

## Running the Race... Mobile Solutions in the Fast Lane

Greg Broussard
Director of Engineering Services
Jackson Electric Membership Corporation



#### Outline



- About Jackson EMC
- Introduction
- Recent GIS transition
- Current GIS
- Right of Way Tracking
- Transformer Loading
- Mobile data updates
- Display External Data in Mobile GIS
- Lagniappe

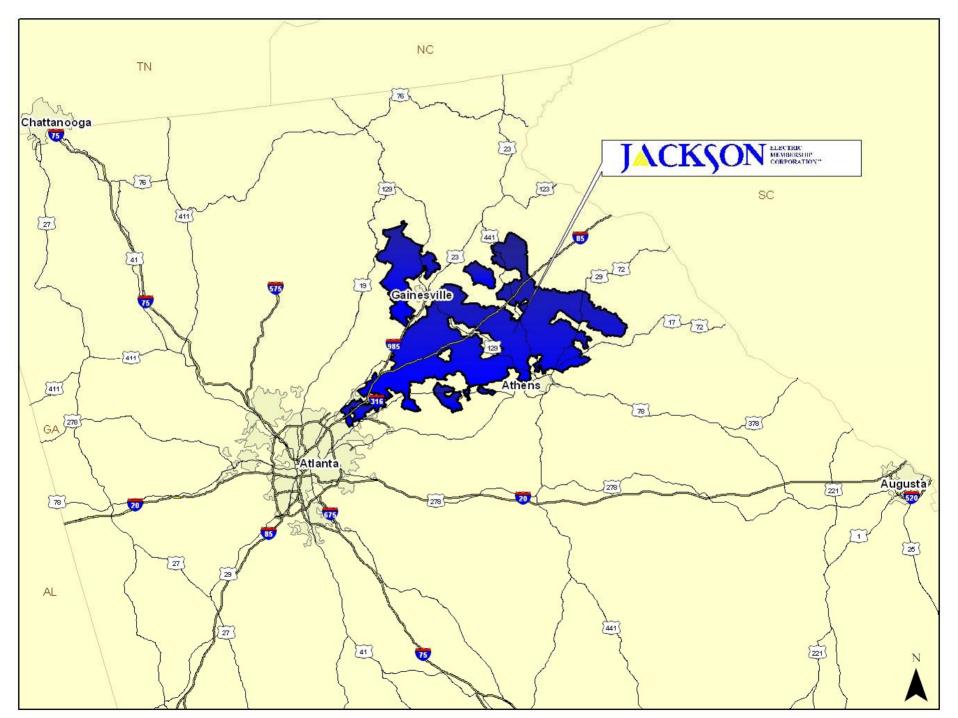




#### **About Jackson EMC**

- Largest electric cooperative in US in energy sales...in 2004 sold \$304 million, 4,205 GWH, 2005 peak load of 1,060 MW
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest electric cooperative in US in customers with over 190,000
- Located in Georgia, northeast of Atlanta in high growth corridor
- 440 employees, 4 operating districts
- 220 construction & maintenance contractor employees







#### Introduction

#### **Greg Broussard**

- Director of Engineering Services at Jackson EMC since 1992.
- Manager of Engineering at an electric cooperative in Texas for 10 years
- City Electrical Engineer at a municipal utility system in South Louisiana for 4 years.
- BS in Electrical Engineering
- Member of GITA, IEEE, and other professional organizations.



#### Recent GIS Transition



- Conversion from Intergraph to ESRI in 2002
- Prior to moving to ESRI
  - Had a productive GIS system. The GIS
     Department developed landbase and updated facilities from as-built work orders.
  - Mobile map viewing was used by staking technicians and Engr/Ops supervisors as a map book replacement
  - Completed field inventory of entire system GPSing all location-based features and inventorying all facilities.
- Company users were not new to GIS



#### Current GIS



- Existing GIS installations
  - ESRI ArcGIS w/Oracle/SDE on Wintel servers
  - ESRI ArcView/M&M ArcFM Viewer
  - ESRI ArcEdit/M&M ArcFM Edit
  - ArcIMS
  - ArcPress
  - GT Viewer
- Upcoming GIS installations
  - ArcFM Designer under development with Dec. 2005 rollout to 22 users



