

Maximizing the Value of the New GIS at Northeast Utilities

The Data Situation at Northeast Utilities

Northeast Utilities (NU) needed to improve the quality of its existing GIS data and integrate CIS data to get maximum value from the company's newly installed SmallWorld GIS system. NU was also struggling to standardize underground drawing symbology that was inconsistent from one part of its service area to the next. Consistent, accurate data was particularly important at NU because its GIS powers other systems, including the OMS. The utility needed a data strategy that would contribute to a successful launch of the new GIS while also extending the useful life of existing, legacy data.

Preserving NU's Data Investment

NU's legacy data was not accurate or complete enough to run the GIS and other systems effectively, yet the data represented a major investment that the utility wanted to preserve. Although this existing data was not as accurate or complete as it needed to be, Osmose data experts determined that it could be used as a foundation for moving forward.

The Osmose Data Strategy

Osmose devised a strategy to help Northeast get its infrastructure data into shape and to populate the GIS with high-quality information. First, Osmose data technicians integrated the CIS and legacy GIS data. This information was then used by Osmose field technicians, trained in NU's engineering and construction standards, to verify and update all of NU's data in the field. When the audit was complete, Osmose data technicians ran electrical and SmallWorld-specific validations on the updated data, which was then integrated with the underground data (compiled from 12,000 UG maps), whose symbology was now standardized for consistent use across the organization. The final data delivery was made to NU on time and within budget. All critical network data was verified to be more than 98 percent accurate. It now provides Northeast Utilities with an accurate, reliable model of its distribution network.

Osmose Solution Tools

- **Effective data strategy from the Osmose data experts**
- **FastGate® Suite of datadevelopment software for merging, validating, and delivery of high-quality data**
- **FastGate Mobile software for accurate collection and QA/QC of data in the field**
- **Additional professional data verification and cleanup processes**
- **Highly accurate results**



Osmose merged existing GIS and CIS data, updated the information in the field, then delivered the high-quality product to the new SmallWorld GIS.

Osmose: A Trusted Utility Solutions Provider

Osmose has provided inspection, maintenance, and restoration services to utility companies throughout the United States for more than 75 years. Osmose data solutions reflect tested and proven expertise, organization, training, management, and technology.