

CASE STUDY

# Connecticut Quarry Trusts AlarmAgent to Monitor State Mandated Parameters

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# Connecticut Quarry Puts Their Trust in RACO AlarmAgent to Monitor State Mandated Parameters

## Same Quarry, New Parameters

Tilcon, an industry-leading supplier of aggregates, asphalt, construction, and paving services, faced new mandates from the state of Connecticut to monitor and record water temperature and lake level at two of its primary quarries. Tilcon's Environmental Manager, Chris Costello, approached JWB Company needing a simple and reliable solution.

"Discharge limits were manually logged and placed into a spreadsheet, which was time-consuming and prone to operator error," Costello explains. "If we exceed the mandated parameters, we have to report it to the State DEP and have irrefutable documentation. We can be fined without it. So, we needed a system to automatically log the data, provide alarm capability, and be wireless since there are no phone lines at these remote locations."

## Keeping it Simple

This was the latest of many monitoring challenges that Tilcon has depended on JWB Company's knowledge to successfully solve over the last decade. JWB's James Birkenberger, who has many years of instrumentation, controls, and remote monitoring experience, immediately thought of RACO's AlarmAgent.

"Tilcon was looking for something turn-key that could be quickly implemented, without much programming," says Birkenberger.

The RACO AlarmAgent was deployed at both quarries swiftly and economically. JWB's panel shop fabricated rugged NEMA 4X enclosures that included local process displays mounted and wired by Tilcon's staff with minimal supervision.

## Discovering New Applications

JWB configured Tilcon's AlarmAgents to monitor quarry temperature and water level, log the data into easy-to-configure reports, and provide text messaging alarms if a parameter goes outside the mandated levels.

The text messages notify staff of any violation risks so that they know when to start the resolution process. RACO's web-based dashboard provides easy access to the data and alarms from any PC or smartphone.

Tilcon has installed a high gain remote mounted antenna for the best cell reception possible.



JWB helped Tilcon supply a custom panel for their application.

The initial AlarmAgent installations were so helpful that Tilcon expanded its application. In addition to monitoring the water temperature and lake levels, one of the quarries now relies on AlarmAgent to monitor their phosphorus discharge levels. When phosphorus exceeds discharge limits, Tilcon's staff depends on AlarmAgent to quickly shut discharge valves and recirculate effluent back into the quarry, avoiding violations and fines.

"We've put our trust in the RACO AlarmAgent to be our site monitor 24/7 without the stress and anxiety of a complicated and expensive SCADA system," says Costello. "Hat's off to JWB for helping us find the most economical, automatic, and reliable solution that requires no maintenance or fuss. It works tirelessly and efficiently without intervention from staff or myself."