



Ensuring Gas Service Regulatory Compliance for a North American Gas Utility



AT A GLANCE

CLIENT CHALLENGES

- 1.7 million legacy paper cards needed to be digitized into a GIS
- Demand for more accurate data due to new regulatory and safety requirements
- Outage response improvements required

CLIENT BENEFITS

- Providing more accurate reporting on gas assets
- Improving safety conditions for field personnel in maintaining and locating active and abandoned gas assets

Business Need

Historically, for natural gas utilities, residential and commercial service information was captured on paper service cards. As technology progressed, these cards were scanned, and the digital images were made available to users in the office and field. This digital representation of both active and abandoned services includes an image representing the location, trench route, and pertinent attribution about the assets. This information is used by many business processes that need an understanding of what and where these services assets are located. These business processes include:

- Field operations emergency and maintenance activities
- Damage prevention activities
- System integrity inspections and risk assessments

New regulatory and safety requirements demand a higher level of gas service asset management to increase public and employee safety and enhance outage response.

RAMTeCH Solution

To satisfy these requirements, the service card information is being captured and digitized into our client's GIS. RAMTeCH is developing complex specification documents that outline the conversion process from graphic images to features and data fields in the GIS.

In parallel with the data conversion, RAMTeCH is implementing ArcGIS Desktop editing tools to streamline the data editing workflows and enforce data integrity. One-way integration is also being developed to provide updates to other legacy systems as gas services are created, updated, and abandoned in the GIS. This allows users of all systems to see the same information about the gas service assets.

Results

RAMTeCH is converting all 1.7 million gas commercial and residential service cards into a GIS enhancing the ability to access and manage the gas network from the main to the meter.