Sydney Legionella outbreaks

A water treatment company’s perspective.
Sydney Outbreaks

LEGIONNAIRES’ OUTBREAK

Searching for the Legionnaires source

Initial inspection area
Feb 10-14, 2016

2nd inspection
Feb 14-16

Nth Beaches
Health authorities investigating possible Legionnaires’ disease outbreak in Dee Why

HydroChem
HydroChem Response

- Notified of outbreak PHU + Media
- Briefed staff on situation & response
- Received 110 inquiries in 2 days
- Requests from NSW Health for all documents for all systems in CBD
- Direction to clean all towers
Enormous Disruption

- 3000 Towers monthly
- Other systems
- 21 Service technicians
- 3 Tower cleaners
- 154 locations with 487 systems in CBD

Could not redeploy staff so targeted approach
Hello Sydney Accounts,

HydroChem is busy servicing your water systems to minimise risks to human health and maximise asset performance and longevity - this is how we reduce your total cost of operation. As part of our service, we collect data across a range of categories to assess how your systems are performing.

The Health Score algorithm for your Portfolio over the period 17 November 2015 to 17 May 2016 has condensed 6,031 data points across 154 locations and 487 systems down to 4 categories that indicate an overall Portfolio Health of 89%.
HydroChem confidence

Confidence
Risk based approach – judgement accepted
Weekly inspections
Quarterly cleans
Monthly *Legionella testing*

Less confident
Risk factors not addressed
Quarterly *legionella* testing only
No disinfection with cleans
Best practice

- All cooling towers registered
- Owners responsible
- Not just compliance
- Risk based approach
- Audited
**Improve outcomes**

- Strengthen Regulatory Framework
- Education & ability to judge
- Audited outcomes
Clarity dashboard increase transparency
Clarity Reports

Trend Review

Micro Summary

Exceptions