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This was a year of promises kept. As you’ll see in our 2017 Sustainable Development Report, SUEZ North America took real action and made real goals in promoting the well-being of our planet, our customers and our company.

We implemented advanced technology that is helping slow climate change and protect our natural resources. We continued to embrace principles of diversity—in our workforce, in our ideas, and in our partnerships—that will make us all stronger. And we continued to contribute to the common good on local and global scales.

It’s important to note that the results we achieved are measurable. We all want a better world and must never stop acting on the principle that refuse produced by some can become raw materials for others.

This report offers solid numbers—data which you can sink your teeth into. For example, in 2017 we cut the weight of our fleet vehicles by 158,000 pounds and reduced the use of gasoline and diesel by 7,900 gallons. That’s about 35,000 pounds of CO₂ emissions we kept out of the environment, according to the The U.S. Energy Information Administration. Similarly, we made strategic investments to reduce water lost to leaks and theft, and to reduce the energy needed to pump water. These included a Strategic Metering Initiative to collect accurate consumption data from our 191 largest customer meters, and the construction of a system-wide District Metered Area (DMA), including the installation of 54 metering sites and 24 DMA zones that can detect data anomalies are more readily.

Of course, these numbers are just a small sample of the milestones we are passing on the road to making our goals reality. Thanks for joining us on our sustainability journey!

Enjoy reading!
priority one:
be a collaborative, open and responsible company

commitment one

promoting diversity and well-being in the workplace

SUEZ wants to bring in the most diverse perspectives across North America so that we can be as successful as possible. That comes not only from people with different ethnic backgrounds but different experiences. Ethnic minorities represented 21 percent of SUEZ’ U.S. workforce in 2017. Women represented about a quarter of our workforce and managerial ranks! These are phenomenal accomplishments in an industry that has historically been male-dominated, but there is still work to be done to achieve true parity. In 2018 we are seeing a positive shift in these numbers. SUEZ will still continue to challenge stereotypes and bias, forge positive visibility of women and celebrate female achievements.

SUEZ also thrived in 2017 because of its inclusion of diverse opinions. “Diversity is the easy piece; inclusion is the tougher piece,” said Eugene Anderson, Senior Director, Industrial Relations and External Affairs, and a member of the SUEZ Diversity & Inclusion Council. “Inclusion is tougher because it requires intention,” said Anderson. “We need the diversity of perspective. The people we serve are far more diverse than they were 10, 15, 20 years ago. We, too, must be diverse. From a business standpoint, I cannot imagine a company truly realizing its true potential without being diverse and inclusive.”

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<th>North America workforce</th>
<th>23% female</th>
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<td>Minorities represented 21% of the U.S. workforce</td>
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commitment two

acting to ensure health and safety in the workplace

The health and safety of our employees is paramount to the overall success of SUEZ in North America. That’s why we are strongly committed to zero injuries and ensuring that the people who contribute to SUEZ are safe everywhere, at all times.

In fact, improving health and safety protocols are the first order of business whenever we acquire, or contracted to operate and maintain, a new site. In Nassau County, NY, for example, after formally taking over wastewater treatment facilities, SUEZ immediately implemented rigid safety guidelines, providing thousands of hours of operational training to ensure the health and safety of each and every employee. And we rigorously enforce transparent reporting on plant operations and environmental metrics and provide open and real-time communication with all stakeholders.

SUEZ provided more than 69,000 training hours in North America for 2017—an average of 28.5 hours per employee. This significantly exceeded our objective of 18 hours. Such training not only provides for a safe and efficient work environment, it also fosters internal mobility, which enables individuals to increase their skills and experience.

69,000
Safety Training hours provided in 2017

28.5
Safety Training hours per employee provided in 2017
commitment three

fostering collaborative and working partnerships

The relationships that govern organizations are increasingly collaborative. As a producer of collective intelligence and innovation, SUEZ in North America encourages this among ourselves and with our partners.

First, at the employee level, we’re facilitating collaborative methods such as Skype, Yammer and Sharepoint to enable each of our employees to build systems of internal relationships from communities of interest. While collaboration software has had modest adoption across corporate America, it is gaining ground at SUEZ. In 2017, the most frequently used collaborative software applications in SUEZ North America were Sharepoint, used by 587 workers, or 18.3 percent of the workforce; Skype for Business, used by 535, or 16.74 percent; and One Drive, used by 426, or 13.33 percent.

