



Powerful solutions. Brilliant delivery.

C₂M Gotchas

Melissa Ortman, Ben Brose, Allison Ritter March 4th 2020



Presenter Introductions





Melissa Ortman ALLETE Programmer Analyst Lead



Ben Brose
ALLETE
Customer Process Analyst Senior



Allison Ritter
Triniti Consulting
Managing Consultant



ALLETE





AN ALLETE COMPANY

Minnesota Power

- 160,000 electric
- AMI deployment 2009-2025



Superior Water, Light & Power

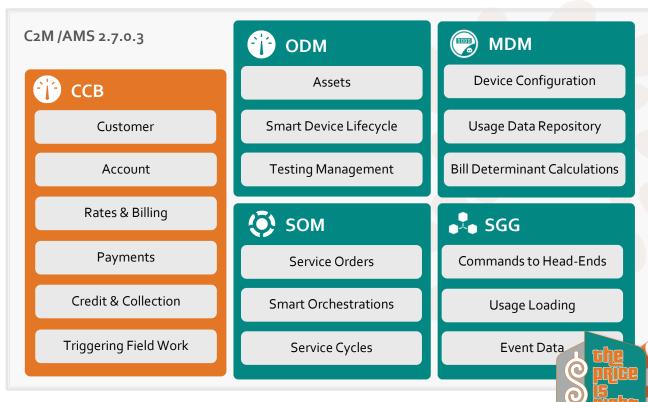
- 15,000 electric
- 13,000 natural gas
- 10,000 water
- AMI deployment 2016-2020



Our Project



- Implemented CCB2.4 in 2015
- Upgrading to C2M 2.7.0.3
- Implementing MDM, ODM, SOM, SGG
- August 2019 –
 Sep/Oct 2020



The Game













WE ANNOUNCE PRIZE

WE GIVE PROMPT

You VOTE & WIN

WE ELABORATE

- Great prizes to give away
- Lots of appliances
- Special announcer to tell us about the prizes that could be yours!

- We will tell you a statement about a C2m Gotcha
- It may or may not be true

- You decide if you think it is true or false
- Utility votes only!
- Hold up your paddle
- First person that has the correct answer, WINS!

- We will tell you more about the C2M Gotcha
- We will tell you how we solved it









The PIVOTS



The OBJECTS



The DATA



The SYNC





PRIZE 1!!!





The PIVOTS



The OBJECTS



The DATA



The SYNC

To calculate service quantities in C2M, either new Service Agreements, Service Points, and Rates need to be set-up or Service Agreement Type needs to be changed at go-live.







The PIVOTS



The OBJECTS



The DATA



The SYNC

TRUE





Bill Determinant Pivot





Change from billing using meter usage in CCB to billing using bill determinants calculated in MDM.



Option 1

- Create New Service Agreement
- Switch on Bill Boundary

Option 2

- Switch Service Agreement Types to 'BD required' at Go Live
- Convert Reads to Support Estimations & Cancel/Rebill

- Meter Data History
- Clean Break
- History Preserved
- No Setup Changes
- Less Impact to C&C/Budget/ Arrears/Bill Print



- New SA/SP/Rate
- C&C/BB/Arrears Impacts
- Bill Print Impacts
- Conversion Reads/Usage Transactions
- Change Historic Rates





Meter/Meter Read Pivot



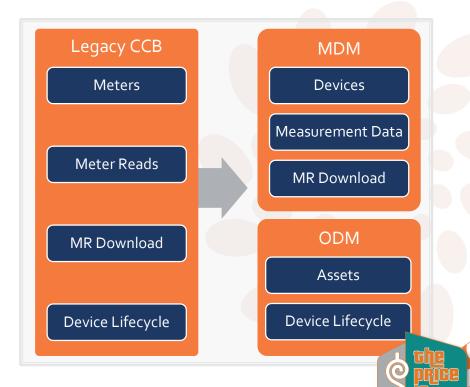
Change from meter information and reads in CCB to ODM being the system of record for Meters (Assets) and MDM be the system of record for reads.

Considerations

- Bill Determinants
- Meter Read Download File
- Asset Lifecycle and Testing
- Mass Creating Assets

Solution

- Convert Meters to ODM/MDM
- Create Meter Read Download File
- Custom Batch to Create Assets





Service Order Pivot

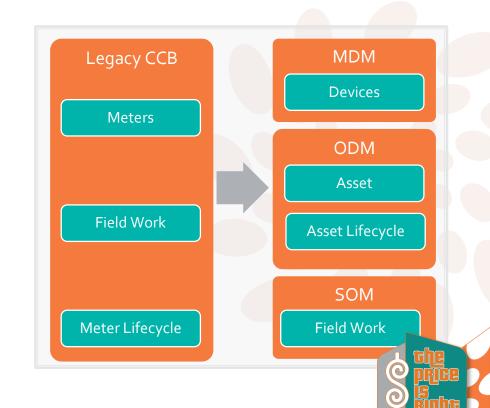


Considerations

- Field Activity Functionality Moved to SOM
- Dispatch Groups Do Not Exist in SOM

Solution

- Update Field Activity Types
- Convert PENDING Inflight Field Activities into SOM
- Analyze Completion Functionality
- Create Dispatch Group Extendable Look-up in SOM



PRIZE 2!!!











In C2M, all the modules reference the same Service Point which reduces duplication across the modules.







