MDMS *UPDATE*

~ METER DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ~

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 4

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FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER

By Michael Ott, MDMS Program Manager, USACE—Huntsville Center

Welcome to our April - May 2019 issue of the *MDMS Update,* designed to keep you informed on the growth and latest developments of the Meter Data Management System and the Army Metering Program.

The MDMS User Outreach team conducted training at the FY19 ARNG—I&E Programming Guidance Course (PGC) at Camp Robison in Little Rock, Arkansas in April. There was a large group in attendance.

Please see the article on page 2 regarding an update on unassigned meters, as well as instructions on how you can help the program identify and fix both non-reporting and unassigned meters.

The MDMS team met with Vincent Nicchitta, IGI&S Program Manager at OACSIM, to better understand the process of uploading GIS data and discuss getting regularly scheduled updates. See the update on page 5.

And last, but not least, you can find a story on the DISA MDMS network outage on page 5 as well. During the outage, we were unable to deliver any training webinars. However, with the system back online, webinars will resume in June, with a new series of in-depth training sessions on topics such as configuring your home dashboard, advanced analytics, configuring billing, normalization for weather, and the Monitoring Commissioning (MCX) Process, just to name a few. Be on the lookout for a schedule and webinar invites from the AMSD.

As always, our mission is to improve the MDMS experience for end users. Your input is valuable, and we welcome your feedback at: usarmy.coe-huntsville.cehnc.mbx.armymeterhelp@mail.mil

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Inside this issue:

MDMS TRAINING AT ARNG PGC

The MDMS contractor General Dynamics Information Technology's User Outreach Team provided MDMS training at the FY19 ARNG—I&E Programming Guidance Course (PGC) at Camp Robison in Little Rock, Arkansas in April.

With almost 60 in attendance, there was good dialogue during the session. The intent of the training was to educate trainees on the updated MDMS and the presentation was specifically geared to several National Guard Bureau (NGB) sites in the system.

One particular discussion focused on how to export data from MDMS. Several follow-on emails after the training inquired about the steps to export data, with one also requesting information on the incremental backup of meter data in MDMS. As for the incremental meter data, MDMS receives the 15 and/or 30 minute incremental data, when available, directly from the local EEDRS or UMCS. To date, all data since October 2017 is stored in MDMS and we have data prior to that available upon request.

You can dive into the interval data in many of the reports. It just depends on what you need to analyze. Many of the reports allow you to export the data to Excel, such as the incremental meter readings, the hourly and daily meter readings. You can also export both the custom query and component benchmarking data to Excel. The Custom Query reports interval usage—kwh—over the query date range. The Component Benchmark reports calculated interval demand—instantaneous kw—over the query date range, and auto-plots the plug load or the base-loading for the meter on that building.

The MDMS Program Team provided the attendees a copy of the Feb.— Mar. 2019 MDMS Update newsletter, as well as the GIS flyer with instructions on how to get a site's GIS data into MDMS. (Again, see GIS Update on page 5).

Training sessions and webinars will continue to be scheduled with the focus on new users throughout June and July. We will also begin scheduling more in-depth trainings on one or more aspects of the energy analysis and functional tools. If you would like to participate in a future webinar, send a request to the AMSD. You may also request individual or group sessions targeted to your specific needs.

MDMS UPDATE

NON-REPORTING AND UNASSIGNED METERS

The MDMS team continues to work hard behind the scenes to provide actionable data and that means getting unassigned meters associated to the corresponding buildings using the latest HQIIS database. The MDMS team has fixed over 1500 unassigned meters and may reach out to request your help with additional meters to get the RPAUID information. The team will continue this effort as the HQIIS database is updated.

Only 61% of the total 13,142 meters in MDMS are currently reporting, with 1,159 meters being unassigned to a building. There are 360 meters that have been offline for six months or longer and another 560 meters that have been offline for over a year.

So, how does one determine which meters have been offline and for how long? The Meter Status Rollup report will get you the high-level statistics, and the Meter Status Details report will give you the list of meters and their individual status. Below are the steps for generating a list of non-reporting meters at your installation:

- From the Home Dashboard in MDMS, select Network Status on the green navigation panel/pulldown menu.
- Select Meter Status Rollup from the report options on the left of the page.
- Drill down to the site you want from the Meter Status Rollup report and click on the hyperlinked name of the site.
- This will give you a list of meters at your site. At the top of the list will be those longest non-reporting meters. The meters are color-coded based on how long each has been off-line. Red is the priority — disregard the green for this exercise.
- Select the “Export to Excel” option to extract the data from the Meter Status report into a spreadsheet that can be utilized for follow-up actions.