At the partner level, we worked with technology firms in New Zealand, Europe, North America and Asia in 2017 that are helping SUEZ become the most digitally advanced and energy efficient company of its kind.

But collaboration involves more than just technology; it involves relationships. For example, in January 2017, SUEZ and Rubicon Global announced a groundbreaking strategic partnership to revolutionize the waste industry. SUEZ and Rubicon are partnering on technology and data, accelerating the development and deployment of Rubicon’s cloud-based hauler management platform, customer portal and mobile apps. SUEZ also agreed to use Rubicon’s technology in our fleet of vehicles.

Rubicon Global and SUEZ announced a groundbreaking strategic partnership to revolutionize the digitalization of the waste industry.
SUEZ in North America knows access to secure and accurate information is indispensable in conducting business. Yet, significant threats of data disruptions from cybercriminals—facilitated by mobility and global openness requirements—now require a more stringent approach to information security than ever before.

That’s why in 2017 SUEZ developed a Cybersecurity Communications Plan to support its development to stakeholders, staff and customers.

The plan outlines the roles, responsibilities and protocols that will guide the company in promptly sharing accurate, consistent and coordinated communications with SUEZ’ key stakeholders in the event of a cybersecurity breach. In the event of a cybersecurity event, communications would align actions with BTS, Legal, Human Resources and other departments so that the same accurate information is shared with stakeholders.

Our guiding principle will be to communicate facts as quickly as possible, updating information regularly as circumstances change to ensure the safety of our customers and employees and the continued operation of essential services. How we communicate in an emergency or a crisis will affect public perceptions of SUEZ. Honesty and speed are the most effective means to avoid lasting damage to the company, and widespread second-guessing by the public, which expects immediate access to accurate information.

Our goal is to be open, accountable and accessible to all audiences, while also being mindful of legal and privacy concerns.
priority two:
be the leader of the circular and low-carbon economy

commitment five

adhering to a global target of 2 degrees by mitigating causes of climate change

green fleet  SUEZ New Jersey operations faced a weighty problem: How could it simultaneously help customers, save money, and protect the environment? The answer was in nearby Reading, PA. There, Reading Truck Body worked with our transportation department to build the bodies of the New Jersey operations truck fleet with aluminum, rather than steel. The trucks with aluminum bodies are at least 1,100 pounds lighter. Less weight improved gas mileage, and burning less fuel meant that customers’ air would be cleaner and the money spent on refueling could be spent on the other environmental initiatives. It was so successful that our New York and Westchester operations have since joined the program. In 2017 alone we cut vehicle weight by 158,000 pounds and reduced the use of gasoline and diesel by 7,900 gallons.

SUEZ began by replacing heavier Ford E-350 with aluminum-bodied Ford Transit 350, followed by heavy-duty F-650s. In the new aluminum-bodied vehicles—F-650 and F-550s—SUEZ redesigned these truck bodies. The new trucks are 3,200 pounds lighter than the old ones.

In addition to the lightweight bodies, the trucks employ other green features, including GPS-assisted idle reduction and solar-powered vehicle accessories.

7,900 gallons of gasoline & diesel saved utilizing lighter trucks
commitment five continued

adhering to a global target of 2 degrees by mitigating causes of climate change

power meters Environmental sustainability lives at the nexus of water and energy. U.S. water and wastewater operations—SUEZ in North America among them—use 3 percent to 4 percent of the country’s electricity each year. That amounts to 55 billion kilowatt hours and represents 30 percent to 40 percent of municipal spending on energy.

That’s why SUEZ in North America is on the vanguard of reducing energy use—particularly energy used to power water distribution pumps. Why is that important? About 80 percent of the energy needed in drinking water distribution is used by pumps.

