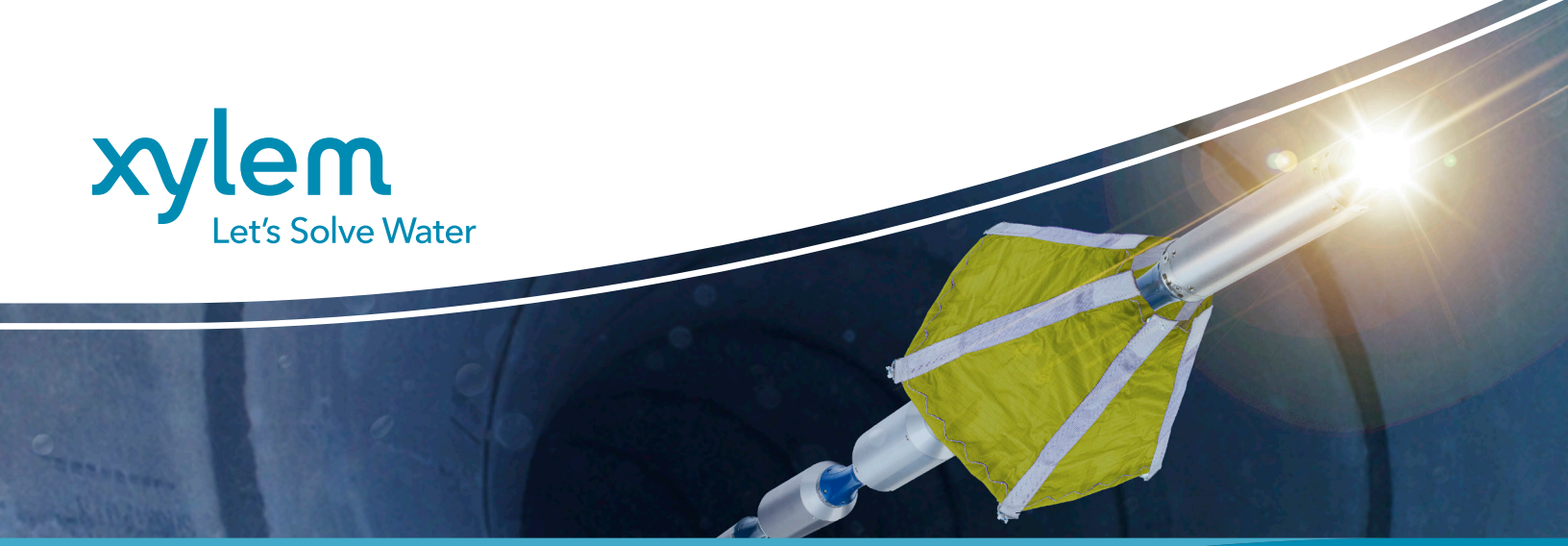
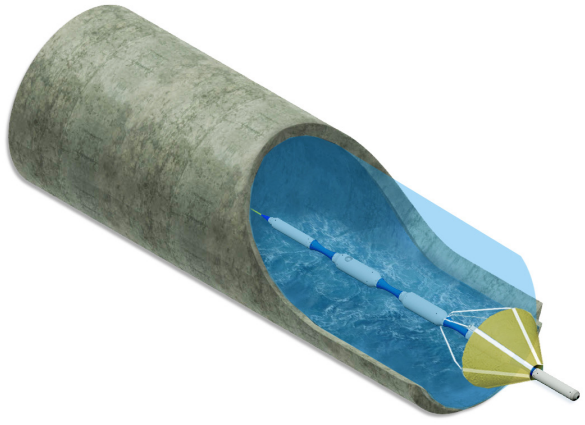
xylem
Let's Solve Water



Sahara®

INLINE TETHERED PIPELINE INSPECTION PLATFORM



The Sahara® platform is a tethered inspection tool for assessing pressurized water pipelines six inches and larger. The platform detects leaks and air pockets, collects visual condition, and maps pipelines in a single deployment, without disrupting regular service. With this condition assessment data, pipeline owners can make informed rehabilitation and management decisions on a pipe-by-pipe basis.

