

Evaluation of urban water networks - Case study

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The subject of the paper is the elaboration of the topic of modeling and optimization of the reliability of systems for drinking water supply in the town of Hlučín and the adjacent villages Bobrovniky and Darkovický. The paper points out modern ways of management and maintenance of these buildings, eg in the form of passportization, unification of various types of documentation, records of failures and accidents, etc. The aim is to point out possible ways to optimize these buildings and overall evaluation of the water supply network, including the suitable renewal schedule design. These practices are essential for the efficient operation of water supply networks, especially nowadays, when there is a shortage of water and it is necessary to promote sustainable urban development through its economical management.

Fault sheets of the drinking water supply system operator; Source: Water supply and sewerage Hlučín, s.r.o.

Analysis of the drinking water supply system failures

In total, approximately 73 km of water supply network is operated in the Hlučín area, of which 52 km is in the cadastral area of Hlučín, 11 km in Bobrovniky and 10 km in Darkovický. In 2018, a total of 565.426 m³ of drinking water was distributed to the final consumer throughout this system.

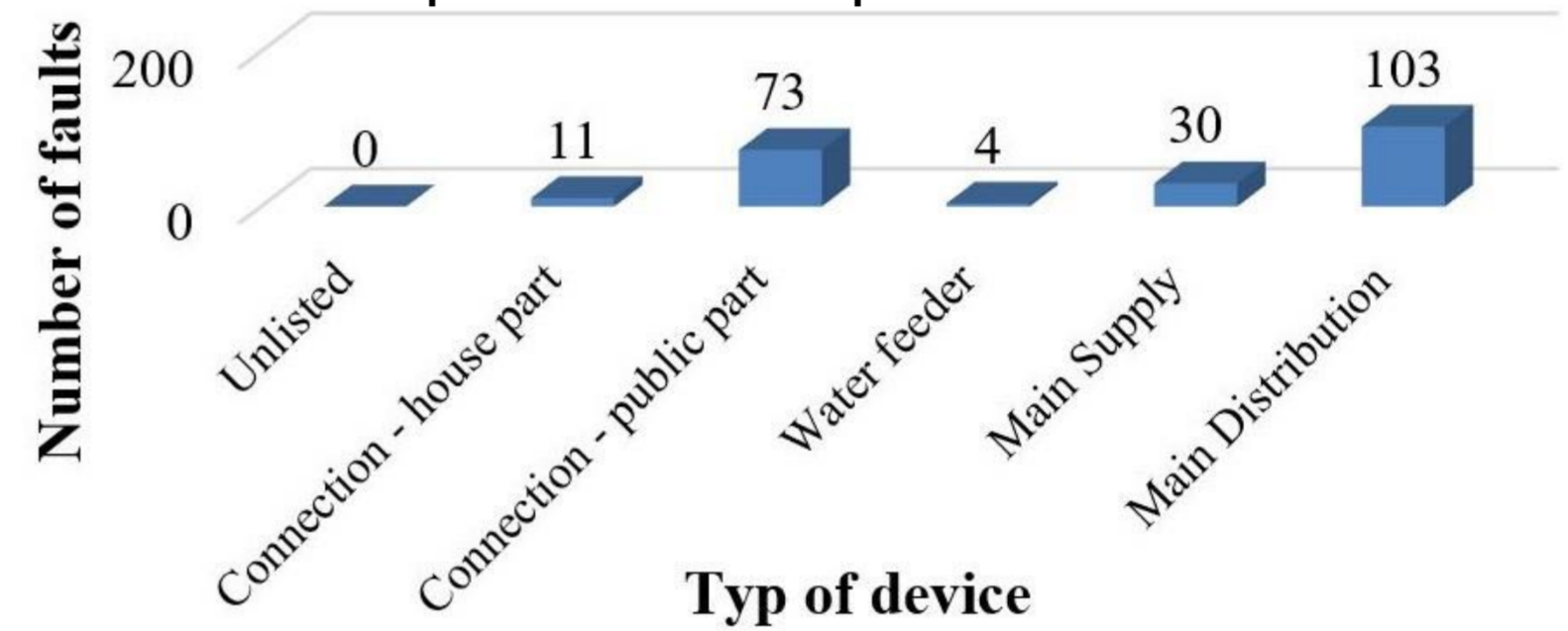
The analysis and statistics of the operation of the system for drinking water supply in Hlučín is processed on the basis of fault sheets of the company VaK Hlučín s.r.o., where a photocopy of one fault sheet is shown. Failure lists were introduced by the operator in 2005, so the statistics are based on data from years between 2005-2018. During the monitored period, a total of 221 failures were recorded in the water supply network in Hlučín, Bobrovniky and Darkovický. Fault leaves were also kept for the sewer lines and were not distinguished from the water supply system. Often the fault sheets are only partially filled in, they do not contain all the important information, therefore some data may be distorted or idealized for better registration.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Almost 98% of the population is connected to the water supply	Unbalanced pressure conditions in the network
Minimal water losses (< 4 %)	Insufficient water accumulation for the Hlučín district
Water quality all hygienic requirements with reserve fulfilling	Sometimes only temporary or cheap troubleshooting
Several water sources and feeders	The reservoir supplying Darkovický is not owned by the water supply operator
Own collection area	
Sufficient capacity with regard to the development areas of the municipality	
Relatively low failure rate	
The operator's effort to gradually reconstruct the water supply lines	
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Replacement of old cast iron and metal pipes with plastic ones	Oversize of the network due to population decline
Construction of a reservoir to increase water accumulation and balance the pressure in the network	Insufficient amount of fire water in crisis situations
Introduction of quality records of failures and prediction of the need for reconstruction of individual water mains	Lowered water quality due to smaller abstractions
Introduction of predictive maintenance of water supply	Increased water loss
Increasing the number of people taking drinking water	Gradual reduction of yield of groundwater sources
Improving water quality	Possibility of water contamination caused by water supply failure or its leakage
	Bad registration and documentation of the water supply network

