



HOW LEAK DETECTION CAN IMPROVE YOUR **BUSINESS'S EFFICIENCY**

If your water usage spikes suddenly, a leaking pipe is a possible culprit, and tracking this down should be a priority to prevent a major increase in your water bill. However, even if your water usage has been consistent over many years, your business could still benefit from leak detection. In this article, we will explain how every business can benefit from this often-overlooked activity.

THE POTENTIAL COST OF LEAKS

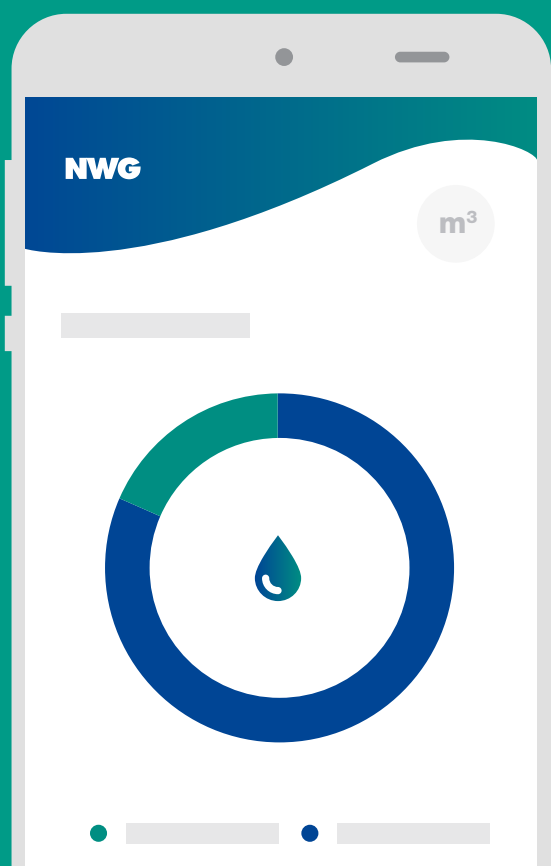
Leaking pipes are a constant and serious drain on your business's finances. Even a small, 5 litre-per-minute leak could add five thousand pounds to your water bill every year. Contrary to popular belief, most leaking pipes aren't visible above the surface, so minor leaks can inflate your water bill for years with no indication that anything is wrong.

Leaks can also cause damage to other parts of your business premises, causing structural damage, flooding or even sinkholes. Over time, leaking water can result in significant damage that could cost your business dearly in disruption and repair costs.



IDENTIFY POTENTIAL **LEAKS** IN REAL-TIME

Visit totalwatersolutions.co.uk
to learn more about Automated
Meter Reading



DOES YOUR BUSINESS HAVE A LEAK?

Minor water pipe leaks can be difficult to spot. Only around five percent will be visible as water above the ground, and even if this does happen it's not always at the point where the leak has occurred.

The best way for businesses to detect possible leaks is by monitoring their water usage. If your bills have increased, and there's no other explanation such as increased production or longer opening hours, then this could indicate a leaking pipe.

If your business uses an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) tool, you might also be able to identify a leak by checking water use at different times of day. If your business is using water at a constant rate overnight, or at times when nobody is in the building, this is another sign that water could be leaking.

HOW LEAK DETECTION WORKS

A leak detection survey is carried out by a highly experienced team, who will trace your water pipes and check them for signs that could indicate a leak.

There are several different methods for finding leaks in pipes, and the right one to choose will depend on your pipe material and diameter, soil type and other factors such as the type of surface above ground.

Acoustic leak detection uses specialist tools to “listen” to water pipes and identify and pinpoint sounds which could indicate leaking water. Tracer gas can be used to detect leaks. In this situation, a trace gas is introduced into a pipe, and detection probes are used to pick up the point at which the gas escapes from a leaking pipe

Thermal images can also be used to pick up on variations in ground temperature that could indicate a leak.

Fixing Water Leaks

In some circumstances a Find and Fix team may be able to carry out the leak detection and repair it on the spot. Alternatively, if doing so could cause disruption to your business (for example, if you’d have to stop production to allow for excavation work), this can be scheduled for a time that will minimise any negative impact.

Typically, leak detection teams will try to make repairs as quickly as possible, because the longer the leak is allowed to continue, the greater the costs from wasted water.



CASE STUDY: ESH GROUP

Total Water Solutions worked with Esh Group to help them reduce their water bills. After installing an Automated Meter Reading system, a leaking pipe was identified when the system showed overnight water consumption in one of their buildings when it was empty. Fixing this leak saved Esh Group £4,580 per year in increased water costs.