So, we’ve begun installing power meters on 400 of the pumps used in our Utility Operations. By the end of 2017, we had installed meters on 230 pumps and plan to have remaining installations completed by 2020. Once we collect the kilowatt output of each pump, we can use that data to track pump efficiency and help engineers decide whether to rehabilitate, replace or redesign a pump. Operators can also use the power meter data to decide which pump at a pump station to use more often and at which speeds to run the pump. All that saves money, water and energy.
commitment six

adapting to the causes of climate change on water

EDDIE energy dashboard  
In 2017, SUEZ in North America developed and began pilot testing the EDDIE Energy Dashboard, an easy-to-use, mobile, web-based energy dashboard that allows SUEZ to track its pumps’ energy use and performance in real-time using the power metering data from eOps, a web-based database. EDDIE will help achieve SUEZ’ goals of reducing the energy needed to treat and distribute water and to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent by 2030.

SUEZ’ power meters give real-time measurement of power usage. The data from power meters is sent to SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition), our secure, closed system for remote monitoring and control of equipment and processes. We can then view SCADA data on eOps. Once in eOps, the power data from our pumps can be used to run desktop pump efficiency tests to measure and verify the energy savings so that the pump can be optimized, rehabilitated or replaced.

SUEZ operates 400 strategic pumps in North America (responsible for 80 percent of the pumping energy consumption) across our Utility Division. These pumps consume 200,000 megawatt-hours of electricity annually at a cost of $12.9 million. In 2017, 238 of these strategic pumps had power monitoring. SUEZ plans to install the remaining power meters by 2019.

strategic metering initiative  
SUEZ spent significant resources to reduce water lost to leaks, theft and faulty metering in 2017. Our New York Operations, for example, implemented or expanded several practices that had significant results. These practices are part of a long-term strategy applied in response to water scarcity caused by climate change as well as in recognition for the need for greater business efficiency.

In 2017, a Strategic Metering Initiative was implemented and expanded to ensure that accurate consumption data was being collected for the Company’s 191 largest customer meters, accounting for approximately 30 percent of total customer usage. Also, construction of a system-wide District Metered Area (DMA) system was completed, including installation of 54 metering sites that established 24 DMA zones. Data anomalies are more readily apparent in these smaller zones, which allows SUEZ to allocate leak detection.

Also in 2017, engineering design for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system was completed, and installation of approximately 50 percent of meter RF transmitters and associated fixed collector networks were completed. The AMI system will provide high-resolution consumption information, as well as identify customer consumption patterns that deviate from typical conditions, possibly indicating tampered, removed or malfunctioning meters.

As a result of these efforts, the annual American Water Works Association (AWWA) Water Audit for our New York Operations indicated a year-over-year non-revenue Water decrease of 1.1 percent in 2017.
At SUEZ, our material, energy and biological solutions put everything in place to reuse waste and produce new resources in the most efficient, sustainable way.

Since 2011, SUEZ has managed the Edmonton Waste Management Center, located in Alberta, Canada. The center helps the City of Edmonton divert up to 60 percent of its household waste from landfill through recycling and composting. It includes three main facilities:

- Edmonton Composting Facility (ECF) and Anaerobic Digestion Facility: ECF creates compost from 160,000 tons of organic waste and biosolids per year; the Anaerobic Digestion Facility will process up to 48,000 tons annually when it comes online in the fall of 2018;

- Integrated Processing and Transfer Facility (IPTF), Construction & Demolition (C&D) Facility, & Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) Facility: The IPTF, responsible for sorting waste into various categories (composting, biofuels production and landfill) can process 250,000 tons of waste per year, while the RDF pre-processes and provides feedstock for use in biofuel manufacturing processes and the C&D recovers wood, dry walls, asphalt shingles, concrete and metals; and

- Materials Recovery Facility (MRF): Processing up to 50,000 tons of recyclable materials each year, the MRF helps recover several types of waste, including metals and paper, which can be ultimately used by nearby customers, contributing to local economic development.
commitment eight

developing climate responsible models

SUEZ in North America recognizes the serious effect climate change is having on water scarcity. That’s why we are working hard to improve water use efficiency, reduce energy demand and our carbon footprint, through conservation measures.

At our Idaho operations, which serve 222,000 people and produce 15.5 billion gallons of clean drinking water annually, we deployed our Aquadvanced Energy system to optimize operations and reduce energy use. Since its deployment in Idaho in October 2016, SUEZ has been able to realize $100,000 in energy savings.

