

Brazos River Authority

Company:

Brazos River Authority
Waco, Texas

www.brazos.org



Business Strategy:

To develop, manage and provide water resources and conservation programs for a variety of customers within the Brazos River basin.

Company Profile:

The Brazos River and its tributaries begin as a trickle in the West and gain momentum as the river heads South. By the time it reaches the Gulf of Mexico, the Brazos River basin has provided 6.75 billion gallons of water each year for cities, agriculture, industry and mining. Recreational opportunities - such as boating, swimming and fishing - are abundant.

The Brazos River Authority was created by the Texas Legislature in 1929 and was the first State agency in the United States created specifically for the purpose of developing and managing the water resources of an entire river basin. Today, the Authority's staff of 250 develop and distribute water supplies, provide water and wastewater treatment, monitor water quality, and pursue water conservation through public education programs.

Although the Brazos River Authority is an agency of the State of Texas, it does not levy or collect taxes. Except for occasional governmental grants to help pay the costs of specific projects, the Authority is entirely self-supporting. The Authority maintains and operates its reservoirs and treatment systems using revenues from the customers it serves.

Sample Master[®] Pro at Brazos River Authority:

Brazos River Authority has a long history of collaboration with various agencies such as the EPA and US Corps of Engineers of conducting studies and analyzing watersheds to determine the ecological health of these areas and implement ways to protect the water quality. In order to monitor, analyze and track the data for various projects, Brazos River Authority implemented a fully featured Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), Sample Master[®] Pro from ATL. After looking at other systems, Brazos determined that Sample Master[®] Pro could be easily implemented.

In the initial implementation stages, ATL migrated 10 years of Brazos' historical data including tests, sites, methods, STORET codes, results and many others. The migration was from a Microsoft Access[®] database to Microsoft SQL Server, the backend database of Sample Master[®] Pro. The laboratory also required interfacing of essential laboratory instrumentation in order to streamline laboratory operations. The instruments interfaced were the Dionex IC 500 and Lachatt Flow Injector Analyzer. The built in functionality of Sample Master[®] Pro has allowed Brazos to analyze the various samples from different watershed projects and enter criteria such as the project, site and matrix. Multiple laboratory users are able to quickly and easily access the historical data and view a trend analysis graph and create control charts. They also have the ability to create many different types of reports and customize them to meet their reporting requirements. They can also create and export electronic data deliverables to state agencies in a format which the agency can directly import into their system.

"Sample Master[®] Pro is a powerful tool that will greatly assist our field technicians and laboratory personnel in performing sample analyses and increasing productivity."

Kay Barnes, Laboratory Manager
Brazos River Authority