The OBJECTS



The DATA



The SYNC

FALSE





Merged Maintenance Objects

- Service Point
- Service Type
- Service Point Type
- Service Quantity Identifier
- Time of Use
- Unit of Measure



Easier to Maintain Online

PRO

Combined User Interface



Conversion Challenges

CON

Multiple Unique IDs

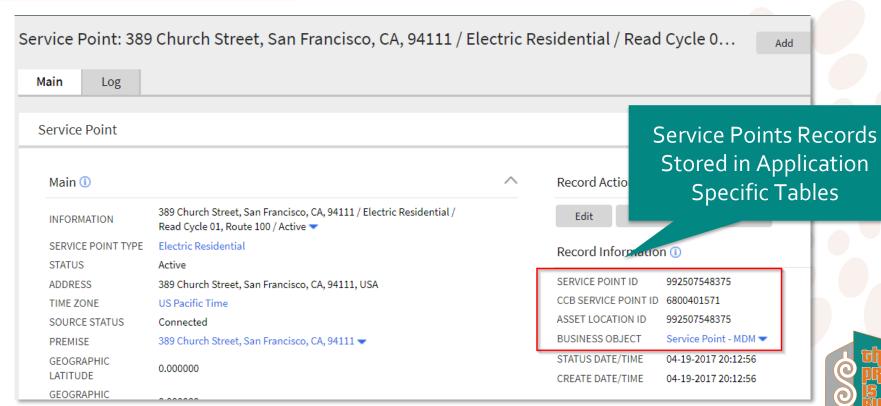
Difficult to Maintain Behind Scenes













The OBJECTS



Options for Meters & Characteristics



More Functionality

PRO

More Rounded



Terminology

CON

- Configuration
 Maintenance
- Design Decisions
- Functionality
 Differences Across
 Modules

Billing Items Scenario

- All items maintained in C2M as a device.
- Rate engine checks if item type is configured when it bills item.
- Whenever you update device type, system updates the item type table.
- If create device types using SQL, need to update item type table.





PRIZE 3!!!









The DATA



The SYNC

There are OOB syncs for all objects that need to be converted from CCB to MDM, ODM, and SOM.











The DATA



The SYNC

FALSE







Legacy

CCB

CCB Person → MDM Contact
CCB SP → MDM SP
CCB SA → MDM US

CCB Person → ODM Contact CCB SP → ODM Location







ODM



The DATA



Recommend leveraging the initial sync objects combined with bits and pieces of the new objects to create a complete initial sync process.

Meter Sync

- Replaced Outbound Message creation logic with logic modeled from SP sync.
- Created two versions, one for CCB to MDM and one for CCB to ODM.
- MDM has sync processes dependent on the Devices being in place.
- Takes longer to create the configuration for ODM.

Item Sync

- Modeled after Meter sync request processes.
- Created two versions, one for CCB to MDM and one for CCB to ODM.
- Some Items can only go in MDM or ODM.

Meter Config, SP/Meter History, & Meter Read Sync

Replaced Outbound
 Message creation logic
 with new, internal,
 table-to-table logic.







Gotchas!



- Since there is no SOA integration, there are **no DVMs**.
- ODM needs to have an "Out of Service" location configured before Items/Meters
 are synchronized as Assets, and they all need to default to that location. The location
 will change later when Install Events are synchronized.
- C2M does not use the old CCB tables for Operation Area, Meter, Item, Meter Read, etc. But the SP Maintenance Object is still connected to them and still validates everything connected to an SP record.
- There are also columns on the Service Point table that are no longer used that will cause errors if they are populated in C₂M.
- Some sync processes reference the framework Sync Request tables when validating foreign keys – so it's not a good idea to clear those tables until everything has been converted.



PRIZE 4!!!











With the integration layer being removed from C2M, there are no longer on-going syncs you need to maintain between the products.











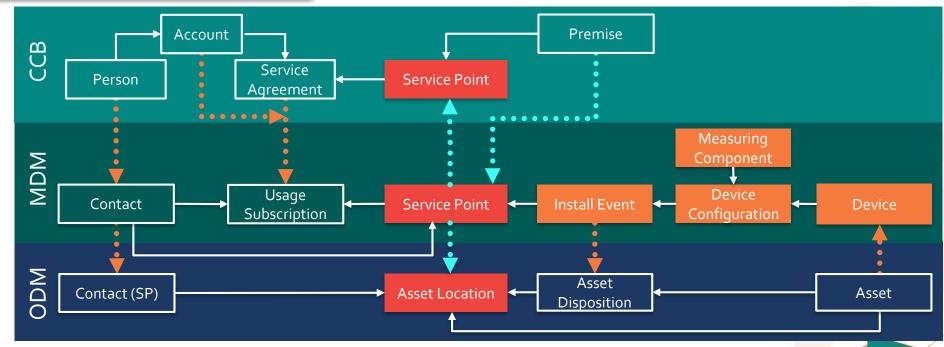
The SYNC

FALSE



Ongoing Syncs





Legend CCB Entities

Joint Maintenance Master Data Sync

MDM Entities

ODM Entities

Shared Entities

Direct Update



What we Learned





Terminology

Work Closely with Oracle

- Get Visuals Early
- Data Model is More Complex

Set the Foundation





What's Next for ALLETE







Learn More About **Customers &** Our Data



More Actionable Data



Provide More Programs & Services



Optimize Business Processes





Contact Us



Melissa Ortman
ALLETE
Programmer Analyst Senior
mortman@allete.com



Ben Brose
ALLETE
Customer Process Analyst Senior
bbrose@mnpower.com





Allison Ritter
Triniti Consulting
Managing Consultant
678-372-2428
aritter@triniticonsulting.com