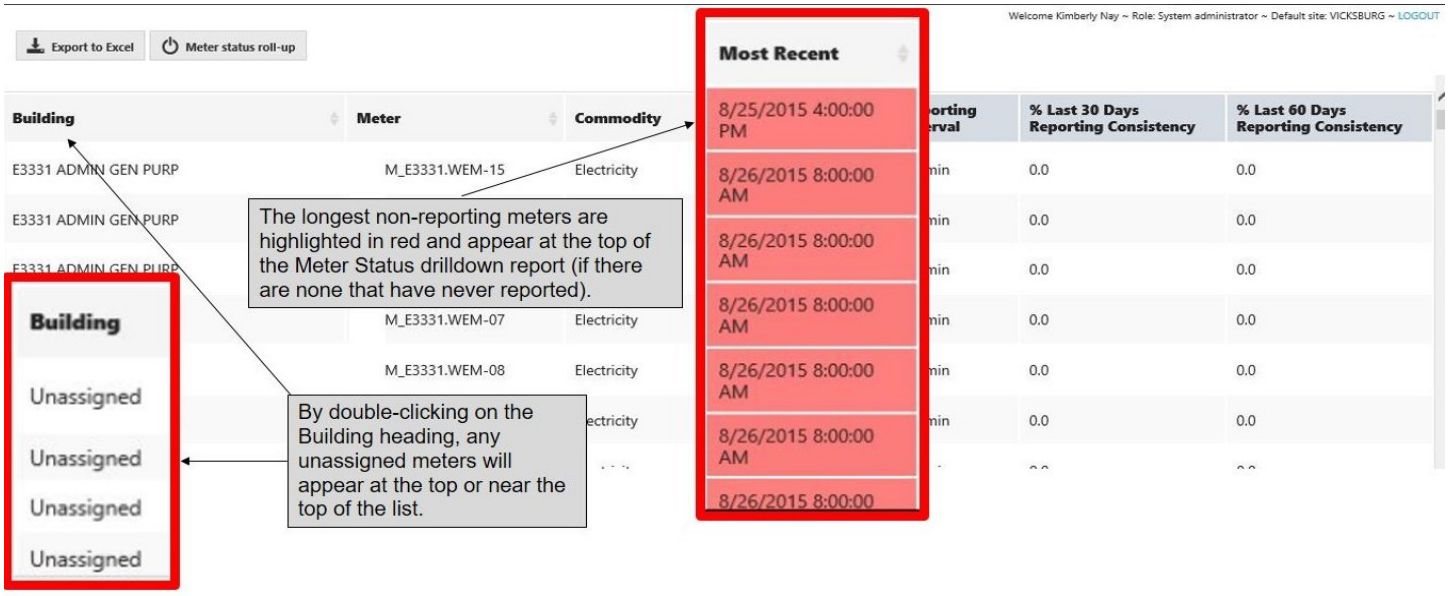
If there is valid reason for a non-reporting meter to remain off-line from the MDMS, e.g., the building was demolished, please notify the AMSD by e-mail usarmy.coe-huntsville.cehnc.mbx.armymeterhelp@mail.mil so that we can correct our records within MDMS. We will preserve the old meter data for reference, but we don’t want to continue reporting that building as being off-line and have it reflected in the Army’s metric for meter network reliability.

Unassigned meters are associated with a site, but not to a particular building. This could be correct — the meter could be installed on a substation or something other than a building. However, in many instances an unassigned meter has a building name or number as part of its meter ID string. For some reason, the information provided in the meter ID string could not be correlated to a real property record within the Army’s Real Property Inventory.

Suggest you coordinate with your Real Property Office to ascertain the Real Property Asset Unique Identifier (RPAUID) for those unassigned meters using the building clues provided in the meter ID string. The RPAUID is what MDMS requires to associate each meter with the correct facility data imported from the Army Real Property Inventory database.

