



## Silicon Valley Clean Water cites ATL's experience and feature-set as reasons for choosing TITAN®.

TITAN allowed SVCW to eliminate printed worksheets and implement a LIMS that meets California's new NELAC requirements.

### Company Profile

Silicon Valley Clean Water (SVCW) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that provides wastewater treatment services to more than 200,000 people in the San Francisco Bay Area that includes Belmont, Redwood City, San Carlos, and West Bay Sanitary District, CA. The wastewater plant treats 15 million gallons of water daily (MGD), has a design flow of 29 MGD, and a peak wet weather design flow of 71 MGD. During the six drier months of the year, 1 - 2 MGD of treated and disinfected water is directed back to the community as recycled water for landscape irrigation, commercial, and industrial applications.



Laboratory Services is a Division of SVCW occupying a 6,500 sq. ft. state-of-the-art laboratory that was built in 1991 and is located at the wastewater treatment plant. The laboratory is staffed by a Laboratory Director and six laboratory analysts. The lab's primary mission is to provide vital chemical and microbiological analyses to the wastewater treatment plant 365 days a year. Samples are collected and analyzed throughout the various stages of the treatment process to give plant operators prompt feedback on wastewater parameters. The laboratory performs a variety of chemical and microbiological tests with >30,000 reportable results annually.

The laboratory also analyzes wastewater discharge from permitted industries in the SVCW territory. Sampling and inspections of industrial sites are performed by another SVCW division and the laboratory analyzes and reports both internally and externally generated data. The laboratory is certified by California's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) under the State Water Resources Control Board.

### Their Challenge

For many years the laboratory staff used printed worksheets and Microsoft Excel to produce data summaries. Using paper data sheets meant that data was all handwritten. Bench sheets were also completed manually and then hand-keyed into SVCW's plant operations database, which served as a data warehouse for the lab. The reliance on manual documentation methods opened up the door to data transcription errors and duplication of effort that resulted in data quality issues and longer turnaround times. The SVCW laboratory has invested in a number of scientific instruments to conduct their testing including an ICP spectrometer, TOC analyzer, UV-Visible Spectrophotometer, and an Ion Chromatograph (IC). However, the laboratory did not have the instruments integrated into any automation solution. This meant that the testing data generated by the instrument needed to be manually transcribed onto pre-printed worksheets, which was time consuming and error prone. Being able to generate timely and accurate reporting for internal analysis as well as to satisfy external compliance requirements was also a challenge.



**Silicon Valley Clean Water**  
Redwood City, California  
[www.svcw.org](http://www.svcw.org)

SVCW is a water resource recovery facility meeting the highest technical, environmental, and safety standards in California. Built in 1980, the SVCW facility enables wastewater to be recycled using state-of-the-art biological treatment. Clean water is available for reuse and the fragile ecosystem of the San Francisco Bay is protected for current and future generations to enjoy.



*ATL's TITAN® LIMS is our stepping stone to NELAC accreditation with audit control and built-in Root Cause Analysis. TITAN Report Designer gives me unlimited access and review of data, QC, schedules, maintenance, and more.*



• Bob Wandro, Ph.D., Laboratory Director







In selecting TITAN, SVCW also evaluated ATL and their capabilities as a LIMS provider. ATL has an established reputation in the LIMS industry, especially in the water/wastewater sector. ATL also has a proven LIMS implementation process that is based on project management fundamentals encompassing the installation, configuration, training and support of TITAN. SVCW was convinced that ATL's focus on quality control, being the first independent LIMS firm to become ISO 9001 certified, would ensure a successful LIMS deployment. SVCW has been using TITAN for several years now, is very happy with it, and looks forward to taking even greater advantage of its powerful capabilities as the laboratory continues to become further automated.



This is a critical time for water and wastewater laboratories in California due to the State's transition from a less stringent certification process (ELAP) to widely accepted and rigorous TNI (The NELAC Institute) Program. SVCW's compliance requirements include providing discharge monitoring results to the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) and by leveraging the CIWQS Export feature in TITAN the electronic reporting is significantly simplified. TITAN is ready with built-in features such as Corrective Action/Preventative Action (including built-in email reminders) and displays that lead staff quickly through the root cause analysis. Audit tracking is extensive and configurable with 360 items. A single item such as 'Samples' has 70 properties and each property has an 'on/off' and 'Requires Reason if changed' checkbox. SVCW sees TITAN as playing a critical role in helping manage the complexities of wastewater management and regulatory compliance in California today as well as into the future as the regulatory landscape continues to evolve.

### Silicon Valley Clean Water - Lab Services Team



Accelerated Technology Laboratories (ATL), headquartered in West End, NC, provides laboratory automation solutions to a variety of industries from analytical, environmental, food & beverage, water and wastewater, chemical, government, public health, clinical testing and manufacturing. ATL's LIMS products are installed in over 575 laboratories around the world, and supported by a steadfast commitment to excellence in product quality, support, and training. ATL is one of the few LIMS providers that is ISO 9001:2015 certified. For additional information, visit: [www.atlab.com](http://www.atlab.com).