



More Insight into Assets Gives This Utility Company More Energy



One of the largest energy companies in the United States manages a significant amount of its asset data using IBM Maximo®. And, like many companies, this utility company strives to get the most out of their assets for the least amount of money. However, after utilizing Maximo® for almost a decade, they needed a tool that would provide additional insight into their assets, particularly the data necessary to make informed decisions regarding their asset life cycles.

REQUIREMENTS

The company required a highly configurable, mobile system for IBM Maximo®. The system also needed to meet the following requirements:

- Be rapid to implement throughout the enterprise
- Capture key asset details and work performed, so that the company could easily improve compliance and meet regulatory requirements
- Enable field personnel to complete tasks correctly, with accurate data collection, so that asset and financial managers can make key decisions to improve reliability while reducing costs
- Be a mobile system that could be utilized on numerous device types as well as on desktops, so that field personnel, EAM administrators, and managers could use it wherever they do their job



SOLUTION

The company employed an adaptive mobile solution in 2007: **DataSplice Field Inspections**. After an implementation period of less than six months, this utility realized several benefits.

BENEFIT HIGHLIGHTS

Compliance improved. The company imported and converted their existing inspection job plans into the DataSplice Field Inspections solution. Inspections for compliance items such as Battery Inspections, Fire Extinguishers, Emergency Lighting, Stray Voltage Inspections, and Smoke Alarms were completed faster and more accurately.

As the utilization of the initial system increased, the utility added more capabilities to the system. These included:

- **Gas Calls:** When a (SF₆) Gas Call is created, DataSplice Field Inspections tracks the location, equipment, SF₆ cylinders and the amount of gas added.
- **Pump House Readings:** DataSplice Field Inspections enables the user to enter pump house tank level readings and compare them to prior readings. Managers can compare the readings to ensure there are no oil losses or leaks.
- **Drum Logs:** DataSplice Field Inspections enables the users to enter the type of waste (Hazardous or Non-Hazardous) and the amount of waste, then it generates a tracking number that is affixed to the container. Now managers know when, where, and how waste was removed.



“DATASPLICE HAS BEEN ONE OF OUR FOUNDATIONAL ASSET MANAGEMENT TOOLS FOR NEARLY A DECADE.”

Field personnel are enabled to do their jobs. The application works on several mobile devices, including iOS, Android, Microsoft® Windows, and Windows Mobile. All devices can be used when connected or disconnected from the network. DataSplice Field Inspections helps field personnel do their job with high accuracy because it guides them through a series of applicable questions, as if navigating a flow chart. DataSplice Field Inspections' applicable-question-capability saves field personnel time and supports them to do their job right; they do not have to guess what needs to be done next, to remember all of the compliance rules, or to transcribe detailed field notes to a separate application. With this approach, they never see an irrelevant question. DataSplice Field Inspections integrates with Maximo through the Maximo Business Objects.

EAM administrators and managers are better equipped to make timely, effective decisions to reduce costs and outages. The data they collect today, using this application, is more reliable than data collected previously. In the past, paper and filing cabinets stored asset history. With no comprehensive view of their assets, managers could not make timely, effective decisions concerning their assets or be assured that regulatory requirements were being met.



The Result: Information is key for this organization. This dynamic and adaptive solution supports their evolving asset management and keeps them competitive as one of the world's largest energy delivery systems.

Today, this company captures the details of an asset's health electronically with the data seamlessly captured in Maximo®. They now have important, complete documentation of compliance items, details of work performed in the field, and improved accuracy of their asset records. Their field personnel are enabled to gather data with greater accuracy and the highly reliable data supports decision-making at all levels of the enterprise. The data also allows for better trending and prediction of asset behavior, which in turn reduces unplanned outages and emergency maintenance. This utility company realized numerous additional benefits using DataSplice's Field Inspections and has more plans to meet their customers' needs and to improve the excellence of their asset management program.

Project Specifications:

- Use case type: Inspections
- Departments: Substation Operations, Transmission Line Maintenance, Steam Generation, and Construction
- Systems integrated: Maximo, Esri GIS, and Custom Databases
- Mobile software configuration type: Inspections
- Device hardware deployed: Motion Computing Windows Tablets, Motorola Handhelds, Windows Laptops
- Implementation team: DataSplice Professional Services
- Deployment type: On-premise

Contact DataSplice today to learn more about how Field Inspections has helped this energy company and how it can help you, too.

About DataSplice:

Founded in 2001, DataSplice provides inspection and mobile systems with online and offline connectivity for IBM Maximo and other enterprise asset management products. Providing support for multiple operating systems and devices, the DataSplice suite may be configured from a single point of administration. Primary clients include utilities, oil and gas, defense and government entities, and manufacturers around the world.

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