Following its success in Idaho, Aquadvanced Energy is now being tested in other SUEZ facilities.

Aquadvanced Energy uses flow and pressure data correlated to the pump manufacturer’s performance curves to determine which pump, operating at which speed, is the most efficient. This saves both cost and kilowatt hours. These calculations run every 30 minutes and are based on the water demand predicted up to 48 hours in advance and advanced algorithms. It interfaces with SCADA in realtime to read live data and it can run in advisory mode or automatically control pumps based on the ideal combination calculated.

Because water is needed to produce useful electricity—for example, for solar thermal energy generation, cooling water for thermal generation and energy exploration and collection—the reduction of energy demand means water can be used more judiciously and sparingly.
In June 2017, SUEZ New York Operations launched a program to help customers save water and electricity. Through the program, residential and commercial customers can receive rebates for the purchase of water-saving appliances. This program is also a collaboration with the local energy utility, Orange & Rockland Utilities, to capitalize on the combined conservation objectives that exist within the energy/water sector. The program also offers free audits for commercial entities to identify ways to reduce water use. A partnership with Lowe’s allows customers to receive instant in-store rebates via their smartphones.

The program is expected to save 1 million gallons of water per day in five years. Because it takes energy to treat and distribute water, the water savings are expected to reduce the annual demand for electricity by 1 million kWh annually, or $100,000.
commitment ten

accelerating the digital revolution in water & waste solutions for agriculture, industry, cities and citizens

SUEZ was honored with the Smart Water Company of the Year award at the 2017 Global Water Awards. This award recognizes the companies that have contributed the most to the advancement of digital technologies in the water sector. Each year, the Global Water Awards are awarded in the framework of the Global Water Summit, the world’s largest global event for the Water industry. Created in 2006, these awards recognize innovating initiatives in the water sector.

SUEZ’ smart utility network is recognized for customer enhancements around the world. Nowhere was this more prevalent than in North America, where over 200,000 digital water meters have been brought online, offering significant benefits for customers:

- Hourly meter reads, versus monthly or quarterly, satisfy customer desire for more data and greater management of their water accounts
- Elimination of the inconvenience of having to be home to give access to a meter reader—all reads are now automatic
- Support of conservation by reducing wasted water—in one city, customer outreach regarding leaks yielded a 38 percent reduction in wasted water and reduced the entire city’s demand for water by nearly 5 percent

In addition to winning the coveted Smart Water Company of the Year Award, SUEZ was presented with the Utility Industry Innovation in Water and Sewer Award from the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC).

SUEZ was honored with the Smart Water Company of the Year award at the 2017 Global Water Awards. This award recognizes the companies that have contributed the most to the advancement of digital technologies in the water sector.
innovating to develop decentralized or modular solutions for the territories of the planet

No one size fits all when it comes to water and wastewater treatment. SUEZ in North America worked hard in 2017 to develop decentralized, modular solutions for different regions. A modular approach makes it possible to implement tailor-made solutions adapted to a region’s specific environmental challenges, the level of local official governance, the constraints of farmers and the location of industry. Whether it is mobile water treatment units overcoming the challenge of access to water, or mobile desalination or sanitation units, SUEZ is committed to developing them. And as a global company, we have the institutional knowledge and technical know-how to do so.

For example, in Lambertville, NJ, SUEZ was looking for ways to improve water quality. The water had met or exceeded all state and federal requirements, but SUEZ wanted to fine-tune it. The Lambertville system is modest in size: a 40-million-gallon reservoir feeds a 1-million-gallon-per-day treatment plant. So operators chose a solution that was effective and proportionate.

First, SUEZ began by feeding less soda ash at the beginning of the plant and more at the end of the plant to lower pH and for corrosion control. That reduced disinfectant byproduct precursors, which are created when disinfectants, such as chlorine, are combined with dissolved organic material, such as leaves in water. SUEZ then added liquid algaecide at the source, and also adjusted alkalinity and several corrosion inhibitors.