## Mobile Computing



#### ... continues in new environment

- Installations for 233 company employees
  - 151 Vehicle mounted Toughbooks
  - 74 Dell laptops
  - 8 workstations
- Facility locate contractors
- Construction contractors
- Vegetation management contractors
- Pole joint use contractors
- Pole inspection contractors



## Mobile Computing...



#### 151 Vehicle mounted Toughbooks

- 56 meter readers
  - Resquence routes, verify account multipliers from CT/PT ratios, lock numbers and gate codes.
- 4 vegetation management foremen
  - Track vegetation management cycles and type of work
- 47 bucket trucks
  - Construction locations, operation of electric network, power restoration activities
- 27 derrick trucks
  - Construction locations
- 17 meter & apparatus maintenance technicians
  - Locate individual field equipment to perform maintenance, such as regulators, capacitors, breakers. Verify GIS attribute values associated with the equipment.



#### Mobile Computing...

# 2005 EGUG Electric & Gas User Caroup Lake Tahoe, CA October 17-20

#### 74 Dell laptops

- 18 staking technicians
  - Field locate construction sites, design facilities
- 24 foreman
  - Quick prints for maintenance tickets, planning of construction projects and forecasting crew and equipment required.
- 3 safety coordinators
  - Accident investigation, crew and construction site inspection.
- 9 Engr/Op supervisors
  - Tracking construction activities, outage restoration activities
- 15 engineers
  - Run traces for circuit connectivity, calculate load on line segments, administer transformer load management program.
- 5 GIS employees
  - Field verify GIS information, perform GPS activities required to support landbase development



## Mobile Computing...



- 8 workstations..2 dispatchers, 6 communication coordinators
  - Track crew locations and provide information to other employees on the voice radio system
- Facility locate contractors
  - Use GIS data to find field locations of UG facilities and mark them with paint and flags.
- Construction contractors
  - Find construction locations
- Vegetation management contractors
  - Locate sections of line to be trimmed, mowed, or sprayed and report progress of project by sections of primary line.
- Pole joint use contractors
  - Field survey poles with attachments and NESC code violations, report results via Access database file for importation in the GIS.
- Pole inspection contractors
  - Locate poles to be treated and report back results of inspection and treatments



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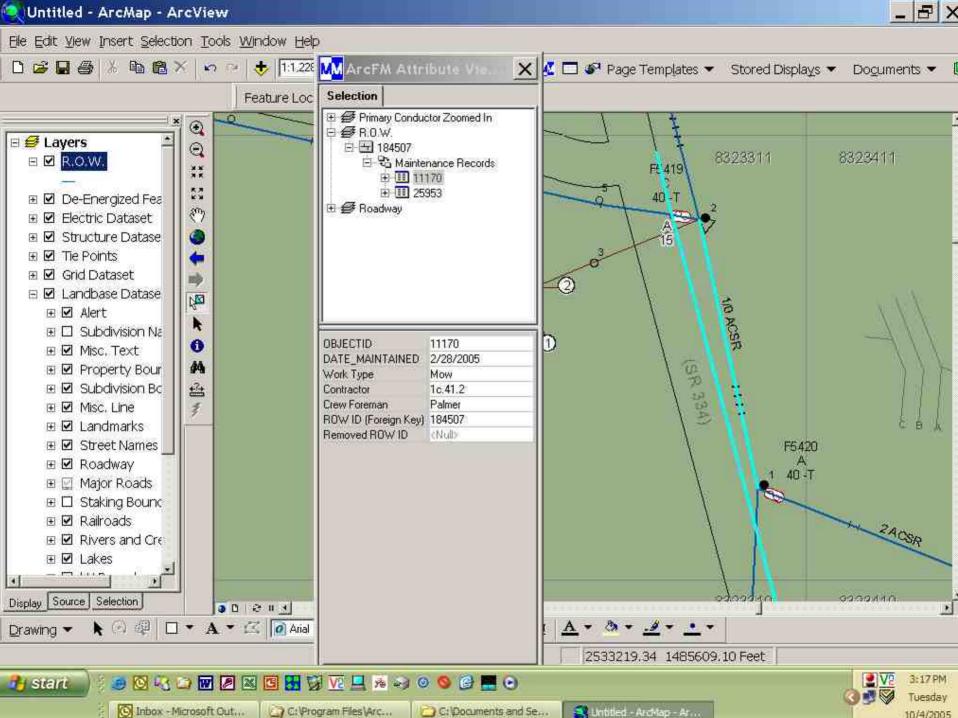


