



NEWS RELEASE

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Date: November 14, 2012
TDD: 791-4201

TUCSON EARNS IBM SMARTER CITIES CHALLENGE GRANT

The City of Tucson today announced that IBM has selected it to receive an IBM Smarter Cities Challenge Grant for 2013. The grant provides Tucson with access to some of IBM's top experts who will analyze and recommend ways Tucson Water can better use existing data to serve its customers efficiently and effectively.

The Smarter Cities Challenge Grant will provide in-kind assistance to Tucson Water for coordination of technology improvements to its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Systems. SCADA allows operators to communicate with Tucson Water's complex and vast network of water storage and distribution. At the same time, the grant will also help integrate communication with Tucson Water's Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) and Advanced Meter Readers (AMR).

"Installing digital water meters makes it easier for Tucson Water customers to monitor water use in real time," said Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. "Being able to identify leaks or other spikes in use as they happen delivers city services more efficiently and promotes water conservation - two key components of my 360 Day Work Plan for Tucson."

"Congratulations to Tucson for earning an IBM Smarter Cities Challenge grant in 2013. The city distinguished itself among peers by convincingly demonstrating its preparation and willingness to further improve its residents' quality of life and become a smarter city," said Stanley S. Litow, IBM Vice President of Corporate Citizenship & Corporate Affairs, and President of IBM's Foundation. "We consider it a privilege to share with Tucson city staff the talent and expertise of our most gifted employees who have premier skills in a range of disciplines, all useful for helping build smarter cities and a smarter planet."

Professionals from IBM's Corporate Service Corps will spend approximately three weeks with City staff to develop a blueprint for addressing numerous issues that accompany upgrading SCADA and implementing AMI.

The Smarter Cities Challenge is sponsored by IBM's Corporate Citizenship program and IBM's International Foundation. In 2012, IBM provided expert counsel to 33 cities worldwide who had earned Smarter Cities Challenge grants. For more information, go online to <https://smartercitieschallenge.org>.

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