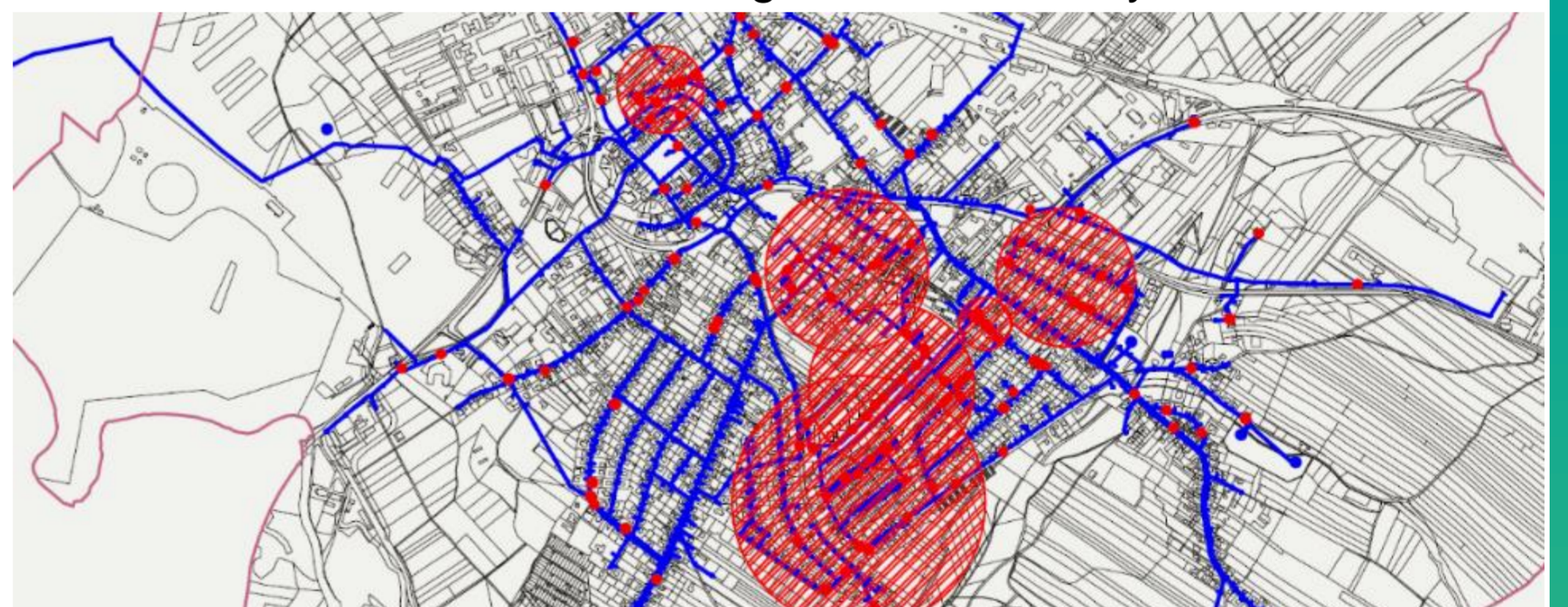
SWOT analysis

Types of failure pipelines

Water supply and sewerage Hlučín, s.r.o. manages and ensures operation on all types of DWS system equipment. In the network for DWS there are distribution, storage or supply lines, but also connections. The operator also performs and records faults on the house parts of the connections, although they are not owned by itself. However, most faults were reflected in the classic distribution line, then in the public parts of the connections, as well as in the supply line. A number of faults have occurred, when a fault in the oven on the distribution line has also damaged the connection or vice versa. In such cases, a primary failure has been reported on the part that caused the failure.



In this case, optimization is understood as a step to improve the operation of the system for drinking water supply in Hlučín, improve its maintenance, minimize its failures and the resulting costs. So far, failures have been recorded only on paper, using ie. fault sheets. The faults recorded on these sheets were subsequently scanned into electronic forms and apparently the faults were also recorded in the geoinformation system.



Representation of critical places on the water supply network of the town

According to the analysis a total of 221 disorders occurred during the monitored periods. Most faults occurred in the cadastral area of Hlučín, which is understandable due to its size. Most failures, specifically 103 failures, were evaluated on the mainline. Cast iron pipes were identified as the most problematic, which were gradually transformed into plastic pipes in the last few years. Among the most common disorders the transverse fracture and leakage of joints appeared. The largest number of failures was recorded between years 2005 and 2008. Thanks to the high-quality database and the responsible approach of the network administrator, the administration gradually focused on a proactive form of management. The change in the approach led to a reduction in water losses in the network system from the original 9% to 4.5%.



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