

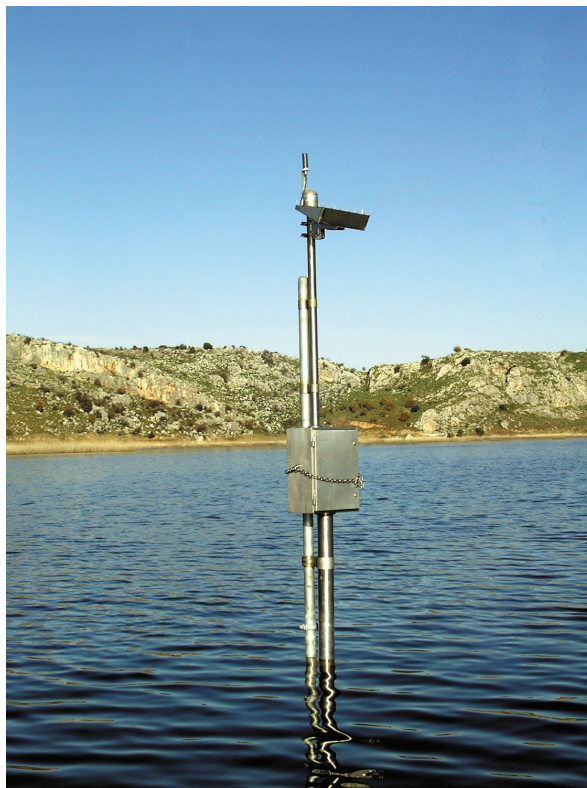


YSI Water Quality Instruments Assist in 2004 Olympic Game Preparations

How does one of the most remote European countries prepare to host the 2004 Olympic Games? With considerable help from the European Union and, as it turns out, from YSI. Recent investment in Greece has helped it to bring its infrastructure up to a better standard to accommodate the influx of athletes and spectators during the summer games in Athens.

Yet building additional roads and bridges in the southwest of the country has caused concern that the wetlands area there will be affected and polluted. Ian Thompson notes, "This is a particularly beautiful part of Greece and it will be host to some of the Olympic water sport activities such as sailing. Greece is a very agriculturally-dependent economy and nitrate run-off is a major issue; the geology and rock structure is such that this situation is made worse. If you add in the warm climate with plenty of sun then **eutrophication*** is a major problem."

Through Ian, YSI's European Sales Manager, and our sales partner Hydroscopio, YSI worked on an environmental project in Greece. The project was paid for by the EU. YSI was able to put forward the parameters we thought most appropriate for monitoring nitrate in a lagoon that is partly saline.



**Eutrophication is the natural process by which a body of water becomes enriched with nutrients, such as nitrate and phosphates, that stimulate the growth of aquatic plants such as algae. The problem with eutrophication is that the plants can disturb the levels of pH and dissolved oxygen in the water; these changes can cause disease or death for fish and other aquatic organisms.*

The recommended system consisted of four 6200 Data Acquisition Systems with four 6600 EDS instruments measuring temp, pH, conductivity, ORP, turbidity, and chlorophyll. The data is transferred back to a base station using GSM (pan-European mobile communications network). The adaptability of the 6200 to handle 1800 MHz GSM and to be able to initiate an alarm output with a relay was critical in securing the business. Additionally using the 6600 EDS with "Clean Sweep" technology to minimize the number of calibration and maintenance visits to the site was very well-received. Algal fouling had been a problem in the area.

Because negotiations with the Greek government went so well, a follow up project has been started.

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