Over time, fats, oils, grease, sediments, gravel and other materials can build up in sewage lines, causing decreased flow rates and even, in more severe cases, flooding of wet wells and discharge of sewage into the environment or nearby properties. SUEZ’s ice pigging technology offers a fast, effective, low-risk way to clean out sewer force mains and siphons.

**The challenge**

- **Limited access**
  Isolated locations may require excavation.

- **Time, expenses**
  Costs of disruption, engineering to prepare pipes and energy to run pumps are high.

- **Pipe clogging, damage**
  Traditional cleaning techniques may result in further clogging or pipe damage.

Ice pigging technology from SUEZ is an easy way to remove materials that build up in sewage lines. No digging required.
Ice pigging cleans out force mains and siphons as easy as 1-2-3.

Ice pigging requires no digging or excavation, making the process faster and safer. We insert the ice through existing fittings, and, if it gets stuck, it simply melts. As a result, it is less likely to cause damage or operational disruption.

The process

1. **Preparation**
   - For force mains, we turn off the lift pump and enter the non-return valve located at the pumping station or through any fitting on the pipe. For a siphon, we insert an inflatable bag or plug at either end to control the flow.

2. **Ice insertion**
   - We use the wet well pump to push the ice pig through a force main. For a siphon, we remove the plugs or packers and let gravity take over, pulling the ice pig through the siphon.

3. **Cleanup**
   - The pig of ice cleans as it flows through the pipe. At the collection outlet, we recover the dirty ice with a suction waste tanker or let it discharge into a sewer. Then, we return the pipe or siphon to service.

The benefits

- Fast, effective
- Easy access
- Cost-efficient, lower risk

Related services

We offer a full range of wastewater management and treatment services that can be custom tailored to meet your needs, as well as the strictest government regulations. In addition to ice pigging for sewer force mains and siphons, we offer a full range of rehabilitation and maintenance services for wastewater treatment plants as well as innovative technologies to help treatment plants rethink biosolids disposal through nutrient recovery programs.