

**Employer** | **Severn Trent Water**

**Designer** | **Langham Industrial Controls Ltd**

**Title** | **Re-design of heavy standpipes (used for water quality testing and monitoring) fitted to water hydrants**

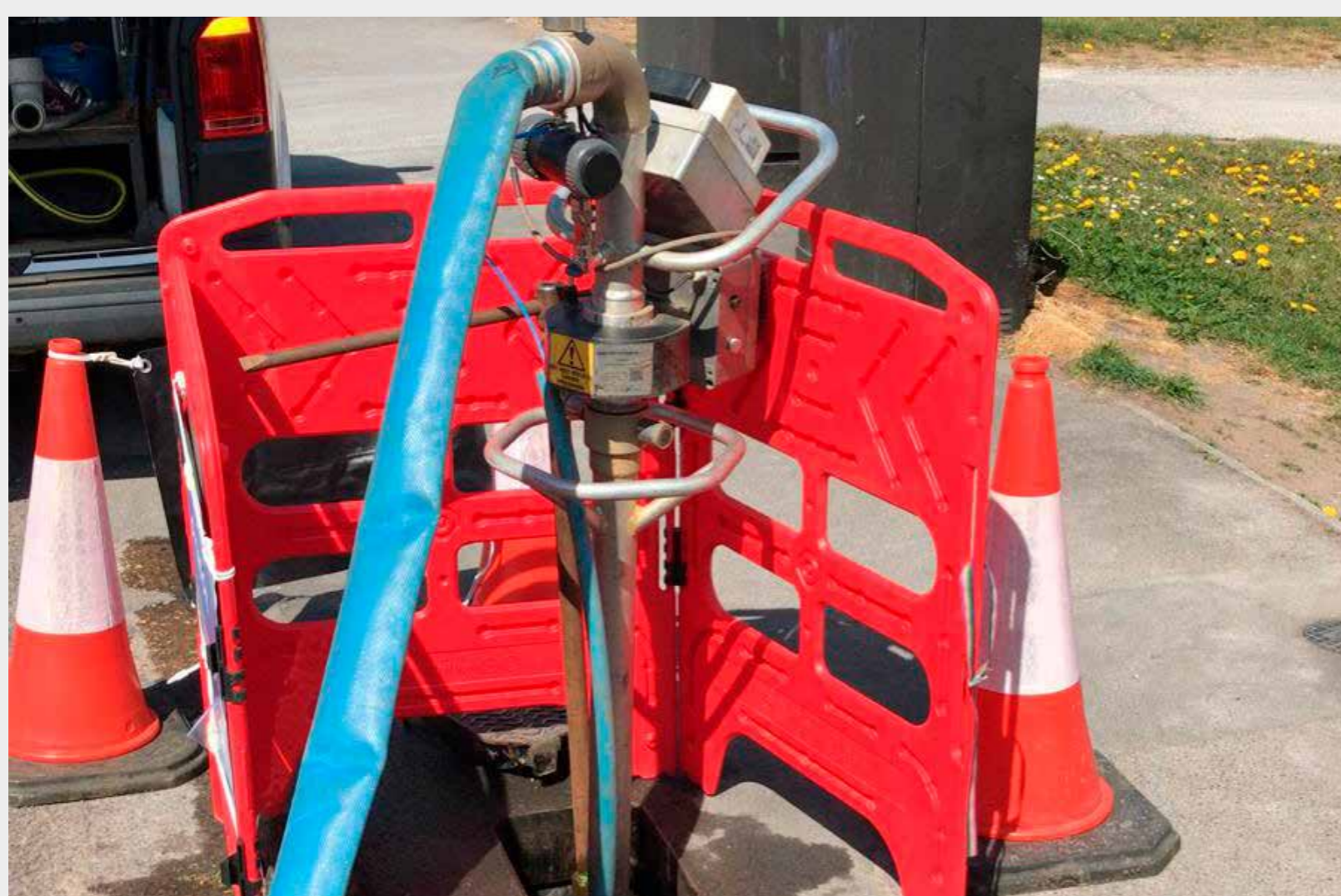
As a company we don't want anyone to be hurt or made unwell by what we do, but we also want to give our customers really good quality water. Having the van mounted standpipe is a great win win for everyone. We get the monitoring we want for water quality without risking back injuries across the team. Having this solution, driven by Anto, is a fantastic example of the best solutions coming from people doing the job.

*(‘Anto’ refers to Anthony Skellett, a Severn Trent network maintenance technician on one of the maintenance cleaning teams, whose idea it was.)*



Chartered Institute  
of Ergonomics  
& Human Factors

## BEFORE



- Maintenance teams used standpipes as part of the process to flush water out of water hydrants and monitor and collect water quality data
- The challenge was that the existing standpipes were heavy and cumbersome and had to be lifted off vans and mounted onto the water hydrants at every testing location to do the tests, an operation that happened up to 20 times a day. The nature of some of the water hydrants also increased the awkwardness of the lift when positioning the standpipes onto the hydrants

## AFTER



- A collaborative effort between Severn Trent Water and manufacturer Langhams to develop an adapter allowing the heavy standpipe to be mounted inside the van for both transit between locations and during the hydrant water flushing operations at each location
- Using the adapter eliminates manual handling of the standpipe
- Further benefits of the adapter allow the workforce to operate more efficiently as the overall job time is reduced