

Enhancing Operational Efficiency & Workforce Capabilities for Water Utilities in Singapore & Southeast Asia using a Generative AI Knowledge Twin Copilot

Robin Wong, Founder/CCO



A New Era of Human-Al Collaboration has Arrived







ChatGPT-maker OpenAl to open Singapore office this year to support regional expansion

OpenAI is also partnering AI Singapore to make advanced AI more widely accessible across Southeast Asia.



Southeast Asia Case Studies of Gen-Al Impact in Water Operations



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Enhancing Knowledge Management and Operational Efficiency in Singapore's Water Sector with a Generative Al-Based Digital Knowledge Companion (DKC)



BACKGROUND

PUB, Singapore's national water agency, manages the nation's water supply with an emphasis on quality, sustainability, and efficiency. PUB has also been exploring innovative methods to preserve and transfer institutional knowledge amid workforce turnover and the retirement of skilled operators.

CHALLENGE

PUB aimed to enhance the preservation and succession of operational knowledge and streamline maintenance processes to maintain the high quality of water services. This effort required improved decision-making capabilities within the organization, especially in the context of workforce turnover and the retirement of skilled operators.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTED

Generative Al Digital Knowledge Companion (DKC) featuring a Large Language Model (LLM) and Knowledge Graph (KG)

USE CASES

The DKC demonstrated its effectiveness in several applications:

VIRTUAL TROUBLESHOOTING ASSISTANT

Enhanced guided troubleshooting for flow monitoring devices.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE RETRIEVAL

Quick access to necessary knowledge from documents such as flow meter manuals and reports.

EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE COMPARISONS

Enabling rapid comparative analysis using knowledge retrieved from technical reports and industry publications to optimize decisions.

TACIT KNOWLEDGE ASSIMILATION

Continuously enriching the knowledge base with real-time data and insights from maintenance operations.



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CASE STUDY

Leapfrog in Performance in the Philippines Water Sector with Enhanced Operational Efficiency and Workforce Capabilities Using a Generative AI- Based Digital Knowledge Companion (DKC)



BACKGROUND AND CHALLENGE

Balibago Waterworks System, Inc (BWSI), a leading private water operator in the Philippines, has been dedicated to community growth and quality services since 1958. Serving over two million people across 90 franchises in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, BWSI is renowned for its efficient operations. To further enhance service quality, BWSI is transitioning from reactive to proactive and predictive maintenance using Generative Al. This shift aims to improve operational asset performance, reduce non-revenue water (NRW), and boost workforce capabilities. Key goals include providing easy access to maintenance insights, capturing field expertise, improving visibility and tracking of activities, and centralizing information through Al-enabled conversations to streamline knowledge management and work processes.

BALIBAGO WATERWORKS

USE CASES

The Digital Knowledge Companion (DKC) has proven effective in:

LEAK SURVEY AND REPAIRS

Simplifies task assignments and tracking. Provides SOP guidance and knowledge insights. Automates reporting and leak calculations.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY

Quick access to SOPs, manuals, and reports. Enhances safety toolbox and performance tracking.

CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE AND TROUBLESHOOTING

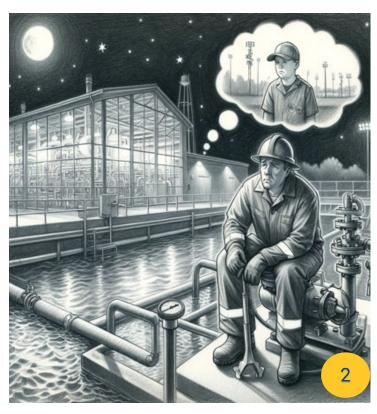
Offers root cause analysis and best practices. Captures knowledge and automates reporting. Enriches the knowledge base with real-time data.

