Leading Natural Gas Corporation Optimizes Exploration and Production with Spatial Energy's Spatial on Demand

Leading Natural Gas Corporation

Industry:
Natural Gas

Spatial Energy Services:
Spatial on Demand
Energy Partner Program (EPP)

Challenges:

- Imagery acquired too late in the process
- Duplication of effort, orders and files
- Imagery held by individual departments
- Poor quality or insufficient coverage
- Costly incorrect orders for project and area needs

Solution:

- View imagery as a corporate asset
- Standardize on the Spatial on Demand platform for corporate wide access to image assets across departments and research groups.
- Participate in Energy Partner Program annual imagery subscription program for rapid access to global spatial imagery in targeted areas

Key Benefits:

- Higher quality data --- faster
- Eliminate incorrect and duplicate orders
- Leverage investment in imagery across the organization
- Ensure everyone is looking at the same and best possible data investments
- Meet corporate and stakeholder imagery needs

"We use Spatial Energy's Spatial on Demand platform to manage our image assets. As urgent imaging requests can

"Today, we are working in a much more collaborative environment. Spatial Energy's Spatial on Demand Platform and Energy Partner Program subscription service gives us a shared spatial imagery resource across multiple entities, which is critical when managing our exploration and operations for natural gas production."–Director – GIS Services

Managing the complex interdependencies of imagery demands for concurrent exploration and construction in four major shale fields are a challenge that excites many GIS management professionals. Yet nothing handled by the average GIS manager matches the complexities faced in its growth ramp from 2005-2008.

As a leading natural-gas producer in the United States, the company explores, develops, and produces, natural gas, natural gas liquids, and related products. With 100 operating rigs in four shale fields, the company—with an enterprise value of over $7 billion—is currently responsible for one in eight wells being drilled.

Bringing Order to Chaos

Beginning in the land department, the company had five staff members using imagery to supporting land lease research and negotiations. In 2005, when gas exploration efforts began to rise, a lack of centralized imagery management process resulted in imagery purchases and resulting costs to increased exponentially.

What was happening behind the scenes was that the land management team would buy imagery, then the geologist would purchase the very same imagery, and then other departments and individuals would follow suit. Without a strategic collection program, the users wasted valuable time and resources tracking down and ordering imagery for their critical decision-making. These duplicate orders and files also created storage and bandwidth access challenges for the IT department infrastructure.

Imagery as a Corporate Asset

With the increasing demands of the business and millions of dollars at stake, they turned to Spatial Energy's Spatial on Demand platform to provide the best possible imagery in a timely and cost-effective manner. Spatial on Demand manages, stores and streams their image assets across a secure Internet portal to the end users desktop. This open standard platform supports a diverse group of end users across a wide variety of desktop applications – seamlessly.

The success of the initiative was immediate; several duplicate orders of tens to

be, this integration enables our GIS team to provide rapid response with the right imagery to make the best possible decisions without duplication of orders or process."
Director – GIS Services

hundreds of thousands of dollars were identified and eliminated. In a land lease program, timely intelligence became paramount in negotiating mineral rights at $200-500 per square acre before demand escalation of up to $25,000 per acre.

With its pervasive corporate standardization on one imaging platform, the company benefits from economies of scale where all of the teams are working from the same imagery data that has improved exploration to drill time by over 30% resulting in faster time to revenue.

The GIS team is now a strategic asset, having grown from five to fifty staff members across three locations supporting over 600 GIS users corporate wide.