

Municipal Assistant

A GRAP-compliant infrastructure asset register and the daily operating record at a water or wastewater treatment works, in one system built for South African municipal legislation.

Two obligations usually sit in two places. The asset register is maintained for the auditor, and the plant is run off logbooks and spreadsheets that never reach it. Municipal Assistant holds both, so the condition assessment that informs a depreciation charge is the same record the maintenance planner works from.

The asset register

An asset is recorded once, against an approved asset number, with its description, class, facility, acquisition detail, status and condition. Parent and component relationships are held on the asset itself, which is what component-level accounting depends on, and supporting documents attach to the record rather than living in a shared drive beside it.

Condition assessment	Inspected against an approved scale on a dated assessment, with defects and evidence recorded, and material findings raised as maintenance or risk actions.
Verification	Physical confirmation of the item and its identifier, capturing location and outcome, including items found missing, moved, duplicated or unserviceable.
Risk	Likelihood and consequence scored on the approved matrix, with existing controls documented and further treatment assigned to an owner and a due date.
Depreciation and disposal	Acquisition, useful life and residual data verified before impairment or disposal, with authorisation, method and proceeds recorded and the evidence retained.

History is corrected, not removed. Status, correction and disposal workflows keep a disposed asset visible as disposed. Deleting a record to tidy the register is what breaks an audit trail, and the register is only worth maintaining if it can be relied on afterwards.

Running the works

Water quality readings are captured against a facility, a monitoring point, a sample date and time, a sample type and a laboratory or source. The parameter carries its unit, and qualifiers, method and detection limit are recorded where the laboratory supplies them. Each result is evaluated against the limit configured for it as it is saved, so an exceedance is visible at the point of capture and can be investigated against the sampling and incident procedure with evidence and corrective action attached.

Around that sit the operating modules a works needs on a shift: process readings, chemical dosing and stock, sludge, bypass and overflow events, reservoir monitoring, standby power, energy consumption, maintenance and work orders, permits to work, spare parts, fleet, contractors, the operator logbook and shift handover.

Reading the estate

Operations overview	Drinking-water compliance, registered assets, gross replacement and book value, overdue maintenance and open incidents on one board, with condition distribution across the portfolio.
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Infrastructure map	Assets, facilities, pipelines, network nodes and service zones on a basemap, in two dimensions or three, with compliance and maintenance carried as heat layers.
Drop programmes	Blue Drop, Green Drop and No Drop assessments held with their scores, gap analysis and improvement actions.
Evidence	Document library, portfolio of evidence, regulatory submissions and an audit log of who changed what and when.

Access and deployment

The application runs in a browser, with modules grouped into workspaces so an operator, a maintenance planner and a technical services director each open the part they work in. Reference data, including compliance limits, is maintained by authorised users and carries effective dates, so a limit that changes does not silently rewrite what was true before it changed.

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