Why Gas Tracking System?

A Fully Integrated Solution for the Gas Delivery Industry

RETAIL ACCESS/CUSTOMER CHOICE was introduced to increase competition in the energy marketplace by encouraging more choices and competitive pricing for the supply of natural gas and electricity. Consumers can now shop for their energy supply from a variety of non-utility providers. However, gas utilities are still responsible for delivering gas to consumers through their local transportation and distribution services. This new way of servicing customers has forced utilities to alter their natural gas business practices on many levels.

The Gas Tracking System is designed to be the central information repository for utilities to manage their natural gas Retail Access/Customer Choice programs. Gas Tracking System is customized under a single application to meet specific needs of each operating company while sharing the same core system and common functionality needed by all operating companies. Gas Tracking System offers a "one-login/manage many" model that allows Administrators access to one system while supporting numerous operating companies. Retail Access/Customer Choice systems cannot be "one size fits all" because each utility's regulatory requirements are different and require a custom design. Gas Tracking System allows for a custom design for each operating company while maintaining a common base for ease of operation, support and enhancements.

Gas Tracking System provides utilities an interactive system that allows gas marketers, utilities, pipelines and customers to communicate and manage daily operations via one system. Flexible enough to change and meet the various state and utility requirements, Gas Tracking System can be customized to meet your exact regulatory requirements. Gas Tracking System provides a solution that can coexist with your existing Customer Information, Billing, Metering and Data Management Systems. Once defined, Gas Tracking System can interface with an LDC's internal data management systems to provide and retrieve the critical information required by Customer Choice programs. Natural gas marketers, utility business partners and customers can access Gas Tracking System to manage their portfolio on a daily basis and to retrieve up to date information regarding their delivery requirements, billing information and customer information.

> Gas Tracking System is the most cost effective Electronic Bulletin Board (EBB) suite providing a Retail Access/Customer Choice management solution for the Natural Gas industry.

Gas Tracking System is an on-line, web-based system developed by Convergence Solutions specifically to assist Natural Gas Utilities with the administration of their Natural Gas Retail Access and Customer Choice programs.

Gas Tracking System provides a 24/7 portal for your management, staff, business partners and customers to access the information needed hourly, daily and monthly to effectively manage and monitor your Retail Access and Customer Choice programs.

Gas Tracking System is designed with an open development architecture that allows for complete customization, support and management—a necessity when dealing with the constantly evolving world of Retail Access and Customer Choice programs.

Gas Tracking System provides the most complete set of tools required to manage your Natural Gas Retail Access and Customer Choice programs for both residential and commercial customers. Gas Tracking System offers multiple types of natural gas nominations and nomination confirmation features, load profiling/delivery requirements, hourly and daily consumption, rates, imbalance trading, settlement and reconciliation calculations—plus a host of other functionality required for program operations. Through customization, information from both internal and external systems is integrated into a seamless data flow where it is then coordinated and managed through the Gas Tracking System. Automated system emails and text messaging features update users about activities in the Gas Tracking System such as IntraDay nominations or Customer consumption exceeding peak volumes. Gas Tracking System is a comprehensive system for managing the hourly, daily and monthly operations of your Natural Gas Retail Access and Customer Choice programs.

