

Testimonial

“The conflation project allowed FortisBC to adopt a new land base, realign assets to the new land base and increase the accuracy and efficiency of One Call responses.”

-Piet Nooij
Production Process Manager -Business & IT Services
FortisBC

Background

FortisBC is the largest investor-owned distribution utility in Canada, serving over 2 million gas and electric customers in 130 communities and 150 Indian reservations across British Columbia. we-do-IT's adjust.IT software, along with a team of geospatial experts from across the globe, was selected by FortisBC for conflation (adjustment) of the network assets contained in their Smallworld GIS to a newly available open-source land base created by BC's Integrated Cadastral Information Society (ICIS).

The Challenge

With over 30,000 miles (48,000 KM) of pipeline, FortisBC was forecasting a significant increase in One Call (Dial Before You Dig) notices. The existing process was inefficient and the accuracy of asset information in the GIS was causing overnotification. FortisBC's business objective was to improve the efficiency of responses to One Call requests, in part through automation, but primarily through increased GIS accuracy.

Our Solution

FortisBC used the adjust.IT software/process to conflate (align) the gas network assets to the new ICIS land base. The process transpired in two logical steps. First, the shift required was determined by comparing the old and new land base. Second, the FortisBC service area was divided into similarly sized "chunks" for delivery. The entire process was completed without freezing the FortisBC GIS, which would upset their GIS department and over 300 users.

Benefits

- Increased One Call process efficiency
- Reduced mis-assigned notices
- Handled increased notice volume with no staff increase
- More accurate reporting to government and regulatory agencies
- Facilitate mobile GIS usage – GPS locations of underground assets
- GIS updates could continue while conflation was underway

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