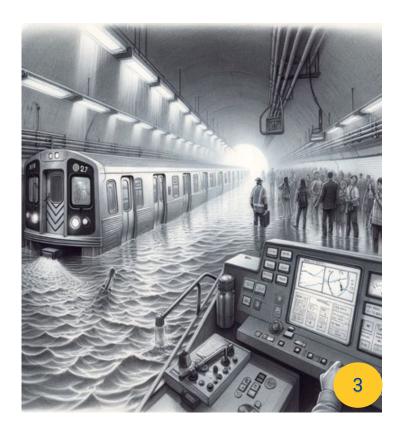


Upkeep of Assets and Breakdown Response

A primary responsibility of every water utility







Incident Response

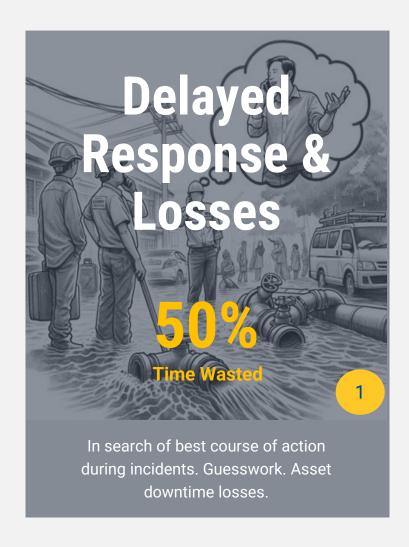
Breakdown Maintenance

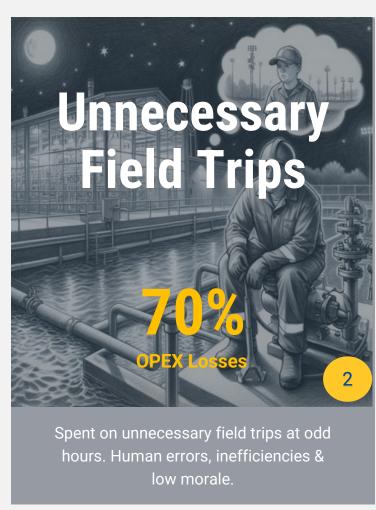
Routine Upkeep



Upkeep of Assets and Breakdown Response

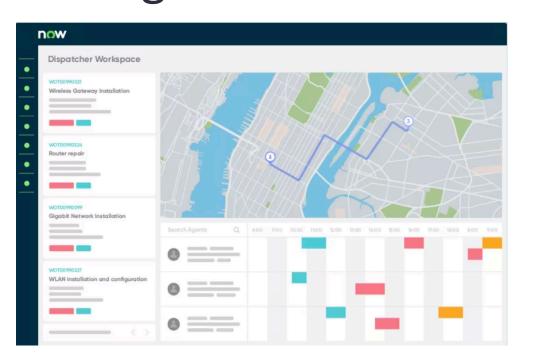
A primary responsibility of every water utility

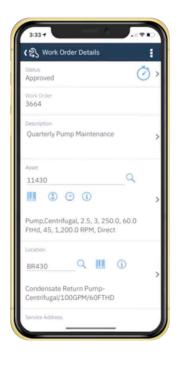






The Inefficient World of Asset Maintenance, Planning and Management "Its always a challenge to know what to do





"We spend \$20M annual on pipe asset renewal, 70% of our pipes replaced still have a lot of useful life remaining"



"Its always a challenge to know what to do with tons of Alarms we see everyday – especially with inexperienced staff"

"Issued 105 work orders last month – 90% of these were unnecessary"

"I ask for history of an asset, and the system gives me 50 previous work orders not even relevant to the asset I am working on"

"Our field teams often fill in wrong information on the work orders, not because they want to, because very often they cannot find where to put the information they want to"

Disparate &
Dispersed Data
& Knowledge
Sources



Only some asset information is visible via traditional digital tools

Most critical asset information is <u>hidden tacit</u> <u>knowledge</u>, expressed as <u>human language</u> that existing tools are unable to understand!