FEATURES

- » Secure Electronic Bulletin Board (EBB) web application
- » Repository for Customer/Pool, consumption, delivery requirements and nominations
- » Calculates and stores delivery requirements , daily/monthly imbalances, trades, and settlements
- » Stores rates, metered use and weather data
- » Calculates Pipeline Capacity Releases
- » Provides Billing Services
- » Communicates up-to-date required information to LDC personnel, Marketers and Customers 24/7
- » Supports GISB nomination timeline
- » Interfaces with
  - • CIS and Billing systems
  - • Metering systems such as Metretek, MV90 & M2M
  - • SCADA
  - • Weather data providers
  - • Internal/External Rates providers such as Platts
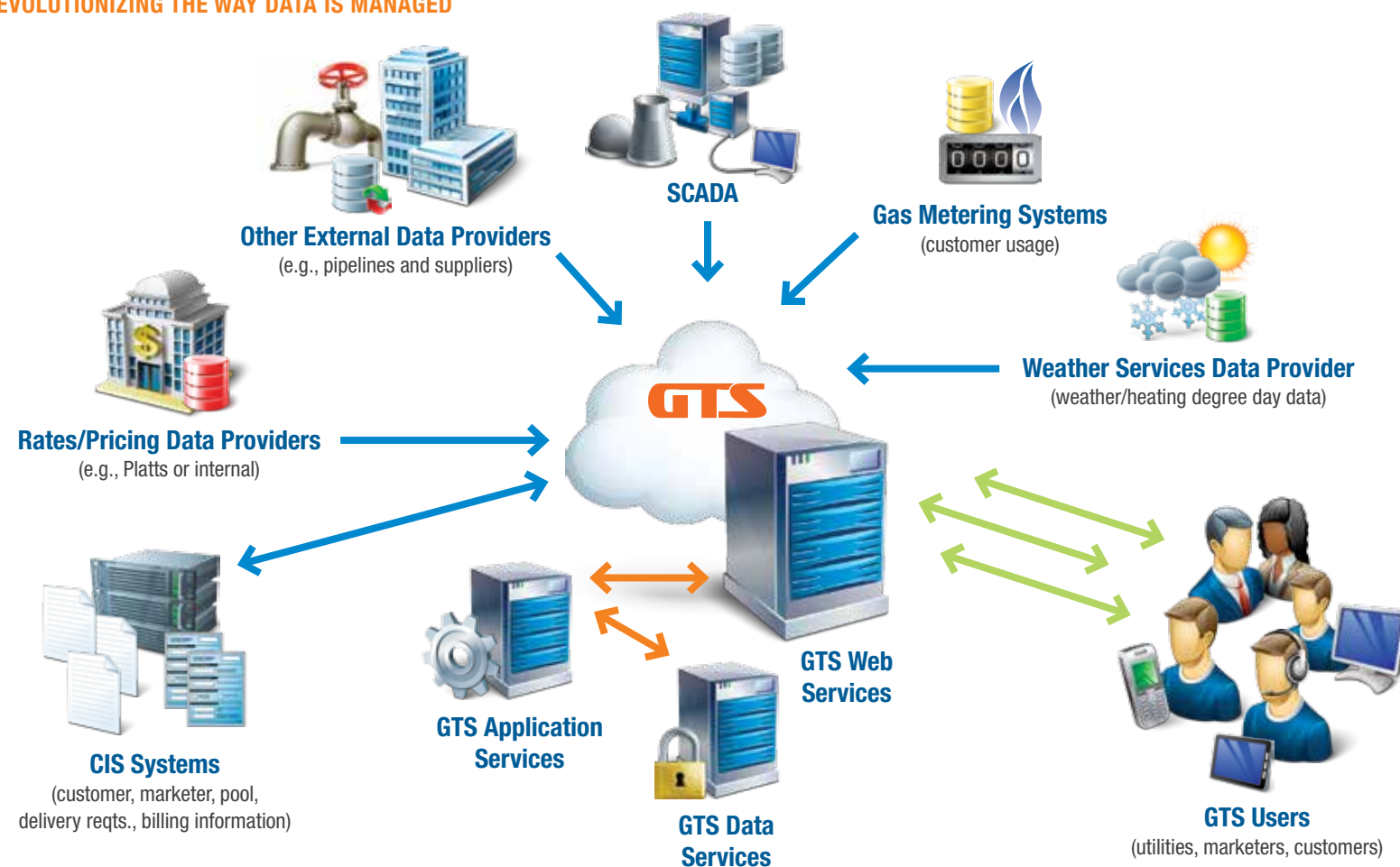- » Hosted (SaaS) and On-Premise versions

BENEFITS

- » Web-based 24/7 access
- » Interactive with LDC systems and external data providers
- » Communicate information to Gas Marketers 24/7
- » GISB nomination timeline compliant
- » Extensive report generation
- » Easy technical support and maintenance
- » Flexible integration and customization to meet changing business requirements

COMPONENTS

- » On-line Daily and Intraday nominations
- » Nomination Confirmation
- » Delivery Requirements/Forecasting management
- » Customer/Pool contract management
- » Capacity Release Management
- » Daily/Hourly Metered Usage repository
- » Rates repository
- » Balancing and Settlement
- » Upstream contract management
- » Shipper management
- » Imbalance Trading
- » Message board, alerts and messaging
- » Marketer and LDC contact management
- » Marketer Risk Analysis
- » Billing and ESCO Monthly Invoices
- » Customer Usage Analysis
- » Pipeline BTU management/reporting
- » Document and information postings

