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# **Building a wireless wastewater** monitoring system using Zephyr **RTOS nodes**

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COSC

### Best Sensor



### **Monitoring Wastewater Tanks**

Toilets and on-board bistros discharge waste water into tanks Tanks must be emptied regularly Pumps are connected via hoses Disposal process approx. 1-3min Uneven flow of waste water





## **Existing System**

Trains in the depot Analog wastewater monitoring No digital overview of faults Reporting via forms Failure possible from:

- Train schedule
- Personnel
- Valves
- Pump



### Best Sensor



### **BeST Module analyses Pumping Process**

Adapter on hose connection

Identification of the tanks via NFC tags

Faults are automatically detected and reported immediately

Battery operation, mobile network, connection to railroad IT

Development period 2020-23







## Adapter using Zephyr RTOS

**Requirements:** 

- no new approval for trains or pumps
- Electrical safety
- without power supply and data connection
- Secure data transmission
- Must not disrupt work processes
- Automatic system for monitoring and logging
- No operating elements

### Best Sensor

### < 🔿 🗵 🖪 📕 🔍 Searc 37/508 3 bahn notif 🔽 Flat MESSAGES (FLAT) WEEST SENISOR pahn\_notify/0 s\_start": 166 oat my".7729 pressure mba hn\_notify/03 s\_start": 1665262

- "short\_ei": 9,
- "ts\_start": 1665263596, "ts\_h": 6742, "bat\_mv": 7553,

>

- "pressure\_mbar": 182, "notif\_cnt": 445, "ticket": 70,...



## Why use Zephyr for Wastewater Monitoring

- Technical parameters
  - Multitasking of peripherals
  - Real-time operation
  - Energy saving
- Economic reasons  $\bullet$ 
  - Long-term serviceability
  - 100% control over source code
  - increased safety



### https://www.zephyrproject.org/products-running-zephyr/



### **Signal Evaluation**

Sensor in adapter monitors wastewater flow

Automatic evaluation in the module

Transmission of results by radio

- Server software generates reports from the messages
- Reports are sent to the railroad on a daily basis







## Analogy heating monitoring

Heating controller

Thermostat

Consumption meter per heating period

Real-time system with radio transmission

lalu

Economic efficiency: better for larger systems for new buildings today always







Bildquellen https://esa-tec.com/gebaeudeautomation-smarthome.html

https://www.talu.de/heizung-richtig-ablesen/



### Goal: complete monitoring system

Overview of disposals at all times Recognize anomalies in tanks, location, pump NFC is replaced by RFID

Expansion: one location after another Economical thanks to optimized disposal planning, saved energy, fewer breakdowns





Expansion

### **Current Status**

Result now (Summer 2024): Pre-series of 36 modules in continuous operation for two years

Over 50,000 disposals analyzed, clear detection, immediate reporting of faults

But: pre-series only allows random sampling Missing disposals go unnoticed NFC tag requires extra handling

Full transparency requires full roll-out