The Untapped Wisdom

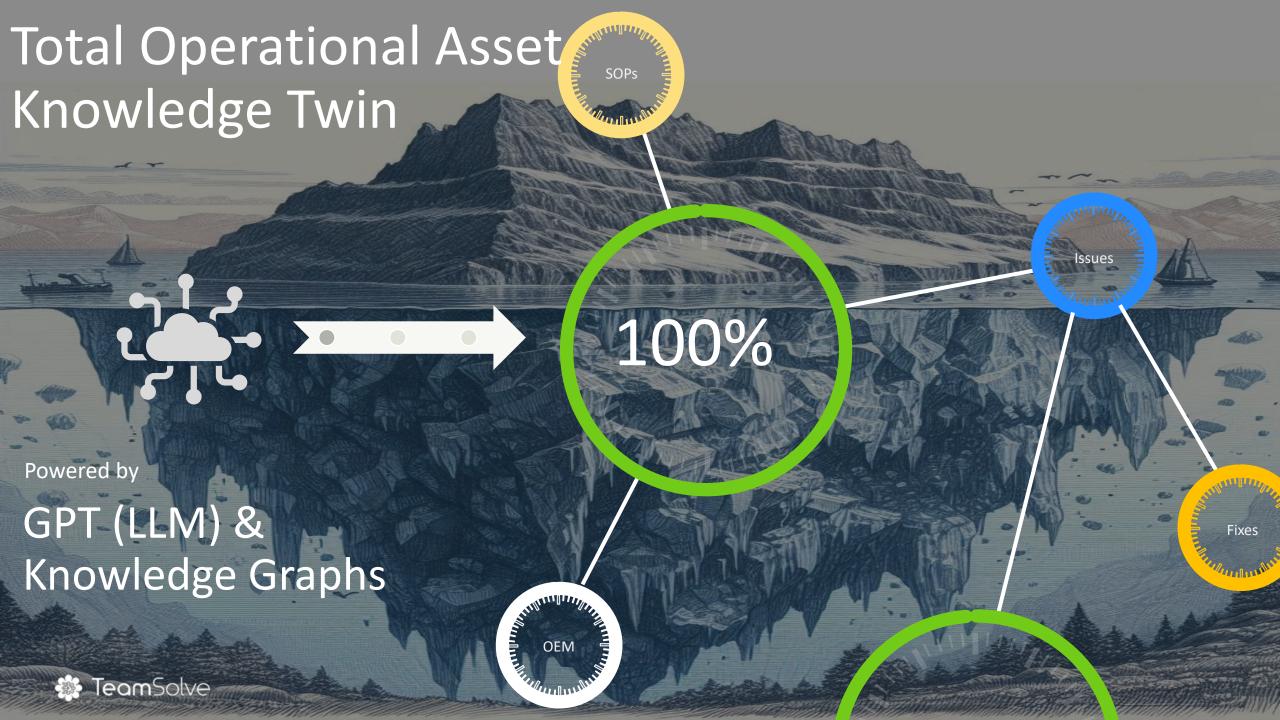
PDFs, Excel, Word, Free-text, Images...

- Work Orders
- Faults Alarms, Incident Reports
- Expert Know-how
- 3rd Party Contractor Findings
- Independent Performance Data

TeamSolve

It's a construction site. We cant do anything at this time. Need permit.

Leak is on the service line - not in GIS. Tagged main for reference.



Gen-Al Knowledge Twin

Digital Co-Pilot ready for the Operations Workforce



2 Patents



14:17 You have selected the site wa-100-072-nb-r-pt. 14:18 This site is down. What is likely issue based on history Based on the maintenance history provided, it appears that the issue at this site is likely due to the lack of a SIM inside the logger. 14:18 Has the sim issue happened to othe sites too 14:18 -01 0

space

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return

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Connects & Centralises
Data

Collaboration The Safety & U Ε **Automation** s F G D н х Z С В Ν

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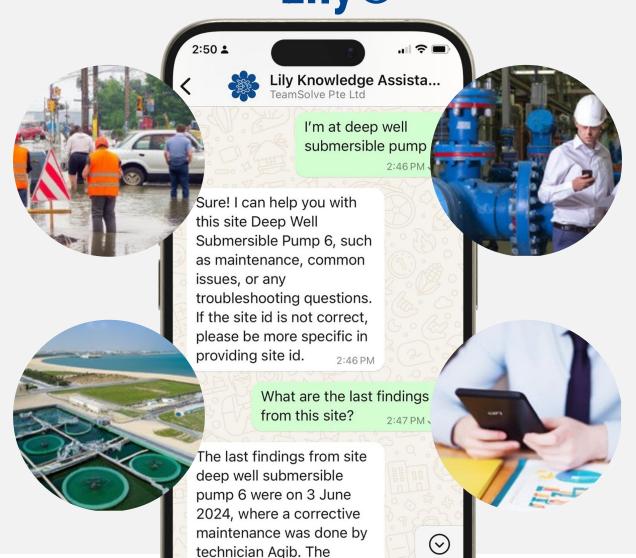
Capturing & Learning Continuously