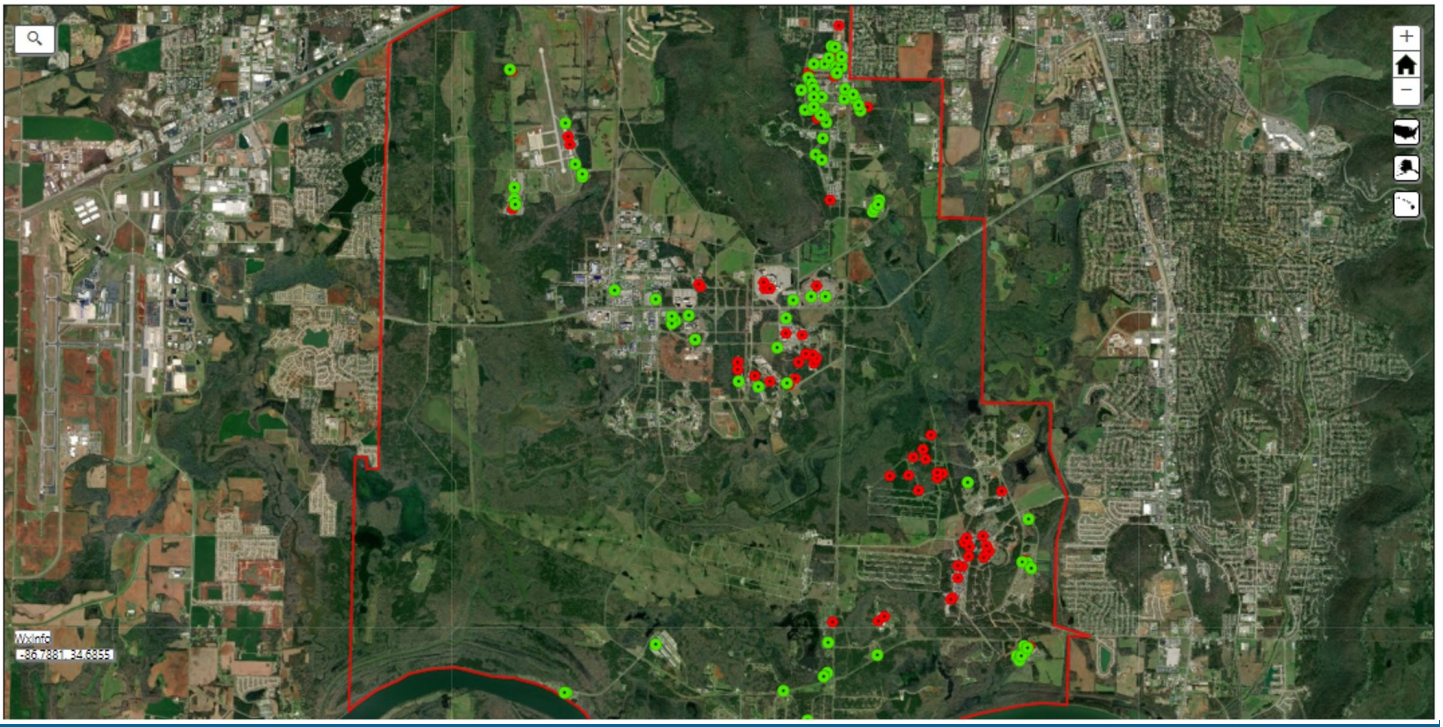
To generate a spreadsheet of unassigned meters:

- Follow the previous instructions for Export to Excel and then sort the data in descending order on the “Building” column or select “Unassigned” as the filter value filter within the “Building” column.
- Add the appropriate RPAUID to unassigned meters
- Send the annotated spreadsheet to the AMSD.



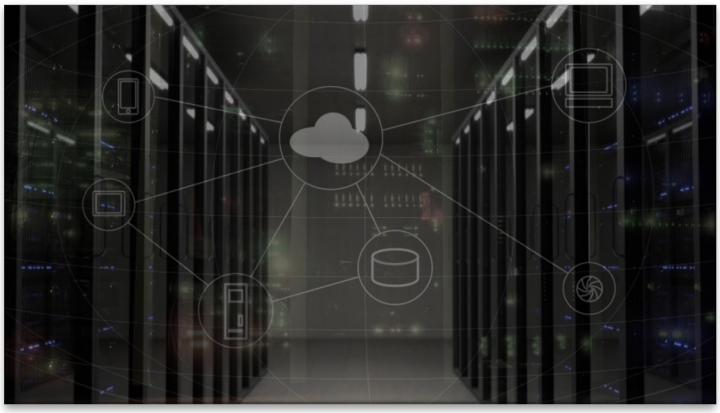
GIS UPDATE

Vincent Nicchitta, IGI&S Program Manager at OACSIM, met with the MDMS Program Team to better understand the upload process for the MDMS GIS. He had been getting calls and emails from Energy Managers regarding the currency or lack of their data in the MDMS GIS. The initial Army-wide data was provided from OACSIM in October 2016. Since then two installations have provided their GIS data to the MDMS team for importing. Going forward, we have mutually agreed to get OACSIM's quarterly updates into MDMS. Even though this wouldn't be real-time, it would keep the site's data up-to-date quarterly for now. All commands are required to deliver GIS data updates to OACSIM quarterly. In the future, we will research the feasibility of consuming OACSIM's web service for near real-time GIS data in MDMS.



MDMS OUTAGE

On the afternoon of 12 April, GDIT MDMS administrators were performing routine administration, when critical issues were discovered at DISA that could potentially corrupt MDMS data. GDIT discontinued processing at once. A critical ticket was immediately opened with DISA DECC OKC and USACE was notified.



Initial troubleshooting within the DISA server, storage and network teams was unsuccessful in determining the root cause. DISA then began working the incident with Microsoft Technical Services. After detailed execution and analysis of the results across all nodes Microsoft determined that the root cause was likely a lack of firmware updates on the physical servers at DISA. Microsoft pointed out that DISA had not applied several updates to the servers over the life of the systems. These updates included fixes for network issues that could manifest as the failures MDMS was experiencing. DISA applied the latest cumulative firmware updates to all SQL database nodes, thus fixing the problem. MDMS was back online 5 May, and GDIT began processing the backlog of data while monitoring the system logs. At this time, GDIT has completed processing all backlog data from the outage.

GDIT continues to closely monitor the systems and has found no errors up to this point. GDIT is also requesting that DISA proactively upgrade the firmware on all MDMS systems, including those that do not process incoming meter data.