## Right of Way Tracking



- Tracking types and dates
  - Mowing
  - Trimming
  - Special alerts



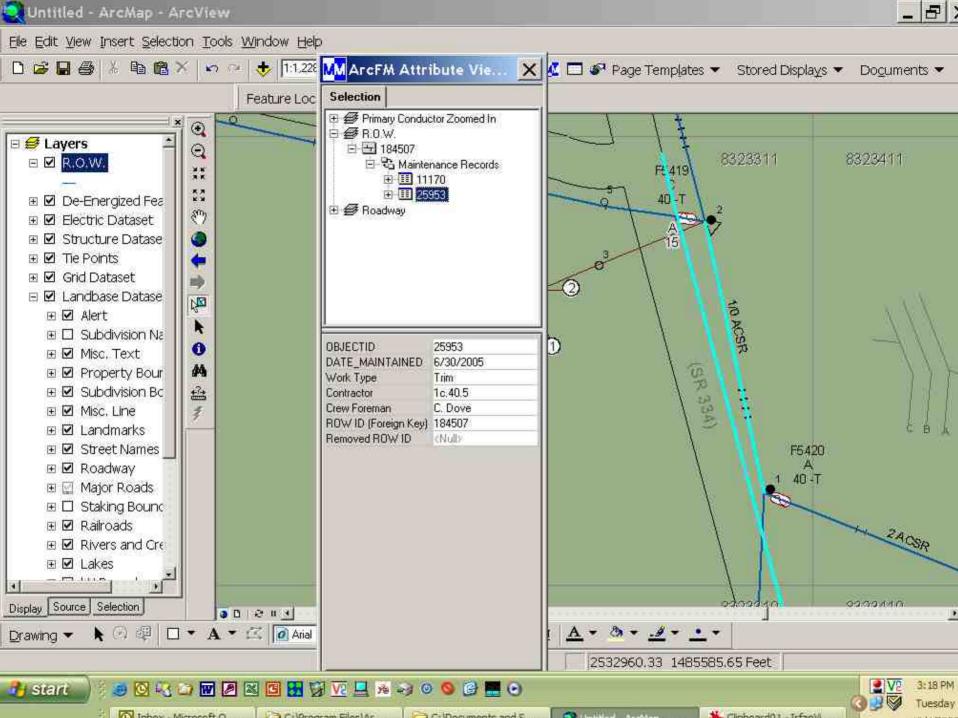


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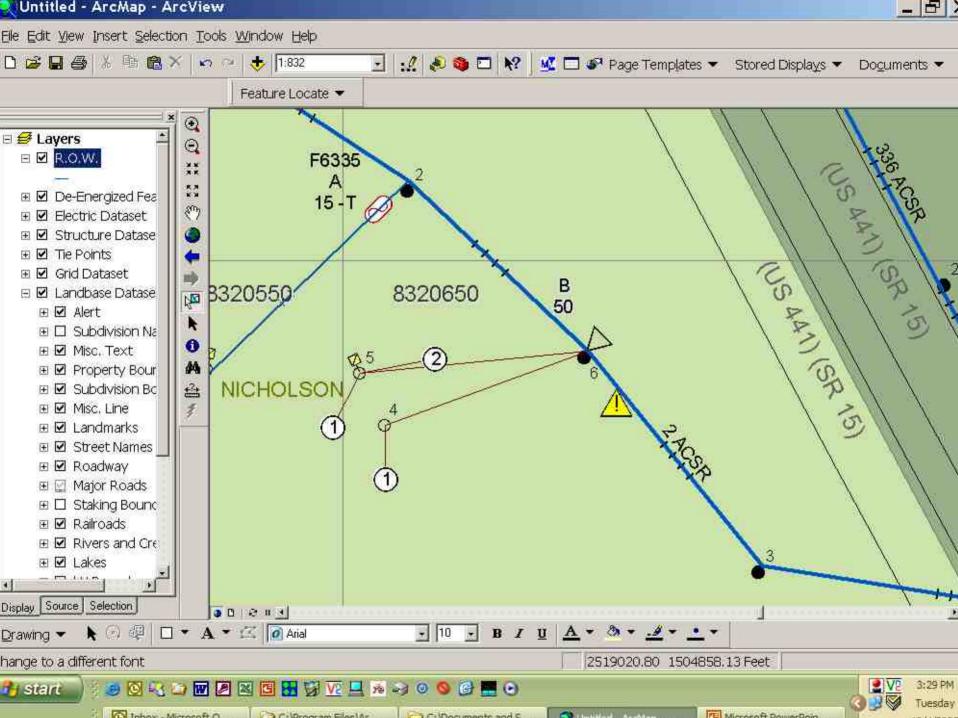


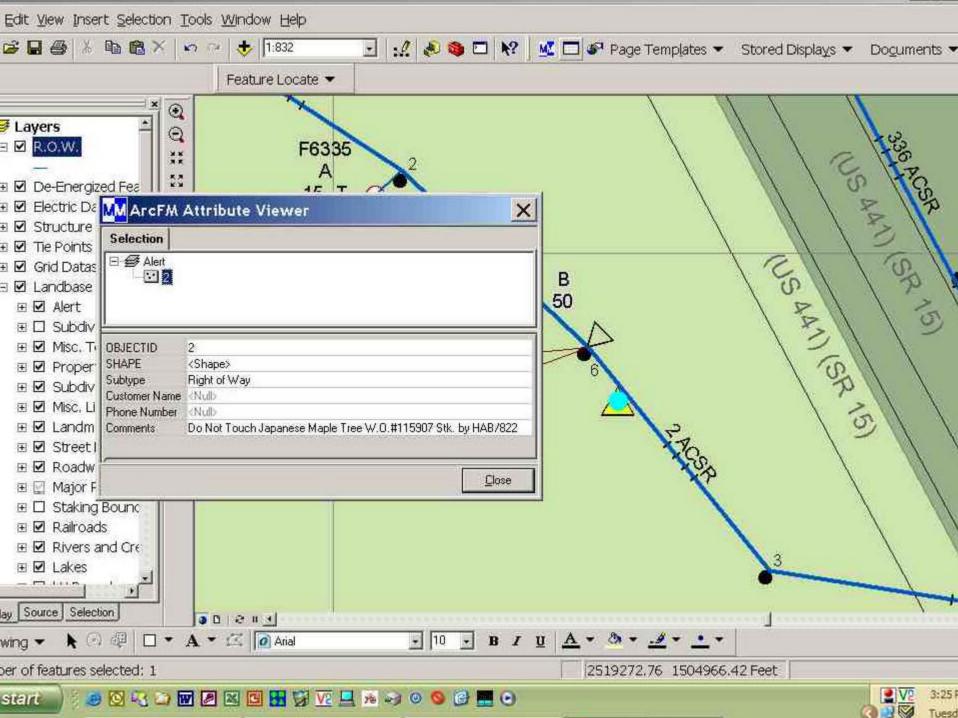
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## Transformer Loading



- GIS has connectivity from meter to transformer
- Import monthly meter consumptions from CIS into GIS
- Aggregate consumption data to each transformer
- Calculate monthly KW loading per transformer using a static load factor; 30% for 1 phase and 40% for 3 phase.

