

Hosted Data Services Improve Gas Utility Operations

Case Study

“With Honeywell’s hosted TDS solution, we have improved our remote data collection capabilities while minimizing software support and maintenance requirements, and reducing day-to-day operating and maintenance expenditure.”

- Fred Maly, Spire Inc., USA

Background

As a supplier of mission critical infrastructure service, utility companies must constantly deliver the highest level of service and safety to their customers and the general public.

Many utilities are seeking to engage and secure a partner to provide them with services in data collection and delivery. The goal is to simplify, automate, and have near real-time access to remote field collected data. They need a solution that will enable them to be advanced in the process of data collection and subsequent dissemination.

Challenge

Natural gas utilities require a reliable, easily accessible software solution to collect data remotely from gas volume correctors and electronic recorders, and obtain correct gas usage consumption readings. They must also make alarms and real-time event notifications readily available to field technicians.

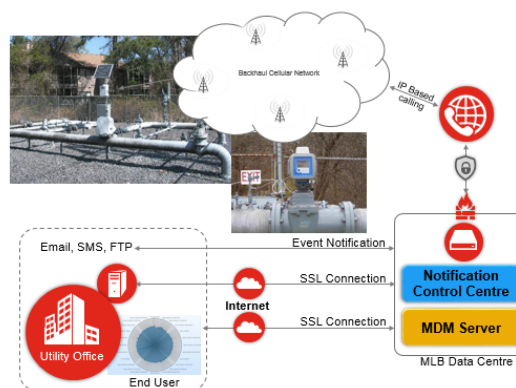
Solution

Spire Inc., a natural gas utility in St. Louis, MO, shifted away from an in-house data collection and delivery model to Honeywell’s Total Data

Services (TDS) – a hosted, subscription-based Data Collection and Delivery Service (DCDS) solution. TDS provides all the basic data acquisition system necessities, 24x7x365 access to accurate energy consumption and pressure information, the latest communications technologies, and timely notifications of field events.

Honeywell’s services deliver near real-time reporting of interval meter data and exceptions with 24/7 access to data. Users can achieve improved energy portfolio management and more accurate nominations for marketers, utility and traders.

Now, more than ever, utilities require accurate and timely energy consumption information. In addition, they need to develop more effective energy curtailment strategies.



The TDS delivers critical gas metering data and optionally

About Honeywell's Total Data Services

Honeywell's Total Data Services (TDS) integrates Honeywell's meter data management and smart metering technologies into a state-of-the-art Internet-based e-business and energy management platform.

TDS delivers interval meter data (load profile) and optionally device alarms and gas system pressure data, directly to the user's desktop through a secure, customizable web portal.

alarms and gas system pressure data directly to mobile devices through a secure, user-friendly web portal

Key to the hosted data services solution is the ability to provide accurate and timely data for billing purposes, as well as support for regulatory compliance (especially gas transportation accounts)

With TDS, operations personnel can receive hourly, daily or monthly usage reports and compare them against previous periods. The services support demand side management and energy conservation initiatives. They enable utilities to identify abnormal energy usage to improve operating efficiencies and reduce operating costs. Moreover, they can enhance "cost-based accounting" allocation procedures by more accurately pricing products or services based on actual energy consumption.

Benefits

Honeywell's hosted data services model allows Spire personnel to focus on their core business rather than information technology (IT) infrastructure.

By employing TDS instead of a traditional client/server software installation, Spire is able to reduce IT labor costs, minimize infrastructure investments and take advantage of a scalable licensing model.

For More Information

Learn more about how Honeywell's Smart Gas Metering Solutions can improve gas operations, visit www.honeywellprocess.com or contact your Honeywell Account Manager.

Honeywell Process Solutions

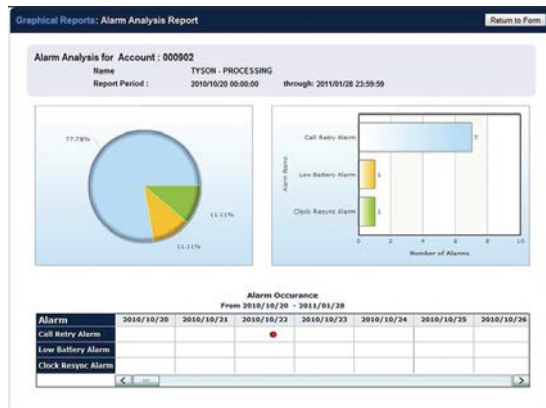
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SS-17-03-ENG
February 2017
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TDS supports standard smart metering alarms and system pressure monitoring.

In a hosted DCDS solution, the job of deploying the system and keeping it running from day to day is all handled by the DCDS provider. A hosted DCDS solution more efficiently collects, safeguards, and distributes data. With Honeywell's approach, users benefit from a full Tier 3 data center with redundant power generation systems and climate control capabilities, and 99% uptime from an OC12 SONET (Synchronous Optical Network) network backbone.

Spire can also leverage established gas process methodologies and optimizations – Honeywell has extensive experience in the gas industry and understands its operating and business requirements.