camas home.

For public works officials, the implications of this growth are twofold: much of the existing sewer infrastructure is outdated and in need of replacement or refurbishment; and rapid residential development has required substantial investment in new systems.

Camas has been heavily involved in projects that improve and extend its sewer systems, and one of the integral components of

the system is the wastewater lift station with submersible pumps. As part of its capital improvements program, the city has updated five existing stations, and seven new lift stations have been installed in or near new residential developments. Camas' policy is that developers install the stations, and the city is responsible for maintaining them.

That maintenance

requirement is one of the big reasons that Camas officials have specified Romtec Utilities' pre-engineered package lift stations for its projects. "That's what the maintenance people want," says city engineer Wes Heigh. "That's what they're happy with—the Flygt pumps, the controls, the whole prepackaged deal from Romtec."

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LOOK FOR US AT THESE EVENTS:

- Oct. 1–4 **PNCWA**
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Seminar presentation
- Oct. 21–25—**WEFTEC.06**
Dallas, Tex.
Exhibitor, Booth #5877
- Nov. 2–3—
Land Development West
Las Vegas, Nev.
Exhibitor, Booth #405
- Nov. 16–17—
Building Industry Show
Anaheim, Calif.
Exhibitor, Booth #1806



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“The Romtec Utilities station had all of the features we wanted,” says Jim Hodges, the city’s project engineer. “The individual components – the pumps, the controller, the wet well – were quality products and were integrated into a system that we thought would work well for us.”

The building boom: Lacamas Meadows

Many of the new subdivisions in Camas are going up in the northwest part of town, where pressure sewers are the norm. STEP pressure sewers use septic tanks to settle out the solids; the effluent pump delivers the wastewater to the sewer pipes and provides the necessary pressure to move it through the system. “We started with the pressure sewer systems years ago—1,500 gallon tanks with submersible pumps,” Heigh says. “We had a lot of maintenance callouts.”

At Lacamas Meadows, a 170-lot subdivision, the multifamily lot sizes are too small to allow placement of individual tanks. Instead, a series of large fiberglass “community” tanks have been installed, with a total capacity of 110,000 gallons.

Three 20,000-gallon tanks and two 25,000-gallon tanks were placed upstream of the wet well. All of the sanitary

sewer flows into these tanks; the solids are stored and the liquids routed through the tanks into the inlet pipe in the wet well. The lift station then pumps the liquids into the sanitary sewer system. The pit for the tanks and the wet well, sized to compensate for the area’s high groundwater, was 25 feet deep.

“The mindset is that instead of many individual step tanks—and there could be thousands—we would rather maintain a pump station,” Heigh says.



Two finished wet well sites at Camas, Wash. Above, the One-Stop lift station, with a shelter building protecting the control panel, and below, the Larkspur station.



Coming up in Tech Notes: Camas and the integrated systems approach.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Romtec Utilities is a dedicated integrator of submersible pumps and lift station equipment manufactured by ITT Flygt, a division of ITT Industries, Inc. Romtec Utilities’ integrated lift station systems include 6’ and 8’ diameter pre-cast concrete wet wells to 25’ deep, with Flygt duplex or triplex submersible pumps, UL listed pump controls, pre-assembled valve vaults and Cummins/Onan standby generators. For more information, call Romtec Utilities at 541-496-9678 or visit our website at www.romtecutilities.com.