- Compare calculated load to previous max stored in GIS and overwrite if higher
- Store both winter and summer max loadings in GIS

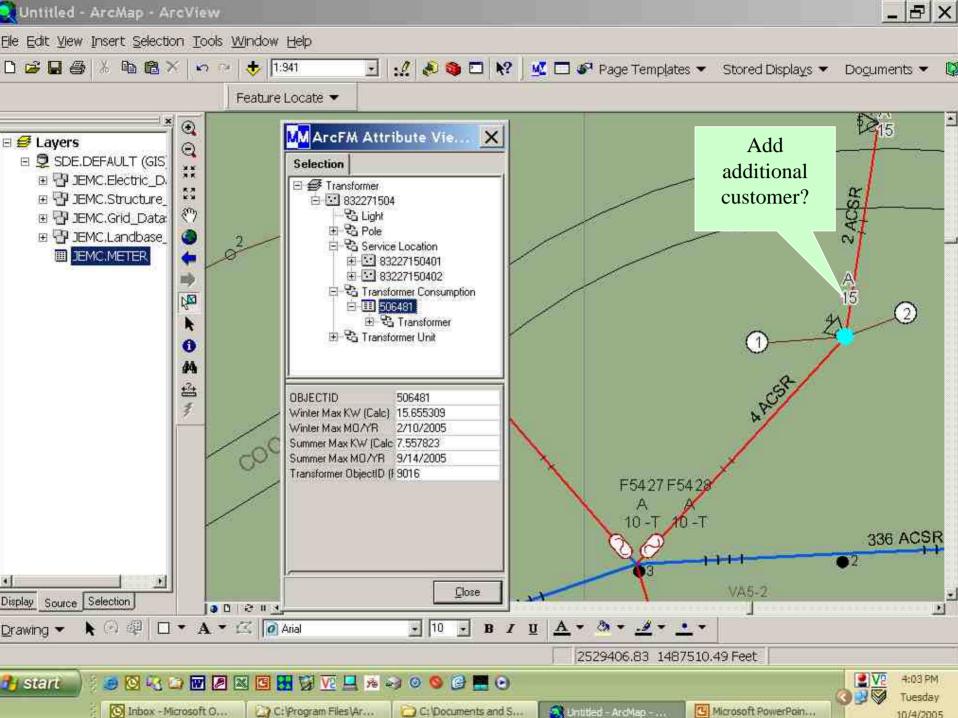


## Transformer Loading



- 1 phase example
  - 15 KVA transformer, add additional customer?
- 3 phase example
  - Service to high school