The system also identified further water wastage caused by faulty appliances, which increased Esh's overall savings to more than £10,000 per year.

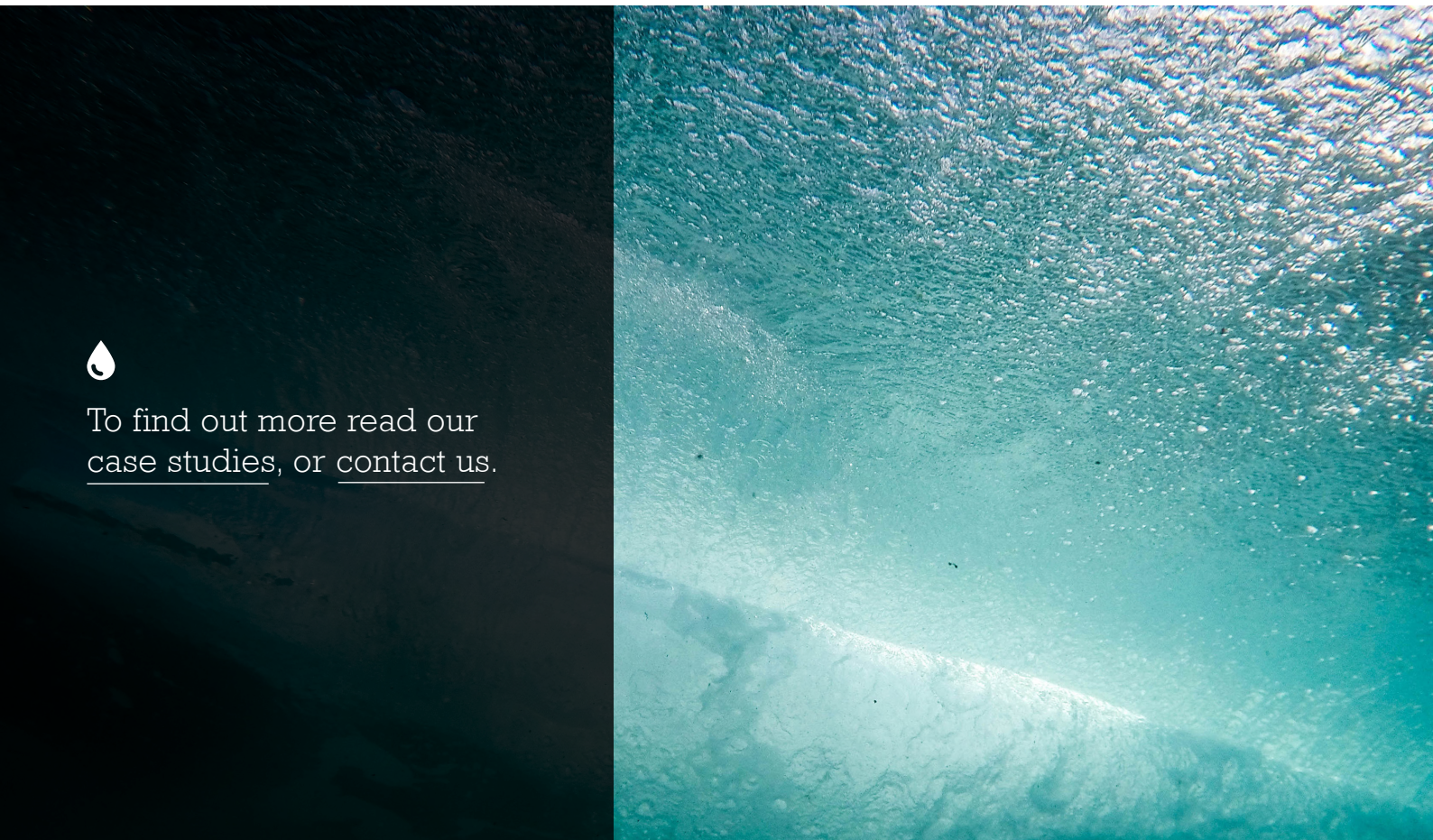


FIND AND FIX YOUR LEAKING PIPES

If you suspect that your business's water bills may be too high, a leak detection survey could save you thousands of pounds per year. As part of Northumbrian Water Group, Total Water Solutions' team of experts have access to the latest techniques and equipment to detect and repair leaking pipes quickly and with minimum disruption



To find out more read our [case studies](#), or [contact us](#).





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how we can help you call us on
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