

NEXT GENERATION WATER METERING

Installation above ground is the answer...

With plans afoot to increase the number of new homes being built in the UK to 300,000 units per year – many in already water-stressed regions – the issue of how and where to install water-saving, new generation meters like Waterfall is an urgent priority.



As Part G2 of the Building Regulations Document G 2015 demonstrates, local authorities can insist on a more stringent optional requirement (requirement 36(2)(b)) which is set at 110 litres per person per day and applies where specified as a condition of planning. Waterfall meets this requirement with demonstrable efficiency savings without adding special water-saving devices, as it is designed to inform and change user behaviour.

Conventional underground smart water meters at the boundary of a property are costly to install and pose problems with multiple underground joints and therefore leaks, with wireless transmission range sometimes non-existent if the boundary boxes fill with water, as they often do. They are increasingly unpopular with water companies due to the high frequency of leaks in new developments. Guidance from the National House Building Council shows that above ground stop-valve and meter installation is preferred too.

Lead pipe replacement and underground meter installation for existing connections also requires road / path excavations at high unit cost and can cause considerable disruption to householders, but the work is essential.

A smarter future



Figure 1 The Waterfall device fits neatly into the insulated, surface-mounted Groundbreaker system.

External, surface mounted water control systems like Groundbreaker® offer a potential solution in both cases.

Offering a surface mounted method of water service installation, whether to new builds or to existing properties as part of lead replacement operations; the system is designed such that pipes, joints and water meter are all above ground and easily accessible. Ideal for modular home construction systems.

THE NEW WATER SERVICE IS:

- Routed up the face of the building.
- Connected to internal plumbing above ground-level (ground floor or upper storeys).
- Insulated against frost for at least 3 days at -15°C.
- Housed in a plastic casing, providing a perfect platform to connect to the local mobile operator's network.



What are the benefits?

You can find out more about the benefits of Waterfall at waterfallbeyondsmart.com, but what are the specific benefits of installing a Waterfall meter as part of a Groundbreaker® system?

WATER COMPANIES

- Even more convenient, simple and cost-effective to install.
- Easier to read, wirelessly or manually.
- No underground pipe connections, therefore, risk of failure eliminated.
- No need to dig to replace or install boundary boxes, in new developments, thus "street scene" much improved.
- No trip hazards.
- Lead replacement operations can be completed with minimal customer disruption
- A quick and simple way to get automated meter readings without the concerns of setting up special networks.
- Waterfall is at its best when mains electricity powered and this is easily arranged in new builds.

HOUSEBUILDERS & DEVELOPERS

- Easily installed at any point during build, from oversite to second fix plumbing making it ideal for modular home projects.
- Cost-effective way to install water service in new builds.
- Straightforward compliance with building regulations and NHBC guidance.
- Shorter, smoother adoption period with water company.
- Eco-friendly in terms of water efficiency and related carbon savings and can be proved to yield the Per Capita Consumption requirements of Part G2.

HOMEOWNERS

- Total control of water supply from a user-friendly app that has strong eco-friendly credentials
- Less intrusive external placement – area under the sink is left clear.
- Convenient for maintenance, no entry inside the home required.
- Easier, less disruptive access for manual readings if needed.
- Plus all the water-saving and money-saving benefits of Waterfall.



MORE INFORMATION

For more information, contact enquiries@creative-ec.com or learn more at waterfallbeyondsmart.com and groundbreaker.co.uk