

A large, arched sign with a dark red background and white text. The sign reads "WELCOME TO" at the top, followed by a white silhouette of a stagecoach inside a decorative oval. Below the oval is the text "The Stagecoach Capital of Texas" in a smaller font. At the bottom of the sign, the word "BRIDGEPORT" is written in large, bold, white letters. The sign is mounted on two stone pillars and is set against a background of green trees and a clear sky.

SIEMENS

City of Bridgeport, Texas

Siemens to improve utility operations and allow City to provide better services to its citizens

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A dynamic, growing community near Fort Worth, the City of Bridgeport, Texas offers its residents a family-friendly lifestyle and plenty of nearby outdoor activities. As the community continues to grow, City officials have development and infrastructure improvements in mind. These improvements to the municipal owned utilities are designed to support its existing citizens while enhancing the City's economic growth and stability to create a safe, healthy environment for future generations.

In 2012, the City of Bridgeport partnered with Siemens Industry, Inc., to achieve the City's objectives and prepare for continued, sustainable community growth.

Client Objectives

With an eye on fiscal responsibility, the City of Bridgeport needed to:

- Address the City's infrastructure needs while minimizing the required capital costs
- Improve operational efficiency of the municipal owned utilities (Water & Electricity)
- Reduce energy and other operational costs
- Through City Lighting Upgrades provide a more uniformed and cost efficient solution
- Provide excellent services to its citizens while being good stewards of taxpayer funds

Siemens presented the Performance Contracting option to the City in the summer of 2011, identifying potential facility improvement projects and anticipated savings.

Siemens Solution

After a concept review and city council approval, the City of Bridgeport engaged Siemens in a Performance Contract (PC). PC is a procurement methodology that allows the city to retain its capital funds; utilize energy and operational savings, as well as increased revenue, to fund facility improvements; and benefit from guaranteed energy savings through a relationship with a dedicated energy services partner.

To identify the specific facility improvement measures for the PC, Siemens performed an audit for 14 of Bridgeport's facilities along with its water and electrical distribution system. Additionally, this audit found and quantified the necessary infrastructure measures and their estimated energy and operational savings, while establishing a baseline for performance measurement. The audit found:

- An opportunity to improve water meter accuracy, by installing new water meters and implementing an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system for the city. The new AMI system and meters could increase water revenues and reduce operating costs;

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The City of Bridgeport improves infrastructure to provide improved service to citizens

- Additional operational cost savings can be achieved by installing new electric meters. The electric meters along with the AMI system will eliminate manual meter readings;
- Infrastructure needs and energy savings opportunities with energy efficient lighting and street lighting technology upgrades.

Siemens and the City of Bridgeport will implement facility improvements identified by the audit as part of a 20-year performance contract.

Water and Electric Meter System Upgrade

The first major facility improvement measure with this performance contract is to install a new fixed-base Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system to read both water and electric meters. To support this new system, Siemens will also replace all current water and electric meters with radio communication capabilities, allowing the meters to send usage data to the new AMI system.

The new AMI system will allow the City of Bridgeport to:

- Eliminate routine manual meter readings
- Create a consistent “read date” for all meters, regardless of holidays and weather conditions
- Improve billing quality with more accurate metered water use
- Increase water revenues without raising rates
- Reduce operational costs
- Provide better customer service to residents; leak detection capabilities; and more accurate, daily consumption data

Lighting Improvements

Siemens will also implement two additional facility improvement measures that will save the city both operational costs and energy – facility interior and exterior lighting improvements and upgrades to the City’s street lights. Fixtures will be retrofitted with energy-efficient lamps that will reduce utility consumption; the new lamps also have a longer lifespan, helping reduce operational costs associated with changing bulbs. These new lighting upgrades will provide a uniformed appearance throughout the city and its facilities.

Client Results

When all facility improvement measures are complete, Siemens estimates that the City of Bridgeport will:

- Increase water revenues by approximately \$12,000 in the first year following AMI implementation;
- Reduce operations and maintenance costs by approximately \$76,000:
 - \$62,000 – attributed to meter infrastructure improvements;
 - \$14,000 – resulting from interior and street lighting upgrades.

The implementation of the AMI system will provide the City with the tools to help identify other opportunities, helping improve overall electrical distribution operating efficiencies.

Together, Siemens and the City of Bridgeport are making infrastructure and facility improvements to help the City achieve its energy, customer service, and fiscal objectives.



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