

# ◀ ENVIRONMENTAL BEST PRACTICE INFORMATION ▶



## WATER SAVING – ROAD SWEEPER

The Docklands Transfer Site (DTS) operates as transfer facility for excavation waste from other Crossrail contracts. As part of the dust management and surface cleaning regime, the DTS has a fulltime road sweeper. Wet sweeping is used in both wet and dry conditions with wet sweeping being particularly effect at controlling dust during dry weather conditions.

Wet sweeping obviously requires a source of water. Some water is lost during sweeping as the surface is wetted but some water is recovered into the sweeper by the vacuum system. Normally the debris (mud/dust at DTS) and water collected are discarded.

The DTS site team indentified due to the closed drainage system and lagoon already implemented at the DTS, that there was an opportunity to recover water from the Sweeper by building a catchpit. The DTS sweeper now discharges into the catchpit which allows the mud to settle out whilst the water discharges to the main DTS lagoon via a silt trap and a Class 1 bypass separator. Water in the lagoon is used for the wheel wash and dust suppression rain guns.

**Photo 1** shows sweeper about to discharge into the catchpit:



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**Photo 2** shows the catchpit in use – elbow on outlet/antisiphon makes sure any floating debris is not discharged:



The site team estimates that the system allows them to recover up to a 1/4 of the water used to fill the sweeper water tank which equates to c.200litres of water recovered per catchpit discharge.

## **Summary**

The DTS sweeper catchpit is an excellent example of DTS site team identifying a simple opportunity to make further use existing infrastructure to save resources and demonstrates the support of the management team to implement.