The result was safe drinking water that was better tasting.
SUEZ in North America crisscrossed the continent in 2017 to meet with stakeholders at every level and engage them on topics that impact our business and their lives. The goal during these Stakeholder Days, as always, was to maintain an open dialogue and help inform our actions. In some cases, this meant getting feedback from residents about the effect of an existing treatment plant on their community. In another case, it meant hearing suggestions from local employees about how to improve operations.

In 2017, one key topic was the impending acquisition by SUEZ of GE Water & Process Technologies. SUEZ completed the purchase, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, on Sept. 30, 2017.

Transparency of such meetings was crucial. In Bloomsburg, PA, SUEZ worked diligently with local residents before an upgrade and expansion to the local Irondale water treatment plant began. The result was a $32 million improvement that reflected very specific concerns of the community. “This was built not just to accommodate the present needs, but there was a concerted effort by SUEZ to project out for decades to come, to try to meet the needs of future economic needs,” said Pennsylvania Senator John Gordner.

All told during its Stakeholder Days, SUEZ visited 13 sites, gave eight plant tours to the public, and met with 239 employees, 33 external stakeholders, and seven media outlets.
priority four: contribute to the common good commitment thirteen

acting for the health of the environment and the protection of the oceans

The world’s oceans serve as the earth’s circulatory system; their health directly affects the entire planet’s well-being. SUEZ in North America does its part to maintain the vitality of the oceans by bringing to bear our global resources to reduce water pollution.

In Nassau County, NY, for example, SUEZ has received high marks from environmental groups and non-governmental organizations—including the Western Bays Coalition of environmental groups, Citizens Campaign for the Environment, the National Council for Public-Private Partnerships, and the New York League of Conservation Voters—for its success in reducing nitrogen pollution from sewage and in protecting existing groundwater. A coalition of environmental groups upgraded its ratings of Nassau County’s wastewater facilities from an F to a B+ following SUEZ’ improvements to wastewater treatment facilities.

In Bayonne, NJ, SUEZ was also given high praise by officials for reducing pollution from combined sewer overflows (CSOs). These CSOs drain into Newark Bay to the west, the Kill Van Kull to the south, and New York Bay to the east, and eventually into the Atlantic Ocean. Since entering into a partnership with SUEZ, Bayonne has been able to reduce the pollutants entering these waterways. In 2014, a pilot study was conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection Division of Water Quality to demonstrate the performance of technologies selected by SUEZ to treat for solids removal and disinfection under field conditions at remote, satellite end of pipe locations. The study, “Wet Weather Flow Treatment and Disinfection Demonstration Project,” was implemented and now serves as a model for municipalities nationwide.

In Delaware, (below) SUEZ joined with the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary to help restore fresh water mussel populations in area waterways. Acting as a mussel incubator/nursery site, the lake will help as a place to grow juvenile mussels until they are large enough to be placed in creeks SUEZ uses to produce drinking water. At one time, these creeks were home to hundreds of thousands of the water-filtering bivalves. If populations could be restored, these natural water filterers would improve source water quality before it reaches SUEZ’ drinking water production facilities. This environmentally sustainable effort fits perfectly within SUEZ’ commitment to operate with respect for the planet and our oceans.
commitment fourteen

promoting biodiversity and ecosystem services

SUEZ in North America—which was ranked as number two of the Top 30 All-Environmental Firms in 2017 firms by Engineering News-Record for its commitment to biodiversity and ecosystems—is acutely aware of key role in protecting the environment in ways big and small.

These include New York’s official reptile, the common snapping turtle, which claims the 26.6-square-mile watershed in Rockland County, NY, as its home. Unfortunately, the native species is on the decline because thousands of turtles throughout the state are killed each spring when they are struck by vehicles as they migrate to and from their nesting areas.

In Rockland County, egg-bearing turtles cross the busy Western Highway from the Hackensack River to their nesting sites across the road. Later, they cross it again as the babies travel back to the river. When volunteers for the Turtles of Western Highway approached SUEZ for assistance in their mission to save the turtles, it seemed like a natural fit. Working together, they identified the best locations to release baby turtles and protect the snapping turtle habitat. SUEZ provided funding for a silt fence recommended by herpetologists and conservationists. The fence is designed to guide the turtles safely to nesting areas. Over 2,300 feet of silt fence was installed over three weekends with help from SUEZ, local officials, businesses and volunteers. At the end of the day, it was a great team effort to help the turtles find their way home.

