Roi Zaken Porat

IDE Technologies

Director of Water Treatment Process

What are the challenges of access to water in your region?

In our region, one of the primary challenges is water scarcity. Limited freshwater resources, coupled with increasing demand due to population growth and industrial development, pose significant difficulties in ensuring reliable access to water. Climate change impacts, such as prolonged droughts, further escalate the situation.

What solutions are currently being implemented in your region?

In the case of Israel, which is known for its expertise in water management, some solutions implemented include desalination of seawater, wastewater recycling and reuse, advanced irrigation techniques, water-efficient technologies, and water demand management strategies. IDE Technologies is at the forefront of addressing water challenges in our region. We have pioneered advanced desalination technologies, enabling the conversion of seawater into high-quality freshwater. Our desalination plants play a vital role in providing a sustainable and reliable water source for our customers, reducing dependence on freshwater supplies.

What are you doing to promote sustainable drinking water supplies?

IDE Technologies is committed to promoting sustainable drinking water supplies. We actively invest in research and development to enhance desalination processes, making them more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. Further, we have developed various technologies that allow high recoveries never imagined before with standard reverse osmosis system. The two main technologies are the MaxH2O Desalter and the MaxH2O PFRO.

What springs to mind when you hear the words 'drinking water'?

When I think of "drinking water," I envision purity, health, and life. IDE Technologies strives to ensure that our desalination and water treatment solutions deliver water that meets the highest standards of quality, providing safe and clean drinking water for communities and industries.

Sheila Kee

Itron

Senior Product Manager, Water Operations Management

What are the challenges of access to water in your region?

One of the top challenges related to water access is the continuous growth in demand for this vital resource. Factors such as increased food production and higher energy requirements contribute to an unsustainable and escalating impact on our already limited water supply. Furthermore, the destructive forces of natural disasters like hurricanes, combined with the effects of climate disruption, further disrupt water services. As both the demand for water and the occurrence of natural disasters continue to rise, it becomes imperative to take decisive steps to fight water scarcity and safeguard this invaluable resource.

What solutions are currently being implemented in your region?

In the utilities field, we are working with customers around the world to actively tackle the challenge of water loss by leveraging advanced technology, such as smart meters, intelligent networks, analytics and services. It is concerning that over one third of the water pumped from distribution systems is lost before reaching its intended destination. In California alone, we estimate that 27 billion gallons of treated water, equivalent to approximately 850,000 households, can be recovered by correcting leaks in distribution systems. By employing tools like advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) and data analytics, utilities can swiftly detect and remedy leakages. Real-time detection plays a critical role in reducing water loss, as it eliminates the need for manual detection methods that can be time-consuming and less efficient.

What do you think the drinking water situation will be like 50 years from now?

According to UNICEF, by 2025, it is estimated that half of the world's population could inhabit areas facing severe water scarcity. Furthermore, projections indicate that approximately 700 million people worldwide may face displacement by 2030 due to limited access to water. These alarming figures highlight the critical need for collective action at both the individual and organizational levels. Without prompt intervention, the issue of water scarcity will continue to escalate, worsening its impact on communities. It is imperative that immediate steps are taken to address this pressing challenge before its severity intensifies.