DATA MANAGEMENT IN THE
cloud
fits utilities of all sizes

Across America, nearly 3,000 municipal and electric cooperatives deliver power to almost one-third of the nation's total population. Their smaller size and limited regulatory oversight often can be an advantage for these utilities when implementing new technologies and business strategies. But more operational freedom usually comes with fewer resources to manage programs and systems on an ongoing basis.

This is prompting some utilities to take a new look at smart grid service offerings, such as cloud-based software and data hosting. In December, Central Lincoln People's Utility District (PUD), Oregon's fourth largest electric utility, signed a five-year agreement with Landis+Gyr for Gridstream® Meter Data Management System, one of the software solutions available with its cloud service offerings.

Solution hosting is not a new concept. Managed services for advanced metering has been an integral part of the Landis+Gyr porfolio for nearly two decades. But recently, the company added Gridstream MDMS to its cloud solutions delivered from its Network Operations Center in Lenexa, Kansas. For MDMS customers, like Central Lincoln, the move ensures operational simplicity at an attractive price point.

"We are pleased to expand our relationship with Landis+Gyr with the selection of the Gridstream MDMS for our smart grid operations," says Bruce Lovelin, Chief Engineer and Manager of Systems Engineering for Central Lincoln.

As this class of customer moves from daily registers to 15-minute interval data, the data volume increases by nearly 100 times. And the increased frequency and granularity of the data opens the utility to new smart meter use cases, such as early outage detection and theft detection.

"When it became clear we needed a scalable MDMS to support our increase in data volume, the cloud-based Gridstream MDMS was the right fit for our operations," *Lovelin added.*

Central Lincoln PUD serves some 700 square miles and approximately 55,000 people in portions of Coos, Douglas, Lane and Lincoln counties. Over the years, it has deployed many technologies from Landis+Gyr, including advanced meters, the Gridstream RF network, a dynamic voltage management solution and now, Gridstream MDMS via the cloud. ■