Baby turtles awaiting safe release relase into thier habit in the 26.6-square-mile watershed in Rockland County, NY.
commitment fifteen
advancing access to essential services

Wherever SUEZ in North America does business—and in many places we don’t—we work to ensure that residents have access to the essential services of drinking water and sanitation. This assistance takes many different forms.

Since November 2005, SUEZ North America’s SUEZCares program has assisted customers experiencing economic hardship pay their water and sewer bill. Once qualified for the program, administered by NJ Shares, customers can receive up to $100 toward their SUEZ bill. SUEZ customers can visit any number of local agencies to apply for the assistance.

Through December 2017, 9,262 customers served by our Utility Division have received assistance totaling $729,703 through SUEZCares. On average, each customer has received $78.78 in assistance per request. Across the country 691 customers received assistance for their water bill in 2017 totaling $59,294 in grants.

Separately in 2017, SUEZ completed the acquisition of the Forest Park Water Group, which serves approximately 4,000 people in Putnam County and Westchester County, NY. It was part of our strategy to help small water companies surrounding our service territories meet the stringent water quality regulations set forth by state and federal governments. SUEZ has been operating the Forest Park water system since June 2016, when the New York State Public Service Commission appointed the company as the operator.

Since the acquisition, we have mobilized our water quality experts to address issues facing the water system and we have been making steady progress to ensure that residents receive the essential access to drinking water and proper sanitation.

9,262 Utility customers received assistance

$729,703 in assistance through SUEZCares

$59,294 in grants through SUEZCares
commitment sixteen

contributing to local development and territorial attractiveness

SUEZ in North America is proud to partner with the communities we serve, especially to provide environmental solutions to urban challenges. Those solutions include an extensive bike-share program that eases traffic congestion, benefits the environment and improves the health of participants.

In 2017, SUEZ expanded the bike share initiative it brought to Hudson County, NJ, in 2015 to include six more New Jersey locations. Hudson Bike Share, the bike share program sponsored by SUEZ in Hoboken, added 260 new bikes and 35 new stations throughout Guttenberg, North Bergen, Weehawken, Bayonne and West New York, NJ. The program grew from its initial 250 bikes and 29 stations at launch to 560 bikes and over 65 stations across six cities.

SUEZ in 2017 also continued its sponsorship of the Citi Bike program in Jersey City, NJ. Sponsorship by SUEZ and others has allowed the Citi Bike program to operate without public funds. Fully interoperable with New York City’s Citi Bike, the system allows those who commute or travel between the two cities to use their memberships in both independent systems. Citi Bike in the New York / New Jersey area is the largest bike share program in the United States and one of the largest in the world.
In 2017, SUEZ North America held its annual technology symposium the ‘Innovation & Technical Days’. The event was the occasion to gather more than a hundred participants from all across SUEZ around innovation and environmental protection topics. Several external partners were also invited to present their topics: start-ups, legislators, university professors, et al. SUEZ intends to reinforce its leadership in the Resource Revolution with tailor-made solutions based on fostering local partnerships and by delivering modular solutions that can be adapted to local specificities.

There was a broad array of issues being addressed, such as environmental protection and process improvement. “By incorporating innovation into our technical days, we aim to empower employees to creatively solve local and global challenges,” said Catherine Ricou, senior vice president, Engineering, Technology & Innovation Services for SUEZ in North America.

Even then, this gathering was just a starting point, said Ricou. SUEZ wants to hear from innovators throughout the year. “Sometimes the innovation is there right in front of us, but since we are used to providing these services every day, we miss them,” said Ricou. “It is ever so important to listen to our employees in the field, as well as our customers that we serve. It’s their experience that can help us find new solutions by improving our capabilities and our bottom line.”

During the Innovation & Technical Days, SUEZ employees in North America and globally, joined by external partners, brainstormed on ways to improve our operations and protect the environment. By doing so, SUEZ hoped to foster development of breakthroughs, such as the use of ozone as a disinfectant—a technology first used by SUEZ on a large-scale basis—or the energy efficiencies pioneered by our Idaho operations through the use of Aquadvanced data-analytic software.

