



Gas Leak Survey and Reporting Mobile Solution for Peoples Gas



AT A GLANCE

CLIENT CHALLENGES

- Field data must be captured digitally
- Due to difficult network communication conditions, work must be completely done offline
- Solution framework needs to be easy to use by a non-GIS workforce
- An automated application update process is required

CLIENT BENEFITS

- The mobile application has been extended for use in other business units due to the initial deployment success
- Ability to maintain and extend the application with their own internal resources from the implementation and knowledge transfer of the application by RAMTeCH

Business Need

Natural gas companies are continually working to meet regulatory compliance requirements and improve reliability and safety for customers and employees. In Peoples Gas's case, a method to digitally collect field data was required to deploy across a workforce of nearly 700 users in order to collect leaks and leak survey data. The primary requirements needed for the solution, include, but are not limited to:

- A bidirectional sync of data without user involvement
- An enforced leak placement workflow
- Standard GIS functionalities (identify, query, etc.) performed
- A modern user interface
- Deployment on existing Windows laptops

RAMTeCH Solution

To satisfy all our client's requirements, RAMTeCH developed a custom application framework. This framework provides a way to implement tools to collect different types of data and support specific field data collection workflows. It also provides a way to add tools to the main application as separate components that are exposed in the application based on configurations and the user's active directory roles. This provides an easy way to plan appropriate functionality for specific user roles.

The data collection tools are all configuration driven. A gas leak survey application, based on the framework, was deployed to field users to collect several different types of gas leak compliance data. Once the data is transferred to the enterprise servers, it is leveraged for reporting and used to make decisions with downstream work planning and asset integrity systems.

Results

The mobile solution framework includes the ability to implement advanced logic into data collection forms based on administrator configuration and to develop highly customized tools for more complex workflows.

The capture of asset field conditions and the ability to perform analysis and generate reports on this information has enabled improved management of field assets and customer reliability and safety.