High Impact Operationally Urgent Use Cases for Lily®

Incident & Alarm Response Intelligence

NRW Management & Asset Planning



reported issue was pump

motor overheating which

Field Team Support for Asset Maintenance & Troubleshooting

Sustainable
Capacity Building &
Onboarding



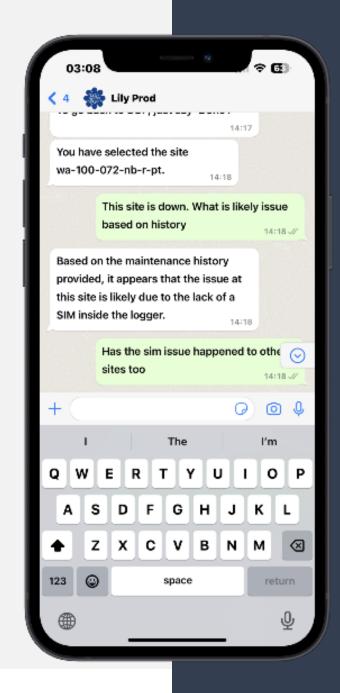


Gen-Al Knowledge Twin

Digital Co-Pilot ready for the Operations Workforce



2 Patents



Conversational Interactions

Engages in real-time 24/7 to obtain answers, access documents, and receive step-by-step instructions, SOPs, forms via familiar chat interfaces e.g. WhatsApp or MS Teams.





Gen-Al Knowledge Twin

Digital Co-Pilot ready for the Operations Workforce



2 Patents



Connects & Centralises Data

Connects & Constructs
various organizational data
sources into a knowledge
"mind map" for
comprehensive support,
accessibility & mobility



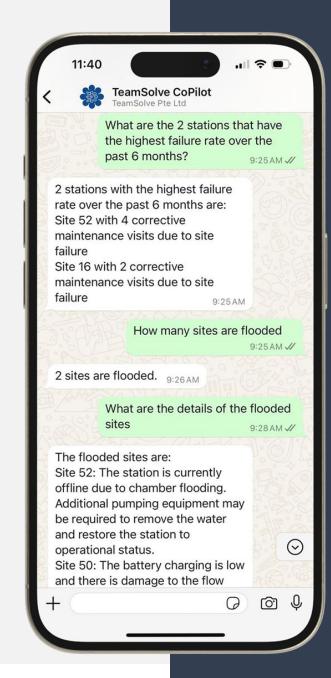


Gen-Al Knowledge Twin

Digital Co-Pilot ready for the Operations Workforce



2 Patents



Capturing & Learning Continuously

Captures new knowledge from field activities & tacit wisdom from experts for easy knowledge transfer, sharing, visualization & insights using free-flow conversations or forms



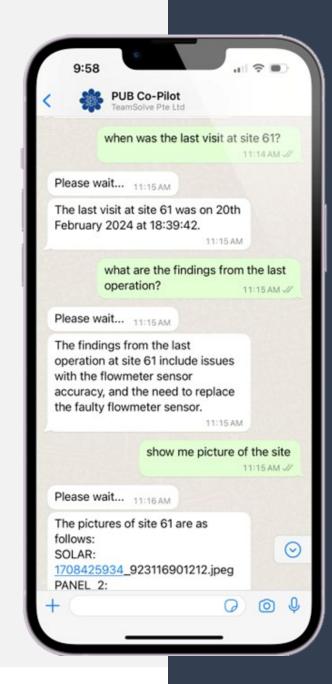


Gen-Al Knowledge

Twin Digital Co-Pilot ready for the Operations Workforce



2 Patents



Collaboration Safety & Automation

Boosts employee satisfaction via enhanced knowledge sharing & safety culture, while automating e.g. custom post-operation reports for documentation & work visibility