Why Choose Sahara?

- Ideal for complex pipeline networks requiring precision control and location accuracy
- Easy to deploy through existing pipeline features
- Completes long inspections in a single deployment, without a disruption in service
- Locates very small leaks and air pockets in real time with sub-meter accuracy
- Captures live footage of the pipeline interior

Sahara
BY THE NUMBERS

4,500
Miles of pipeline inspection data

20+
Years of experience across the globe

6,500+
Leaks identified

What You Can Expect

The Sahara platform is a valuable addition to a proactive pipeline management program, helping pipeline owners and operators better understand the condition of their buried assets. By detecting leaks and air pockets and providing an internal visual inspection, this platform empowers utilities to reduce non-revenue water and address problem areas before they result in larger failures. With this information, pipeline owners can better target the assets that need repair or replacement, reducing capital expenditures and increasing operational confidence.

Operational Excellence

Sahara is inserted into a live pipeline through an existing 2-inch (50-mm) access point, without disrupting regular pipeline service. Using a small parachute, Sahara is drawn through the pipeline by the product flow and collects condition information for up to one mile (1.6 km) per deployment. Being tethered, operators have close control over the tool throughout the inspection to confirm suspected leaks, air pockets, and other visual anomalies. Operators can mark the location of these anomalies above ground in real time.

Delivery Experience

Since 1997, utilities around the world have relied on the Sahara platform to inspect more than 4,500 miles (7200 km) of pipeline and detect over 6,500 leaks. This operational experience ensures quality project management and professional inspection delivery.

Actionable Information

Leak and Air Pocket Detection – The platform's highly sensitive acoustic sensor can detect leaks pinhole-sized and larger on all types of pressurized pipelines. This sensor also identifies the sound of trapped air, which can adversely affect pipeline flow and magnify the effects of transient pressure events.

Mapping – The Sahara platform can locate the pipeline with sub-meter accuracy, providing global positioning system (GPS) coordinates for points of interest. This platform can also generate a plan view of pipelines with unknown alignment by locating the pipeline at discrete points, features, and bends.

Inline Video Inspection – The Sahara platform is equipped with a closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera that displays real-time footage of the pipeline interior.

Get More from Xylem

While the Sahara platform is ideal for complex distribution networks, Xylem's free-swimming **SmartBall®** tool excels at long-distance transmission main inspections. Together, these tools provide utilities with more flexibility to detect leaks and air pockets across their network. Complement leak detection data with one of Xylem's best-in-class inline wall inspection solutions, the **PipeDiver®** platform, **PureRobotics®** platform, or **PipeWalker™** platform. For continuous, remote monitoring of Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP), Xylem's **SoundPrint® Acoustic Fiber Optic (AFO)** platform detects and locates wire breaks to prevent pipe failure. Xylem is a world leader in the inspection of water and wastewater pressure pipelines and leverages a large database of comparable results to calculate remaining useful life and better understand the structural integrity of pipeline assets.

Related Case Studies

Gothenburg, Sweden

Project highlights

- Inspected three pipelines made of PCCP and steel, ranging in size from 40 inches (1000 mm) to 47 inches (1200 mm)
- An inline leak inspection with the Sahara platform identified seven leaks over 3.4 miles (5.5 km)
- The Sahara platform provided GPS pipeline mapping information to improve the city's geographic information system (GIS) data
- The city avoided a costly failure and obtained valuable pipeline condition information

Read the full case study

Dallas Water Utilities (DWU), Texas, United States

Project highlights

- Ongoing pipeline assessment program with leak detection surveys
- Acoustic inspection with the Sahara and SmartBall® platforms located more than 285 leaks on large-diameter water mains from 2008 to 2019
- By quickly repairing leaks, DWU has substantially decreased main breaks and is saving an estimated 7.2 million gallons of water per day
- The utility has reduced total water main leaks by almost 50 percent

Read the full case study

For more information on how we can help you, contact us at: puretech@xyleminc.com

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