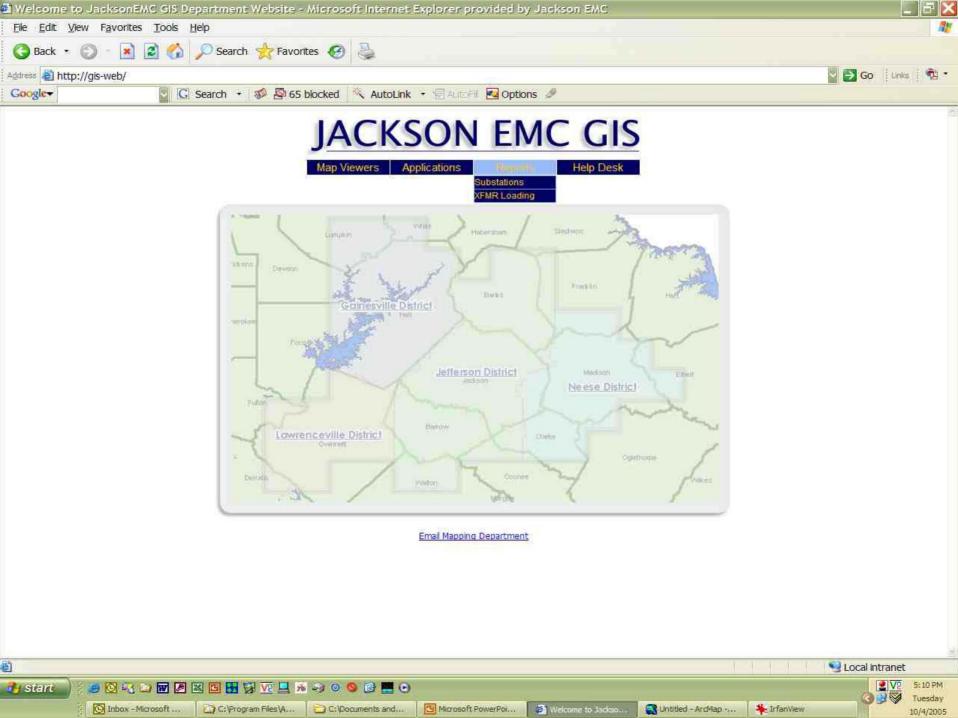


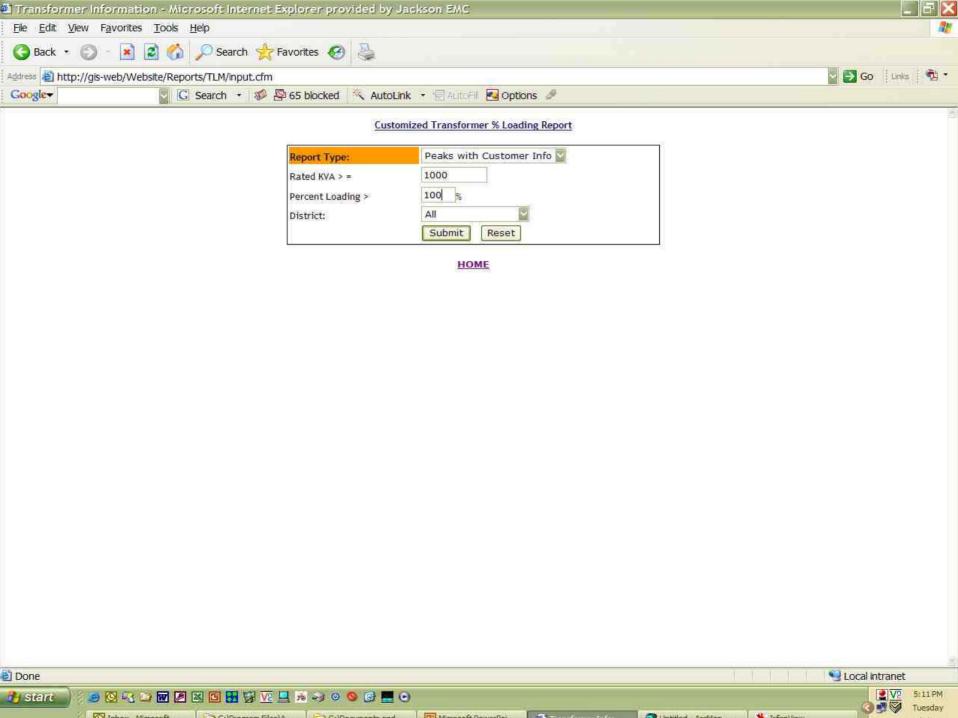
## Transformer Loading

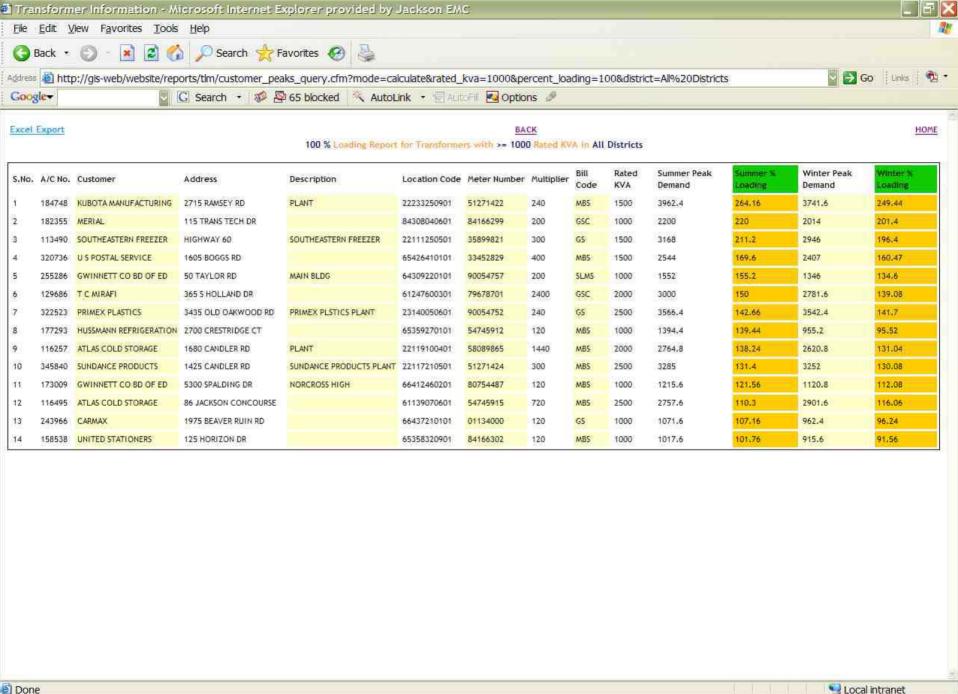


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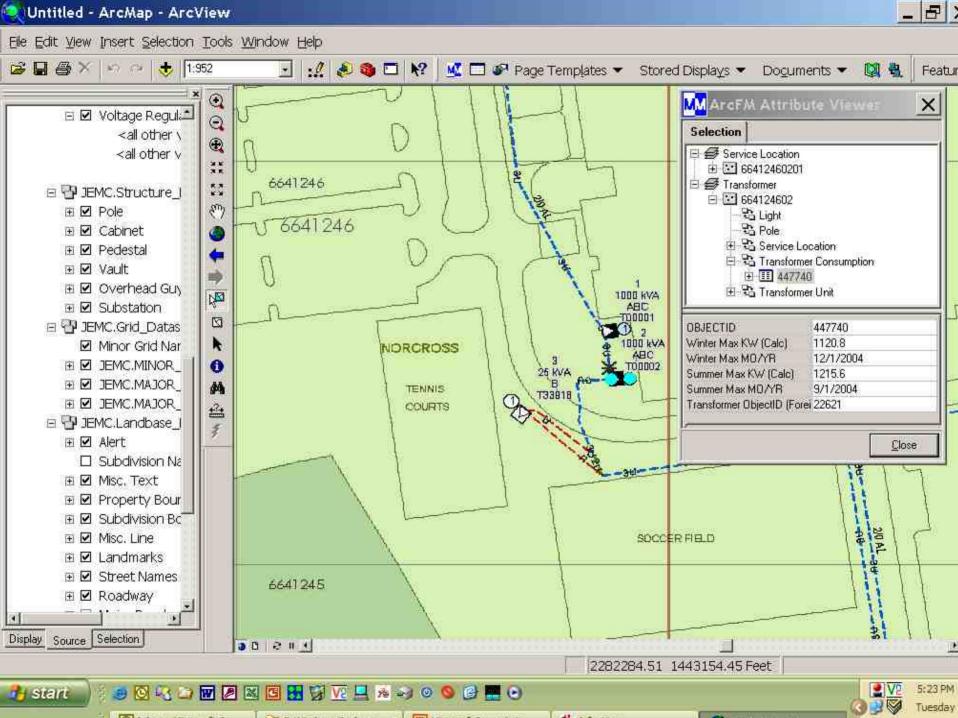












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- 225 mobile data laptop computers spread across 5 physical locations, 151 of these permanently mounted in vehicles
- Data set size of 273mb compressed, 812 mb uncompressed
- ??? How to provide weekly updates to all mobile data installations???



