



# Reducing water wastage in the hospitality industry

**Vineyard Hotel**  
Cape Town

The Vineyard Hotel reduced monthly water consumption by 30%, mainly through water metering interventions and ongoing awareness campaigns.

## Challenge

At the start of 2017, Cape Town Mayor, Patricia de Lille, challenged the Vineyard Hotel to significantly reduce their water consumption. Despite already implementing many water efficiency and monitoring measures, they took up the challenge by improving their water monitoring system.

## Solution

The hotel installed an additional 20 meters (from 8 to 28, some being smart meters) on to previously unmonitored areas of the plumbing network. This led to the discovery that the main dishwasher's pressure release valve was stuck in the 'open' position, causing significant water losses. Replacing the dishwasher reduced its daily water consumption from 14 000 litres to less than 1 000 litres.

The hotel now also runs staff and guest awareness campaigns with signage that informs guests about the City's water challenges and encourages them to reduce their water use. Bath plugs have been removed from the hotel rooms and are only available to guests under extenuating circumstances and recently installed shower timers encourage guests to take shorter showers.

## Lessons learned and plans for the future

Measuring and monitoring of water use are critical to manage consumption and regular engagements with water professionals are essential for learning about new technologies and ways to save water. The Vineyard Hotel will soon install a greywater system to provide non-potable water for flushing 190 toilets in the hotel.

## Business benefits

The Vineyard Hotel has reduced their monthly water consumption by 30% compared to the equivalent month's consumption in 2016. Their water use has been reduced from a peak of over 100 000 litres per day to as low as 50 000 litres per day.

<b>Water Savings (Apr - Sept '17)</b>	4 258 kilolitres
<b>Savings (April – September)</b>	R107 940
<b>Cost of metering</b>	R65 000

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