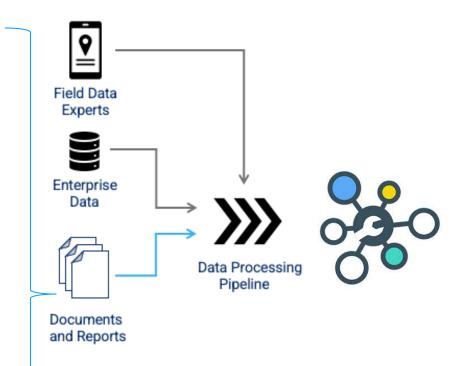


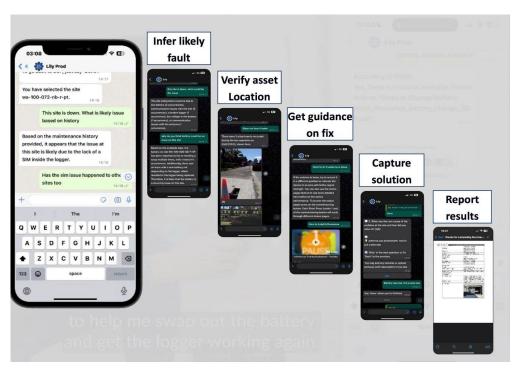


Onboarding – "Small" Dataset for the Use Case

Current State

Engage across multiple, unconnected systems. Siloed, unstructured data and tribal knowledge. Not actionable in field





Future with TeamSolve – Knowledge Twin Copilot

Integration of all data into single Knowledge Graph + analytics. Natural language interface, actionable insights via mobile. Structured data capture integrated back into systems





Deployed with utilities in Australia and Singapore







Improving corrective maintenance of IoT Instruments on water network & optimizing crew dispatch

Commercial uptake & market expansion after 3 month trial





4 Use Cases

Streamlining operations & decision making, improving knowledge retention

90% approval, design for scale-up now underway





Deployed with utilities in Canada & Australia





Streamlining operations & decision making (Site specific, general, knowledge insights)

Knowledge Access and Sharing

Improving Knowledge Retention





Actionable Insights from IBM Maximo AMS Work Orders

Asset Performance Visibility & Faster Troubleshooting

Claims Processing

M&E Contracts Specifications Processing



Singapore Pilot





TROUBLESHOOTING

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE RETRIEVAL

EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE COMPARISONS

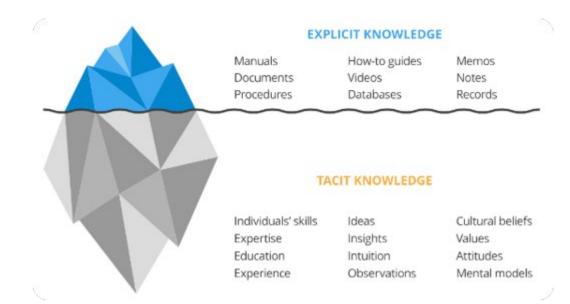
TACIT KNOWLEDGE ASSIMILATION



CHALLENGE



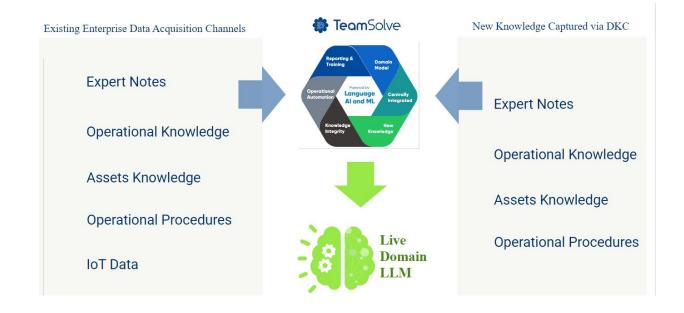
- Enhance the preservation and succession of operational knowledge
- Streamline maintenance processes to maintain the high quality of water services.
- Improved decision-making capabilities within the organization, especially in the context of workforce turnover and the retirement of skilled operators.





