NSF Partners with BlueConduit to Accelerate Lead Service Line Replacement with Advanced Predictive Modeling

Through this partnership, NSF now offers lead service line identification and replacement planning solutions for US water utilities.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., UNITED STATES, June 12, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- NSF, a global leader in water safety and quality, is excited to announce its partnership with BlueConduit, a pioneer in predictive modeling for lead service lines (LSL). The partnership will enable NSF to offer BlueConduit's LSL solutions directly, and better reach water utilities with this technology to help remove LSLs across the United States faster and more efficiently.

This strategic partnership leverages NSF's public health platform and establishment in the water industry with NSF-certified products present in most water distribution networks. NSF also has collaborated with national water authorities, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the American Water Works Association (AWWA), and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) to develop and maintain NSF/ANSI/CAN 61: Drinking Water System Components – Health Effects. This standard has essentially eliminated lead from new and certified plumbing and water distribution products.

This partnership comes in response to the revised Lead and Copper Rule (LCRR), which mandates that all water utilities must provide an initial inventory of their LSLs as a step to help eliminate the estimated 9.2 million LSLs in the next decade. Non-compliance will subject utilities to federal enforcement actions. Beyond this immediate requirement, water utilities are responsible for guaranteeing the quality of the water they supply. Violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act, whether for lead or other contaminants, can result in fines, enforcement actions, and even criminal charges based on the severity of the infraction.

"NSF's and BlueConduit's partnership perfectly aligns with NSF's mission of improving human and planet health and continues our efforts to remove lead from drinking water," said NSF's Vice President, Dave Purkiss. "Through utilizing this technology, LSLs are more quickly and efficiently located and replaced, reducing lead exposure to the public. Additionally, water utilities can reduce costs involved with the current untimely and invasive methods for evaluating and replacing LSLs."

BlueConduit's innovative predictive modeling solution allows water utilities to identify LSLs

efficiently, create detailed replacement plans, and report their progress comprehensively. Key features of this service include:

Tailored, Local Models: Based on unique community analysis, lead/GRR likelihood predictive models are built to ensure the highest accuracy predictions without bias.

Efficient Classification of Unknowns: BlueConduit LSL Predictions customers spend 90-95% less on service line material identification and complete service line material identification in two to three months, compared to three to 10+ years for physical verification.

Simple, Clear Written Reports: These reports support full transparency, understanding, and ease of communication and compliance for water systems, regardless of their grounding in data science analytics.

Delivered Right into Esri: The solution is seamlessly integrated into Esri ArcGIS, a system many water utilities use to monitor outages, water loss, and more. This enables customers to use predictive data alongside other relevant municipal data sets and to take advantage of Esri functionality for Service Line Inventory.

“This partnership allows us to better help water systems utilize predictive modeling to manage LCRR/LCRI requirements, allowing them to compile and maintain inventories and replacement plans as simply, transparently, and efficiently as possible,” states Lorne Groe, CEO, BlueConduit. “By increasing efficiencies, water systems can focus on the work that matters – getting the lead out of the ground and ensuring safe, reliable, and affordable water for the communities they serve.”

To learn more about NSF and BlueConduit, please visit nsf.org.

For media inquiries, please contact Kara Nicolaides at media@nsf.org.

About NSF
NSF is an independent, global services organization dedicated to improving human and planet health. For 80 years, it has developed public health standards and provided world-class testing, inspection, certification, consulting and digital solutions to the food, water, health sciences and consumer goods industries. NSF operates in 180 countries and is a Pan American Health Organization and a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre on Food Safety, Water Quality and Medical Device Safety.

NSF provides risk assessments, testing, inspection, and certification services for the water industry from source to tap. NSF facilitated the development of the American National Standards for all materials and products that treat or come in contact with drinking water to help protect public health and the environment and minimize adverse health effects. In 1990, the U.S. EPA replaced its own drinking water product advisory program with these NSF standards.

About BlueConduit
BlueConduit is the leading water analytics and technology company pioneering the use of predictive modeling for water system decision making and planning. Utilities, municipalities, government agencies, and engineering firms lean on BlueConduit's tools and technology to efficiently manage service line material inventories, lead line replacement, and water main condition assessment. Utilizing advanced AI and machine learning algorithms, paired with an expert team and rigorous process, BlueConduit's approach empowers communities to make more efficient, equitable and sustainable decisions about their water systems.

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