

SimSim AMI

Advanced Metering Infrastructure
in the Microsoft Cloud



SIMSIM AMI description

SIMSIM AMI is an Advanced Metering Infrastructure solution for big utility companies working in the field of water, gas and electricity sector. Our devices are collecting consumption data to analyze consumer behavior, support data for billing and to provide last mile balance for detection of infrastructural failures and sabotages.

SIMSIM AMI also provides feedback to consumers on their consumption to form their behavior and make them more conscious on their energy usage.

Specific customer scenario, how the solution benefited the customer

CASON's DIWICON SIMSIM AMI was first implemented at a utility company in the Middle-East, called Public Authority for Electricity and Water in Oman, Muscat (PAEW). This company is providing water and electricity in the region. They had their biggest losses on the last mile of their system, because of infrastructural failures. In Oman the energy consumption of households is subsidized by the government therefore there was a huge demand for solving the above mentioned problem from the side of our customer the utility company. They were extremely motivated to prevent losses and cut back consumption, which means that the government owned company is willing to invest in creating conscious consumers by implementing a common AMI system for both water and electricity. In the near future this company is planning to introduce gas supply as well.

DIWICON SIMSIM AMI was a great benefit to PAEW because it not only provided consumption profile on individuals/districts in a city but it also calculates consumption balance and unusual consumption patterns to detect infrastructural failures or sabotages. For the consumers SIMSIM AMI provides live feedback on their own consumption behaviors delivered to their mobile phones or digital photo frames to shape their habits and to make them more conscious.

In the pilot phase CASON deployed an on premises solution with Windows Server 2008, SQL Server 2008, Windows Server AppFabric, .NET4.

Because the final system has to cover whole Muscat (capital of Oman), it will be deployed in several phases that may last for years. Using Azure there is no need for upfront big investments in oversized infrastructure the costs will follow the growth of the system. Also Azure will absorb the huge peaks caused by calculating the monthly billing reports for the more than 600.000 consumers monitored by SIMSIM AMI.

Benefits CASON sees using the Windows Azure Platform

DIWICON stands for Distributed Intelligence Wireless Industrial Control. This is the brand name of the technologies developed by CASON. DIWICON is the foundation for a range of products and solutions for wide area industrial systems. By these large systems the scalability of Azure is a great advantage.

CASON's software has been built on Microsoft technologies for/since years and it is a real added value of Azure that our existing expertise can be reused.

Azure's great tooling assures quick development and deployment, which is a must in CASON's tight scheduling.

CASON Engineering Plc.

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Azure's ability to work together with on premises system parts allows us to combine the benefits of unlimited resources with special communication needs, like UDP messaging with our DIWICON devices. It also pleases clients with strict policies for their sensitive business data.

Azure's usage proportional costs give CASON the power of customized pricing for previously unreached market segments, the long tail of our industry.

CASON invests heavily into Azure as the company sees it as the de-facto standard programming environment for the future.

How SIMSIM AMI solution helped CASON's customer (PAEW) solve a business problem

CASON's customer, PAEW, who is a utility company in the Middle-East in Oman, Muscat, had its biggest losses from energy (electricity/water) in the last mile, which means that they either had leaks at the end-user/household (water) or they had unusual consumer behaviors (sabotages, water leaks). It often happened that the consumers had defective meters and did not report the problem. The reason for the customer's non-responsive behavior was that they did not know or did not care about the problem itself and while the government was paying the bill it had no effect on their financial status. So the utility company wanted to reduce its last mile losses and with SIMSIM AMI they could be able to solve their existing problem and moreover, this way they were able to protect their property, reduce consumption peaks and get a clear picture of consumption trends, to fulfill billing on reading and finally to protect their incomes (early warnings for defective meters).

With a "small trick", by putting Microsoft tags on each meter, the customer will end up having super intelligent devices (smart phones). With this extra, the whole solution is very customer friendly, proactive and may lead to the freedom of the end-users. This freedom means that they may respond to their own consumption, may detect their own peaks and this way finally they may become a "smart /conscious consumer". This way they may also be a part of a greener technology workflow. The service of this huge system can easily be reached globally in Azure.

About CASON Engineering Plc.

CASON Engineering Plc. was established in 1992 in Hungary and is developing and manufacturing products and technologies for wide area industrial monitoring systems to be used worldwide. CASON customers include Group4, Shell, E.ON, Gaz de France, General Electric, MOL, Slovnaft and T-Mobile.

DIWICON technology developed by CASON is used successfully worldwide on various fields of mobile workforce management and industrial supervision systems, from fleet tracking to location based personal security.

The company is already well-known in the world market for its innovative developments and was awarded the 'Europe's 500' prize for being one of the 500 fastest growing companies in Europe and creating many new workplaces. The company with 100 employees in five countries around the world also has a continuously expanding developing team of 20 young engineers in Hungary.

Further information:

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