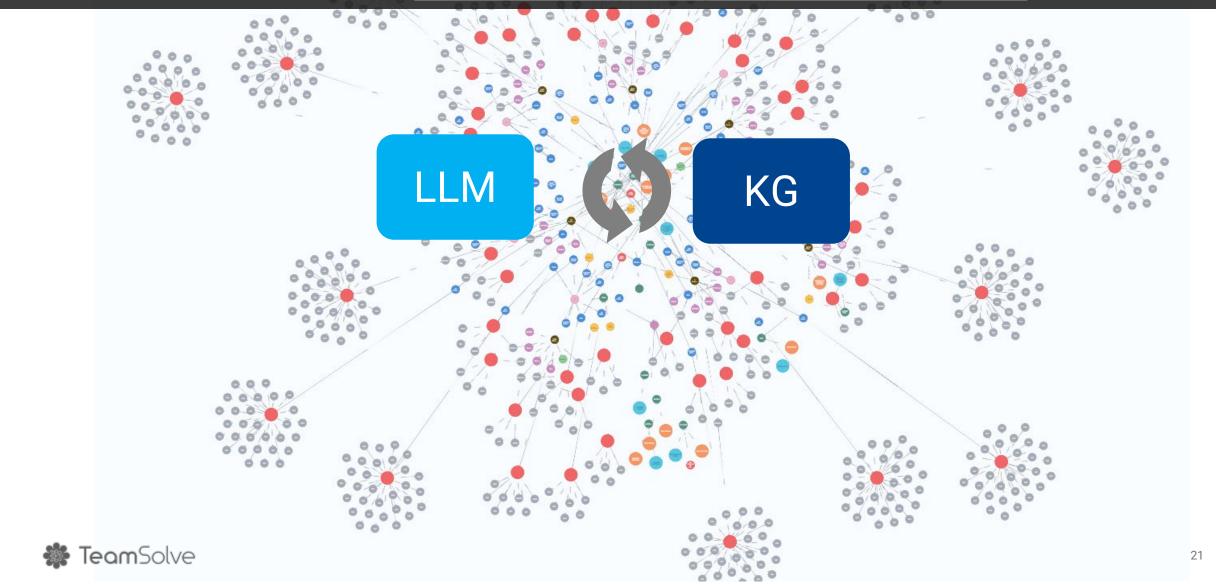


- AI-powered Digital
 Knowledge Companion
 (DKC), integrating Large
 Language Model and a
 Knowledge Graph
- This system captures both tacit and explicit knowledge, ensuring continuous knowledge transfer and access across various organizational levels.





Evolves into an <u>Accurate Knowledge Twin</u> capturing Asset and Operations across the <u>Total Water Cycle & Asset Life Cycle</u>



Use Cases implemented



VIRTUAL TROUBLESHOOTING ASSISTANT

 Enhanced guided troubleshooting for flow monitoring devices.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE RETRIEVAL

 Quick access to necessary knowledge from documents such as flow meter manuals and reports

EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE COMPARISONS

Enabling rapid
 comparative analysis
 using knowledge
 retrieved from
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TACIT KNOWLEDGE ASSIMILATION

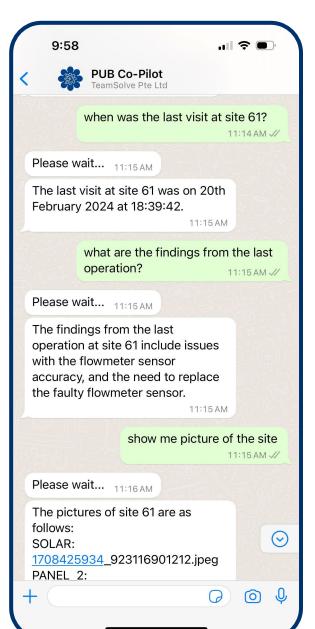
Continuously
 enriching the
 knowledge base with
 real-time data and
 insights

