CGI and EPB
Delivering client-focused innovation to transform grid operations
Utilities are under unprecedented pressure from regulators to reduce costs and improve their performance while enhancing customer service. To meet these objectives, they’re investing in digital technologies to generate better insight from customer and operational data, achieve higher levels of automation, and improve customer relationships through better communication and more reliable services. Combined, all of these advantages lead to a more customer-centric approach to operations that drives customer and shareholder value.

Based in Chattanooga, Tennessee, EPB is one of America’s largest publicly owned electric power providers, serving 180,000 homes and businesses in the greater Chattanooga region, as well as parts of surrounding counties and areas of North Georgia. Operating with a decades-old electric power system, EPB had an aggressive corporate strategy to modernize its infrastructure and drive smart, connected, automated, and data-driven distribution management capabilities that would improve grid efficiencies and reliability. In addition, EPB wanted to transform its customer service culture from one focused on simply re-establishing services into one that re-establishes services while providing the customer with value-add information and support.

As part of this strategy, EPB, a CGI client since 2007, turned to CGI for digital solutions and system integration and maintenance services to help streamline its power grid operations, as well as implement innovative mobile workforce management capabilities across the organization.

EPB implemented CGI’s PragmaLINE solution, which enables intelligent automation and optimization of its electric outage restoration lifecycle, improving its workflows, decision-making and issue resolution. Through enhanced information flow and real-time updates, EPB is better able to manage and improve its response to outage and network issues.

EPB also implemented CGI’s PragmaCAD mobile workforce management solution, which has improved the overall performance of its workforce through automated allocation, scheduling, assignment, dispatch, and monitoring of field resources. The solution gives EPB the ability to “see” its field resources and their work in real time, enabling better workload management as each work day progresses. In addition, the solution has provided EPB field technicians with innovative mobile tools for increasing their productivity and improving service support for customers.

PragmaCAD was initially implemented to manage field activities for EPB’s electric power grid operations, but since then has been expanded to support field service delivery operations for EPB’s fiber optic subsidiary.

Both PragmaLINE and PragmaCAD have been fully integrated with EPB’s customer information, supervisory control and data acquisition, interactive voice response, and several other back-office systems to improve cross-functional workflows and deliver real-time information that optimizes EPB’s core business processes and overall operational performance. CGI also provides ongoing consulting and systems maintenance as EPB continues to pursue its digital transformation journey.
PragmaLINE and PragmaCAD have played a key role in EPB’s strategy to transform its legacy electric power system into an intelligent, integrated and automated smart grid. Since the implementation of both solutions, EPB has benefitted from the following gains:

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<td>Increased distribution system reliability:</td>
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<td>Higher customer satisfaction:</td>
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Higher customer satisfaction: J.D. Power, a leading global consumer and marketing research organization, announced that EPB received the highest overall scores from customers for midsized utilities in the southern U.S region on July 29, 2016

CGI continues to partner with EPB to drive its digitalization, performance and growth through the ongoing maintenance and evolution of PragmaLINE and PragmaCAD. As a result of solutions like CGI’s, EPB has been able to significantly reduce its overall operational costs to invest in change that is transforming its business model for the future and delivering higher customer satisfaction and engagement.
We turned to CGI for digital solutions and system integration and maintenance services to help streamline our power grid operations, as well as implement innovative mobile workforce management capabilities across the organization. CGI’s Pragma Outage and Workforce Management solutions have played a key role in our strategy to transform our legacy electric power system into an intelligent, integrated and automated smart grid. Both solutions have enabled us to drive operational excellence, while reducing costs and delivering a higher level of customer engagement and satisfaction.

David Thomas
Executive Corporate Technical Consultant, Strategic Systems
EPB of Chattanooga, Tennessee
EPB continues to drive operational excellence and exceed customer expectations through its ongoing investment in digital capabilities such as CGI’s Pragma solutions. Through careful planning, design, and a phased implementation approach, CGI ensured each step of the process was understood and adopted by EPB for a successful project and go-live.
CGI and EPB deliver client-focused innovation to transform grid operations.

Key EPB digital enablers

- Business process automation and digitalization
- Intelligent outage, network and storm management
- Enterprise workforce mobility
- Digital customer experience
- Superior business insight
Founded in 1976, CGI is one of the largest IT and business process services providers in the world, delivering high-quality business consulting, systems integration and managed services. With a deep commitment to providing innovative services and solutions, CGI has an industry-leading track record of delivering 95% of projects on time and within budget, aligning our teams with clients’ business strategies to achieve top-to-bottom line results.

We partner with utilities across the globe to provide the knowledge and expertise to enable automation of the industry’s best practices for enterprise asset and resource optimization.cgi.com/utilities

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