Major technical fields such as drinking water quality, SCADA, energy efficiency, data management and customer relationships are evolving at a faster speed than ever before. Innovation & Technical Days has proved to be, and will continue to be, an excellent opportunity to share, learn and empower us to lead innovation to foster growth and efficiency and strengthen the sustainable development implementation with the SUEZ WAY!
2017 charitable contributions

breakdown of $531,666 in contributions

Environmental, social and scientific partnerships

Over the course of the year, we maintained a number of partnerships with external stakeholders to support local communities and to advance environmental and social topics.

South Jersey Operations partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ocean County hosting a “Beyond School Walls” after school mentoring program. The SUEZ managers who volunteered as “bigs” for the program were paired with local “littles” from neighboring Toms River and Manchester schools, meeting on a bi-weekly basis on the company premises.

The majority of the mentoring allowed SUEZ volunteers and guest speakers to cover a broad range of environmental topics. In doing so, they hoped to help the youngsters think about how they could meaningful ecological changes.

As a final project at the program’s conclusion, the “littles” presented on an environmental theme of their choice and interest based on the agenda’s focus. Topics included climate change, beach grass and dune stabilization, the trash vortex and recyclable sports equipment.
volunteering hours

Another way SUEZ engages with local stakeholders is by giving employees the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of the communities in which they live or work. In 2017, employees volunteered over 1,644 hours of their time on various projects linked to the environment, education and humanitarian activities that have helped numerous communities across North America.

SUEZ in South Jersey has collaborated with the Hooper Avenue Elementary School’s teachers and students about how to protect, conserve and better manage all water resources through educational, hands-on presentations.

A mixture of methodologies and educational techniques in line with the school’s curriculum allowed SUEZ to address a variety of issues with the youngsters. Topics included the importance of how people influence water quality within the Barnegat Bay Watershed; the magnitude of the water cycle; the value of conserving water; keeping our oceans trash-free to protect biodiversity; and the responsibilities of the NJDEP and USEPA, both agencies that have oversight for the protection of NJ water sources. These exercises portrayed the importance of environmental consciousness both locally and globally.

As a result of the school’s unique and compelling interest in the environment, the SUEZ Foundation awarded the Hooper Avenue School a grant. In 2017, a principal educator from the school, Douglas Hynoski, secured a section of school property, easily seen from classrooms, then crafted and developed the school’s first conservation garden. The xeriscape garden was completed just prior to the conclusion of the school year in June 2017.

The students were involved during each segment of the project, which not only provided a skillful teaching tool about conservation gardening, sustainability and water preservation, but also afforded encouragement for the children to introduce it as a communal project within their own families.

communities impacted by SUEZ’ corporate philanthropy
In 2017 SUEZ received a number of awards that validated our commitment to responsible and sustainable business conduct. We are thankful to our employees who made those achievements possible.

volunteering & corporate giving

Mike Burke, Area Manager for Environmental Services in New England has been recognized by the New England Water Environment Association for his selfless volunteer work as the Chair of the Operations Challenge Committee. For 15 years, Mike has made his Holyoke, MA wastewater treatment operations site available for operators interested in participating in the annual Training Day. Registered attendees are able to learn about each challenge event: collection systems, process control, laboratory, and safety and maintenance, in a relaxed environment. The Operations Challenge is an opportunity to illustrate the skills and knowledge of each participant while promoting safety, education, team work and professional development.

water quality compliance

The California Water Environment Association (CWEA) announced the City of Banning as winner of the Small Plant of the Year for the Colorado River Basin (CORBS) Local Section.

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) New Jersey Section awarded SUEZ the inaugural Water Utility Project of the Year Award for our Englewood Cliffs, NJ Tank Rehabilitation project. The committee judged that this submission best embodied a contribution to the New Jersey water utility industry through the advancement of the values of public health and reliable drinking water infrastructure.

The Town of Warren Wastewater Treatment Facility was the winner of the Narragansett Water Pollution Control Association (NWPCA)’s Gold Award for Complete Permit Compliance, based on permit compliance data.

