How water utilities can use data and IoT devices

Primary challenges facing water utilities

- Aging infrastructure is the biggest concern, reported by 72% of utilities.
- 33% of utilities report that it is critical to report they are already using IIoT devices.
- IIoT is an important technology for water utilities.

Areas of concern for IIoT devices

- The biggest concerns around the deployment of IIoT devices are network security (67%) and data privacy (62%).
- The importance of IIoT devices is increasing, with 62% of utilities now using IIoT, compared to 50% a year ago.

Benefits of deploying IIoT devices

- Water utilities are increasingly turning to software, IIoT devices, and AI to tackle challenges like maintenance, water safety, asset management, and operational efficiency.
- To answer the challenges around aging infrastructure and capital investment, the use of IIoT data is the most effective way to improve asset management, extend asset life, and optimize capital expenditures.

Change of importance

- Over the past 12 months, 8% of utilities report that it is more important now than it was 12 months ago, and 7% report that it is less important.

Organizations are increasingly turning to software, IIoT devices, and AI to tackle challenges like maintenance, water safety, asset management, and operational efficiency.

As a result, IIoT is becoming a more important technology for water utilities.

Recommendations

- Develop a change management plan and communication plan that includes clear objectives, timelines, and stakeholders.
- Ensure there is a strong relationship with key vendor partners that can help utilities to thrive.
- Training the existing workforce on AI and IIoT will be essential for success.
- Develop strong relationships with professionals who can help to execute effectively.
- Develop a coordinated strategic plan that includes data collection capabilities, data analysis, visualization, artificial intelligence, and communication plans.

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