GAS TRACKING SYSTEM REVOLUTIONIZING THE WAY DATA IS MANAGED

Other External Data Providers
(e.g., pipelines and suppliers)

SCADA

Gas Metering Systems
(customer usage)

Weather Services Data Provider
(weather/heating degree day data)

Rates/Pricing Data Providers
(e.g., Platts or internal)

GTS

GTS Web Services

GTS Application Services

GTS Data Services

CIS Systems
(customer, marketer, pool, delivery reqts., billing information)

GTS Users
(utilities, marketers, customers)

Why Convergence Solutions?

CONVERGENCE SOLUTIONS LLC provides software and information technology consulting to assist our clients in utilizing the technology of today, as well as the technology of the future. In the rapidly changing electronic world, Convergence Solutions can help your business get the most out of information technology.

Convergence Solutions works with our clients to provide customized business solutions including client/server and secured web-based information systems. We specialize in helping businesses manage critical information and communicate with their partners and customers.

Our Customer Choice Solution

A SUCCESSFUL SOFTWARE SYSTEM AND INTEGRATION demands a strong partnership with the business community and industry knowledge in addition to technical expertise. Convergence Solutions demonstrates its depth in all three of these areas with the release of the Gas Tracking System. Through our work with natural gas utilities, Convergence Solutions developed a natural gas Retail Access/Customer Choice management system that addresses the common underlying business needs and functional guidelines from the industry, but is flexible enough to meet the needs of individual companies. Convergence Solutions has a proven track record of developing quality software solutions in the Utility Industry for more a decade.

Gas Tracking System is the most cost effective Electronic Bulletin Board (EBB) suite providing a retail access/customer choice management solution for the Natural Gas industry. Because Gas Tracking System was developed by technical experts who have designed and integrated Retail Access/Customer Choice systems for more than 15 years and for multiple utilities, system customization is streamlined and the release of an operational production system is accomplished rapidly.

"It was a pleasure to work with Convergence on the upgrade of our GTS system. Their experience and knowledge of our Retail Access program, as well as other programs in New York State, allowed us to increase the functionality of the system without interfering in our day to day business needs. Over the years we have found that we can always count on Convergence to work with our group or our IT department to quickly resolve problems. We appreciate all they have done for us!"

DIANE SEITZ
Manager Energy Resources
Central Hudson Gas & Electric, A Fortis Company

Our Company

SINCE 1995, members of Convergence Solutions LLC have been designing, developing and supporting natural gas and electric information systems. In addition to the experience with utility information systems, our team has over 60 years of combined IT experience which includes project management, systems development and integration, natural gas business analysis and operations experience. Our business analysts have worked in natural gas operations and have vast experience working directly with Retail Access/Customer Choice programs since 1998.

We continue to work extensively with utilities to provide solutions that meet continuously changing business requirements. Convergence Solutions provides on-going support for the solutions we have developed and integrated over the past decade.

Our Services

GAS TRACKING SYSTEM HOSTED SOLUTIONS Software as a Service (SaaS) gives companies an alternative to the traditional in-house managed software model. Our GTS managed hosted solution makes GTS available from any computer or device— anytime, anywhere. We manage the IT infrastructure which means lower internal IT costs for our clients to maintain their infrastructures and the people needed to manage it all.

WEB SERVICES Web-based services are changing the face of business. Convergence Solutions has the tools and experience to help develop web-based solutions for your organization.

CLIENT/SERVER APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT Client/Server applications have always played a key role in the operation of businesses. Ability to input, process, store, and access data from anywhere, at any time, using any device is necessary for business today.

DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT Rapidly changing technology trends in hardware and software, and the emergence of new channels, e.g. the Internet, have resulted in a data explosion and a need for data management services.

SERVICES AVAILABLE
» GTS Hosted Solutions (SaaS) System Analysis and Design
» System Development
» System Integration
» Technical Support
» Installation and Setup
» Maintenance
» Application Support
» Web Services
» Client/Server Development
» Database Development/Management

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL US

315.635.1695 ext. 111 | dbridge@cvergellc.com

Convergence Solutions LLC
22 E. Genesee Street, Suite 200
Baldwinsville, New York 13027

GTS
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