Scott Cairl, Chief Operator, Idaho Operations, received the Operator of the Year award by the Northwest Membrane Operator Association in recognition of outstanding service and dedication to membrane operations and for leadership within the industry.

biodiversity & environmental protection

SUEZ is committed to sustainability on a global platform. It is on the forefront of everything we do. When it was time for us to create our new North American headquarters, we chose to live out this commitment by seeking a LEED for Commercial Interiors certification. We achieved our goal of LEED Gold certification. SUEZ was honored for this achievement and was awarded the LEED Innovation project of the Year Award for the Interiors category by the U.S. Green Building Council New Jersey Chapter.

SUEZ was publicly acknowledged for the work the company has done and its commitment to its promises to the community at a well-attended public meeting regarding the state of the Western Bays in Nassau County, NY. The meeting was called by leading environmental organizations and included representatives from Nassau County who explained their current projects and the proposed outfall plan that would send effluent away from the Western Bays and to an existing ocean outfall.
health & safety

The following 2017 MWEA & WEF Awards were presented to SUEZ at their 92nd Annual Conference:

- The WEF George W. Burke Jr. Safety Award was presented to SUEZ and the City of Wixom, MI for establishing and maintaining an active and effective safety program. The facility has achieved Star MVPP status for six years and has an exemplary safety and health management system with injury and illness rates at 0.

- The MWEA Excellence In Service Award went to Gary Timmer, Midwest EH&S manager to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to the Association. Gary has been with SUEZ for over 33 years and is a certified Michigan Industrial Wastewater Operator holding six licenses.

- The MWEA Health & Safety Award In a Small Facility was presented to SUEZ and the City of Wixom. This award is given in recognition of the commitment to health and safety in a small municipal wastewater treatment facility, as evidenced by an effective, well established and documented Health & Safety Program and the management and staff team who support, promote and cooperate in achieving the goal of a safe work environment.

- The MWEA Operations Professional of the Year Award went to Mark Houle in recognition of his work with SUEZ as operations manager of the South Huron Valley Utility Authority. This award is presented to an operator of a municipal wastewater treatment plant, who has displayed remarkable dedication to an employer and to MWEA, excelled professionally, consistently generated good quality effluent, and publicly promoted the profession of the wastewater treatment plant operator.

Mark Cataldo, project manager for our operations in Killingly, CT, was awarded top honors at WEFTEC®, the world’s largest annual water quality technical conference. Cataldo’s submission at WEFTEC’s sixth annual Operations Ingenuity Contest, the Chemical Catcher Spill Prevention Trough, is a clever, simple, and inventive solution to make jobs easier and keep operators safer.

commercial success

The Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey (CIANJ) and COMMERCE Magazine has awarded SUEZ with a 2017 Best Practices Award on behalf of the work that our New Jersey operations has done in the Smart Utility space.

The French-American Chamber of Commerce’s Atlanta, GA, branch has presented SUEZ with the Crystal Peach Award, recognizing economic growth, product excellence and innovation.

operational efficiency

SUEZ was honored with the Smart Water Company of the Year award at the 2017 Global Water Awards. This award recognizes the companies that have contributed the most to the advancement of digital technologies in the water sector.

SUEZ received the 2017 Water System Advancement Award for the Eastchester Road Water Main Implementation Project at the Westchester Water Works Annual Conference.

Our ‘Smart Utility’ network has garnered two major industry awards: the coveted Smart Water Company of the Year Award presented at the Global Water Summit and the Utility Industry Innovation in Water and Sewer Award from the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC).

New Jersey Alliance for Action honored SUEZ with a Distinguished Engineering Award for the North Dover booster pump station project.
facts & figures SUEZ in North America

3,260 employees

3,260

69 public-private partnerships

15 regulated water utilities

15

4,000 asset management contracts

4,000

$1.064 billion in revenue

$1.064

16,000 water treatment and advanced network solutions to industrial and municipal sites

16,000

55,000 tons of waste recycled

55,000

6.4 million people provided drinking water, wastewater and waste collection services

6.4

4,000 rehabilitates and maintains water assets for more than municipal and industrial customers

4,000

Largest plant in the U.S. to use DAF purification

Largest

the most comprehensive set of chemical and equipment solutions and services available

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2017 sustainability report