

# Mobile Water Solution Reduces Water Treatment Cost in Rural Queensland



## THE CHALLENGE

Situated in the State of Queensland, the Mount Isa Water Board (MIWB) is responsible for the supply of drinking water to the Mount Isa City Council for distribution to residents as well as providing a water source to industrial users. The Mount Isa City Council realized an increase in demand for clean, high-quality drinking water. In order to fulfill the requests of the City Council, the MIWB needed a treatment system that could increase the capacity, integrate into the pre-existing plant at the Terminal Reservoir as well as meet the stringent water quality standards.

## THE SOLUTION

The current system at the Mount Isa Terminal Reservoir has five Pall Aria™ FAST units that consist of low-pressure, membrane filtration technology. The Pall systems provide a barrier for removing suspended solids as well as bacteria and blue-green algae (BGA) and meet the water quality standards.

In the beginning, Pall had two Aria FAST units on site, with a requirement for further capacity. This led to the installation of three additional units, giving rise to a total capacity of 25 million litres per day (25 MLD) of treated water. Each Aria FAST unit consists of two low-pressure membrane trains, consisting of 30 modules. The inclusion of clean in place (CIP) equipment, backwash systems and compressed air units make the Aria FAST system a stand-alone water treatment plant.

During the development phase, conventional water treatment methods were evaluated, however, the Aria FAST mobile membrane solution was less than a third of that associated with a conventional treatment plant. The

“ The new plant not only delivers the highest assured quality of water ever supplied to Mount Isa, but achieves this at a fraction of the cost of the conventional plant which would have been the recommended solution only a few years ago. We were glad to celebrate this achievement with the community.”

**Stephen Farrelly, Mount Isa Water Board Chief Executive**

by-product wastewater generated from the membrane cleaning is supplied to nearby mining companies as recycled water for reuse.

## THE RESULTS

The installation of five Aria FAST mobile water treatment plants proved extremely cost effective. In addition, Pall's rapid response time, including installation, allowed the client to be at maximum production in a minimal timeframe, ensuring the local community had access to clean and safe drinking water during their high demand summer period. Furthermore, infrastructural costs were limited, achieving an additional savings of \$4 million dollars.

## THE BENEFITS

Further benefits that were realized from the mobile membrane asset include:

- Low cost water treatment compared to conventional plant
- Fast installation and operational start-up
- 25% increase in water treatment capacity
- Production of high-quality water



# aria<sup>fast</sup>

Aria FAST mobile water treatment solutions provide water on demand, when and where you need it most.

- Rapid deployment
- Easy installation
- Robust design
- Temporary or long-term solutions



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