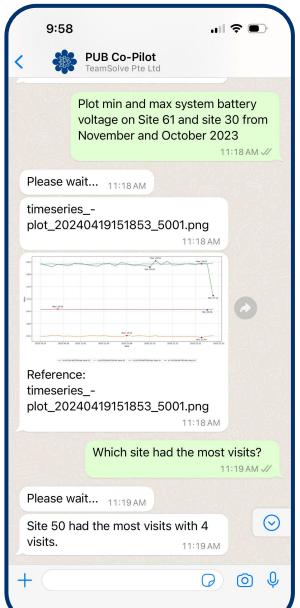


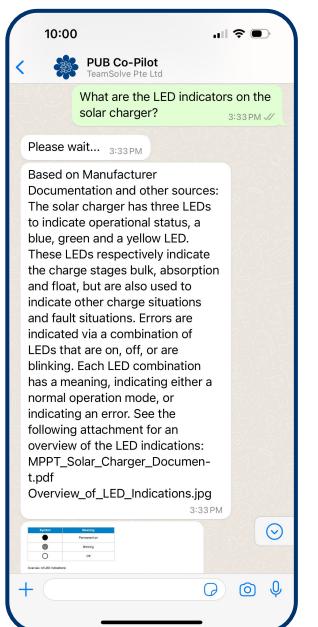
IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS



- Eight-month period, for development and testing with PUB's feedback incorporated for continual refinement.
- Integrated into familiar platforms like WhatsApp enhanced user accessibility and experience.









OUTCOMES



STREAMLINED OPERATIONS

 Reduction in manual tasks like report generation and data entry, leading to more focused and efficient work by technicians.

ENHANCED EFFICIENCY AND DECISION MAKING

 With the AI handling routine information tasks, technicians could concentrate on critical activities, supported by informed, real-time decision-making.

KNOWLEDGE PRESERVATION

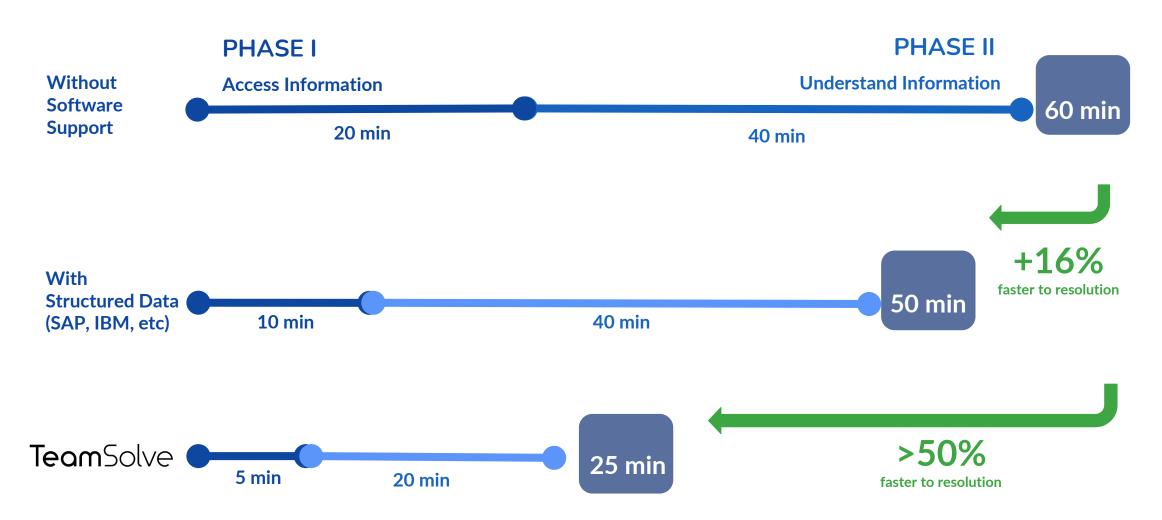
Ensuring
 continuous access
 to institutional
 knowledge, vital for
 operational
 continuity,
 situational
 responses, and
 training new staff.

USER SATISFACTION

 High approval ratings from technicians, with over 90% reporting greater ease and satisfaction in their roles.



SHORTENED TIME TO RESOLUTION - EXAMPLE







Philippines Pilot



Est. <1 Yr Payback



Corrective Maintenance

Preventive Maintenance

Safety

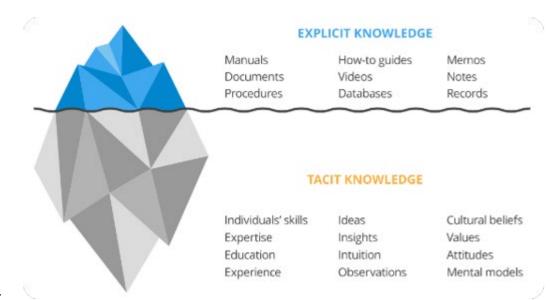
Leak Survey & Repairs



CHALLENGE



- Proactive Maintenance: Shift from reactive to proactive maintenance & incident response with easy access to insights, field expertise, and continuous learning for complex assets.
- Visibility in Decentralized Ops: Improve tracking and visibility across 90 franchises to boost productivity and asset performance.
- Centralized Info & Knowledge Access
 through Conversations: Streamline processes
 with centralized information and AI-enabled
 conversations for better knowledge
 management.



