

**IBM's Smarter Cities Challenge Grant**  
*March 1, 2013, update*  
**Tucson Water Meter Shop, Tucson, Arizona**  
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(above) IBM members were given a tour of the Tucson Water Meter Shop. Eddie Lopez, Meter Shop Supervisor, provided an overview of Meter Shop operations, including meter testing function. Lopez also described various metering technologies, including the Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) meters that are currently being installed in the Tucson Water Service Area.

AMR meters have a data logging capability that records water use over a 40-day period, and allows Tucson Water employees to download detailed water use information in the event a customer has questions regarding their monthly water bill.

The IBM Team will be analyzing the capabilities of AMR meters and providing recommendations for connecting the new meters to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system that would allow customers direct access to water use information on a daily basis. Access could be through a web portal, smartphone app, or home monitoring unit and would allow customers to monitor daily water use patterns and identify leaks much more quickly.

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(above) Metering Shop Superintendent Eddie Lopez describes the process used to test water meters for accuracy with IBM Team Members.



(above) Metering Shop Superintendent Eddie Lopez discusses AMR meters and data logging capabilities with IBM Team Members.

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(above) IBM Team Member Carol Savage takes notes as Metering Supervisor Eddie Lopez explains meter testing protocols.

END