

Streamlining a Major North American Electric Utility's Move to the Esri ArcGIS Utility Network



AT A GLANCE

CLIENT CHALLENGES

- Moving from a non-Esri environment, GE Smallworld, to the future state Esri platform with the UN data models and tools
- A common data model was needed across all utility subsidiaries
- Data had to be accurate and aligned with Esri's UN environment

CLIENT BENEFITS

- Leveraging RAMTeCH's automated data quality software tool, **gReady™**, all data errors were identified and validated prior to the migration for a smoother transition
- The new GIS is now managed on a common Esri UN platform and consolidated data model
- A more flexible data model to rapidly adapt to changing business needs and workflows

Business Need

A major North American gas and electric utility holding company, serving 3.6 million customers via subsidiaries located across three states, realigned its focus to the US energy delivery market to help drive sustainable growth and support its clean energy transition. This strategy resulted in the acquisition of a new subsidiary that required GIS alignment with the rest of the enterprise. With the goal of transitioning all subsidiaries to the Esri Utility Network (UN) from multiple legacy GIS environments, including GE Smallworld, this project involves multiple, phased data assessment, remediation, and migration efforts to a new enterprise Esri UN GIS environment.

RAMTeCH Solution

RAMTeCH partnered with the leading systems integrator, Cognizant, to support a seamless transition from several legacy GIS environments, including GE Smallworld, to a new enterprise Esri UN platform for all electric and gas networks. This effort leverages a turnkey solution featuring data quality assessment, UN model development, data remediation, and migration to ensure a successful enterprise UN transition. As the data migration partner, RAMTeCH works closely with Cognizant to determine improvements needed to support the gas and electric utility's GIS future state operations.

For starters, data assessments are conducted utilizing RAMTeCH's intellectual property (IP)-driven solution, **gReady™**, to quantify and prioritize data issues impacting the migration. Based on these results, a recommended remediation plan is created encompassing GIS data quality and structural content improvements, process recommendations, remediation actions, implementation options, and cost considerations. These recommendations are then prioritized and categorized based on how critical each one is to enabling UN functionality at each subsidiary.

Once all critical data issues are addressed, RAMTeCH executes its proven end-to-end UN data migration process and toolset, **uNet™**, to migrate electric transmission and distribution, electric substation, and gas distribution data to a newly developed unified Esri UN data model. This structured, 'hybrid agile' approach is conducted in a four-phase process: Pilot, Mock 1, Mock 2, and Full Production enabling an effective and efficient transition with high-quality results.

Results

RAMTeCH has completed three out of five separate data migrations to date providing an end-to-end data assessment, remediation, and data migration solution to support transitions to an enterprise Esri UN GIS. A comprehensive network view, ongoing data integrity, and the ability to eliminate data errors are now all provided from within the new consolidated GIS environment resulting in improved operations and reduction in overall costs.