

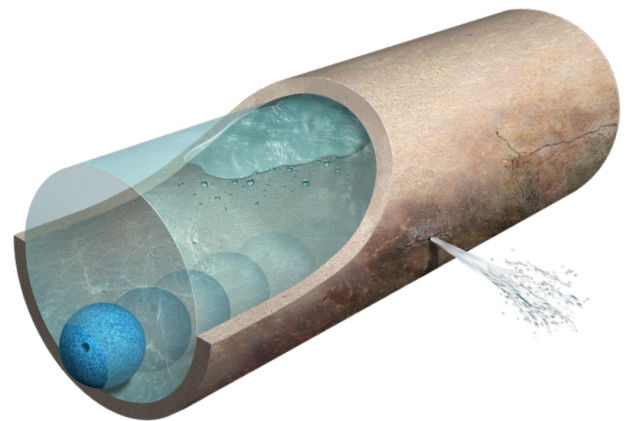


AN INLINE, FREE-SWIMMING TOOL FOR INSPECTING WATER AND WASTEWATER PIPELINES

The SmartBall® platform is a free-swimming inspection tool that detects leaks and gas pockets and maps pipeline networks. This platform is designed to collect high-confidence data without disrupting service or utility operations. Make informed rehabilitation and management decisions with precise data on the condition and location of buried assets.

Replacing pipelines based on age is inefficient and expensive when most pipes have significant remaining useful life. Xylem provides the data, technology, and expertise to help utilities prioritize investment in the pipes that need it most.

SmartBall is a valuable addition to a proactive pipeline management program. The tool detects leaks and gas pockets with a low level of effort. The platform enables utilities to reduce water loss and address problem areas before they result in larger failures. This data-driven approach extends the life of critical infrastructure, increases operational confidence, and reduces capital costs.



SMARTBALL BENEFITS

- Locate very small leaks and gas pockets in any pipe material
- Lower risk in transmission mains and force mains
- Deploy in live pipelines through existing features and hydrants
- Cover long distances in a single deployment
- Actively track SmartBall during inspections
- Confirm pipeline location and alignment with other critical assets



9,750+
Miles of pipeline
inspection data



ACTIONABLE INFORMATION

Leak and Gas Pocket Detection – The SmartBall platform is equipped with a highly sensitive acoustic sensor that can detect pinhole-sized leaks. The sensor also identifies the sound of trapped gas, which can adversely affect pipeline flow or lead to pipe wall degradation in wastewater force mains. The SmartBall platform indicates the location of leaks and gas pockets relative to known points, with a typical location accuracy of 6 feet (1.8 m).

Pipeline Mapping – The SmartBall platform can map the X and Y coordinates of the pipeline using the latest accelerometer and gyroscope technologies, advanced location algorithms, and field collected global positioning system (GPS) points. SmartBall Mapping helps confirm pipeline alignment or identify major conflicts with utility records when compared with available pipeline information.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The SmartBall platform can be inserted through a 4-inch (100 mm) access point into a live or depressurized pipeline 12 inches (300 mm) or larger. It is possible to deploy the tool into a pipeline as small as 6 inches (150 mm) in diameter with special considerations. This inline, free-swimming tool performs inspections without disrupting regular service in pipelines operating up to 500 psi (34 bar). The SmartBall platform travels with the product flow, collecting pipeline condition information for up to 24 hours. It requires only two access points, one for insertion and another for extraction. SmartBall is actively tracked throughout the inspection at predetermined, fixed locations along the pipeline. This makes data analysis less sensitive to changes in flow rates and enables just-in-time offtake closures.

DELIVERY EXPERIENCE

Since 2005, utilities around the world have relied on the SmartBall platform to inspect more than 9,750 miles (15,700 km) of pipeline and detect over 4,450 leaks. This operational experience ensures quality project management and professional inspection delivery.

For more information on data-driven pipeline management, contact us at: puretech@xylem.com



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