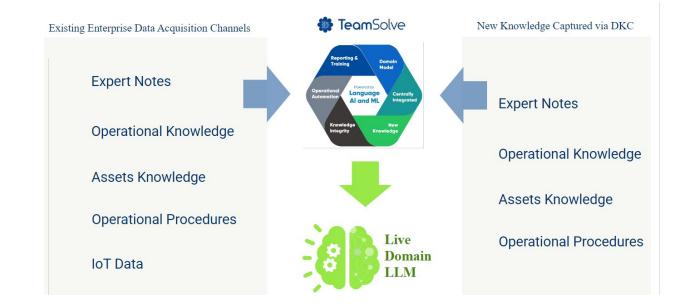




SOLUTION



- AI-powered Digital
 Knowledge Companion
 (DKC), integrating Large
 Language Model (LLM) and a
 Knowledge Graph (KG)
- Knowledge insights platform that reimagines new workflows, captures both tacit and explicit knowledge continuously whilst ensuring active learning and easy mobile access for various users across all branches

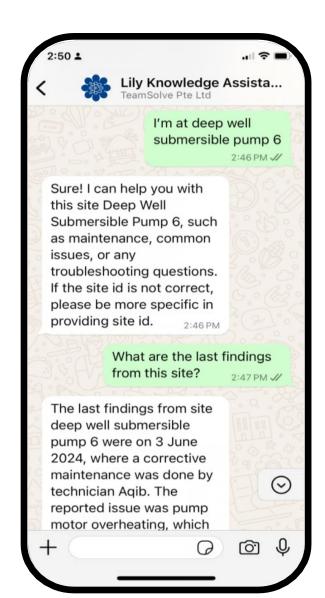




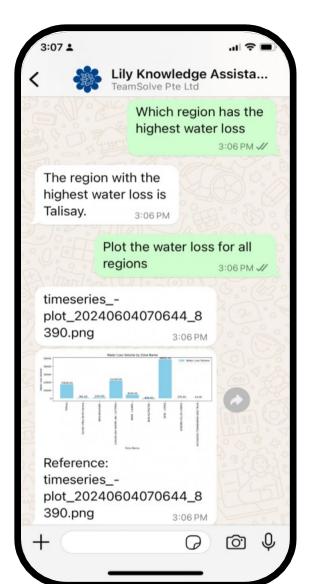
IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS



- Eight-month period, for development and testing with feedback incorporated for continual refinement.
- Integrated into familiar platforms like WhatsApp enhanced user accessibility and experience.











Philippines Pilot Outcomes



Corrective Maintenance

Time spent on site in fault finding

Preventive Maintenance

20% Improvement in asset performance

Leak Survey & Repairs

Leak survey scheduling efficiency, customer response & enhancing NRW reduction

Safety & Onboarding

100% Safety awareness & user satisfaction

Key Use Cases & Implementation (SaaS)

Identify Use Case Al Training, Testing & Deployment Continuous Learning & Feedback

Change Mgmt

Provide Relevant Data for Knowledge Twin set-up & Al Training

Fine Tuning & User Training

Alarms Response Intelligence

Field Team Support

NRW Management

Sustainable Capacity Building









ChatGPT 4o V

0

Pressure transients cause no harm to the water pipes. Having repeated pressure surges on a daily basis has shown no issue to our network. We have not experieneded any pipe damages due to surges. The only risk we have seen is some loud noises when surges go through. Other than this, no issues. Hence I do not suggest any investigations or studies to be conducted for water hammer analysis in our network.

Question: Are water hammers risky for our network

> Using LLM directly:8/8 > Hallucinations

Message ChatGPTData Risks/Loss

TeamSolveSecurity Risks





TeamSolve

Join us in transforming operations & the workforce with robust, accurate, deployable Gen-Al







Thank You

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