

AGD & LARGE MULTI-STATE UTILITY

Delivering faster, more confident leak detection with Project Canary

AT A GLANCE

PARTNER:



AGD inc.
Pipeline Inspection

TECHNOLOGY:



OUTCOME:

- ✓ Leak detection find rate increased from 47% to >75% in 6mo.
- ✓ Reduced Investigation Time
- ✓ Reduced Manual Labor/Safety Risk
- ✓ Streamlined Data & Reporting

THE CHALLENGE

AGD provides critical leak detection and survey services to utilities across the country, including a Large Multi-State Utility with 60K+ miles of distribution main. In their work supporting this utility, AGD faced a common industry hurdle: traditional investigation tools struggled finding leaks in dense, high-pavement areas like business districts, where leaks were hard to pinpoint and confidence in results was low.

Handheld equipment couldn't meet the precision of Advanced Mobile Leak Detection (AMLD) surveys, often missing leaks entirely or requiring exhausting manual probing with little direction. This slowed down operations, increased safety risks, and left AGD pursuing the tools to work efficiently and effectively.

THE SOLUTION: PICO + RECON AMLD + SENSE UTILITIES

AGD first turned to the industry's most advanced and sensitive handheld device — the Canary PICO. With unmatched sensitivity, pump-enabled performance, and the ability to differentiate between naturally occurring methane and true leaks, PICO quickly proved to be a game-changer for investigating AMLD leak indications.

Building on that success, AGD opened the door to broader deployment — partnering with us to operationalize the solution and help bring it to a Large Multi-State Utility. They integrated Project Canary's RECON AMLD for mobile surveys and began leveraging the SENSE Utilities software platform to unify data, visualize insights, and support faster, more informed decision-making. Together, these tools formed a holistic system that dramatically improved efficiency, accuracy, and confidence — all while supporting the major Midwest utility's high standards for safety and emissions reduction.

TECHNOLOGY DEEP DIVE: WHAT MAKES CANARY DIFFERENT



Elite Sensitivity

PICO offers 1,000x more sensitivity than standard tools, detecting leaks at levels as low as a few tenths of a ppm.



Ethane Discrimination

Canary PICO distinguishes between naturally occurring methane and true pipeline leaks, saving time and eliminating false positives.



Integrated Platform

Canary connects handheld and mobile data in a single system — streamlining field operations and simplifying reporting.



Field-Tested and Utility-Approved

AGD and the Large Multi-State Utility rigorously tested the technology, and Canary PICO was approved for investigations—a critical milestone in utility operations.



Pump-Enabled Power

The integrated pump draws air from cracks in concrete and other tough surfaces, allowing detection where other devices fall short.



Continuous Improvement

Canary's customer-focused approach means field feedback drives ongoing enhancements across both hardware and software.



Actionable Insights at Your Fingertips

Project Canary's SENSE Utilities Platform transforms data into clear, actionable insights with visualizations, automated reporting, and site-level traceability, enabling faster decision-making across teams.

This combination of **elite measurement, software-powered operational efficiency, and true integration** gives utilities and service providers an edge in leak detection and emissions reduction.

The Results

The impact was immediate. AGD saw their leak detection find rate climb from 47% to >75% in under six months, especially in challenging urban environments. Operations became safer, faster, and more reliable — with all leak data seamlessly captured, analyzed, and audited through the Canary software platform. Teams could instantly visualize survey paths, track measurements, and generate reports without manual stitching or guesswork. Most importantly, they reduced risk in the particularly high-risk, dense business districts, with leak investigation time decreased by 50%.

Beyond improved performance in the field, the true value came from bringing everything together. The PICO handheld, RECON AMLD mobile surveys, and SENSE Utilities platform form a single, fully integrated system—eliminating the headaches of disconnected tools, guesswork, and manual data management. The team now completes surveys with greater confidence, consolidates all leak detection data in one place, and simplifies reporting and regulatory compliance.

“The relationship with the team has been awesome. This was a life-changing thing on a day-to-day basis. Investigations are stressful—you need equipment that gives you confidence.”

— GARRETT HEINTZ
OPERATIONS MANAGER, AGD

Leading the Industry, Together

With the PICO, AMLD, and SENSE Utilities platform in place, Project Canary is helping utilities stay at the forefront of leak detection technology. Their story is proof that combining elite measurement tools with a truly integrated platform delivers operational, environmental, and safety benefits that scale.