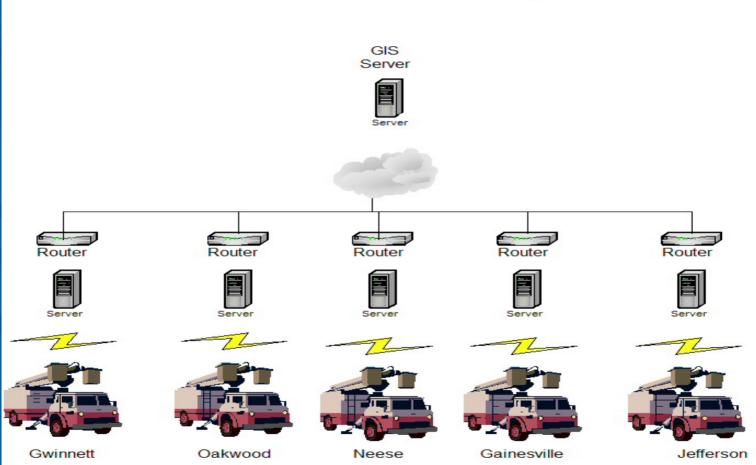


 Copy weekly update data file from GIS server to DFS file servers at each physical location across WAN





#### Mobile GIS Data Update







- Run batch file on each mobile GIS computer to copy compressed update file from file server and expand the data
  - Same batch file on every laptop
  - Run at the same time and same day on every laptop via Windows scheduler
  - Allows standard disk image to be written on each laptop



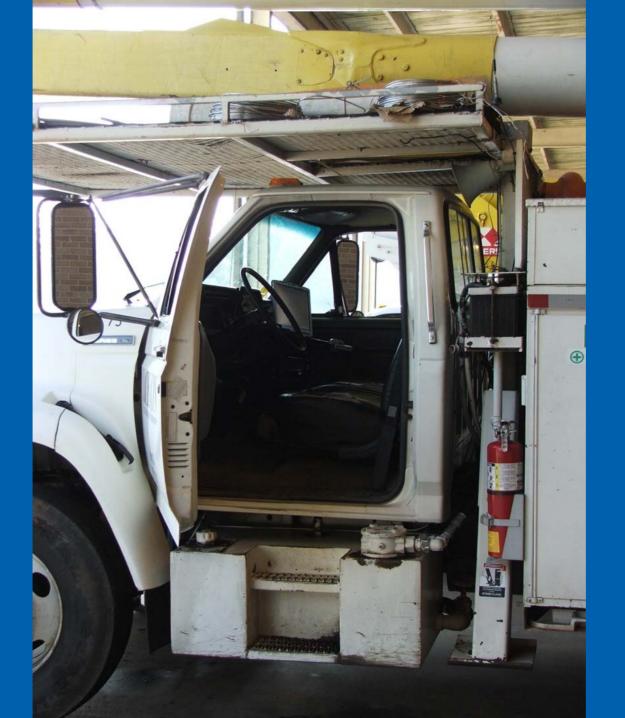


- Mobile GIS computers utilize 802.11g wireless network since they are permanently mounted in vehicles.
- Wireless access points are installed at each office location throughout the office and in truck parking locations.











## Mobile Data Updates



- Desired time execution is from 12:00am to 4:00am to maximize daytime wireless network usage
- Utilize VB code within the batch file containing a RND(14,400,000) function to ensure that all computers don't actually execute the copy command within the batch file at the same time
  - (4:00 0:00) hrs x (60 x 60 x 1,000) ms/hr = 14,400,000 milliseconds in execution time window
- VB program provides delay in copy command execution in batch file



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# Display External Data in Mobile GIS



- Substation information guide example
  - Locate substation in viewer (Exit 44)
  - Query substation attributes
  - Activate PDF file link
  - Display substation equipment information and one line drawing of electrical network within the substation



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### LAGNIAPPE



The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language: Fourth Edition. 2000.

#### lagniappe

NOUN: Chiefly Southern Louisiana & Mississippi 1. A small gift presented by a storeowner to a customer with the customer's purchase. 2. An extra or unexpected gift or benefit.

ETYMOLOGY: Louisiana French, from American Spanish *la ñapa*, the gift : *la*, the (from Latin *illa*, feminine of *ille*, that, the; see <u>al-1</u> in Appendix I) + *ñapa* (variant of *yapa*, gift, from Quechua, from *yapay*, to give more).

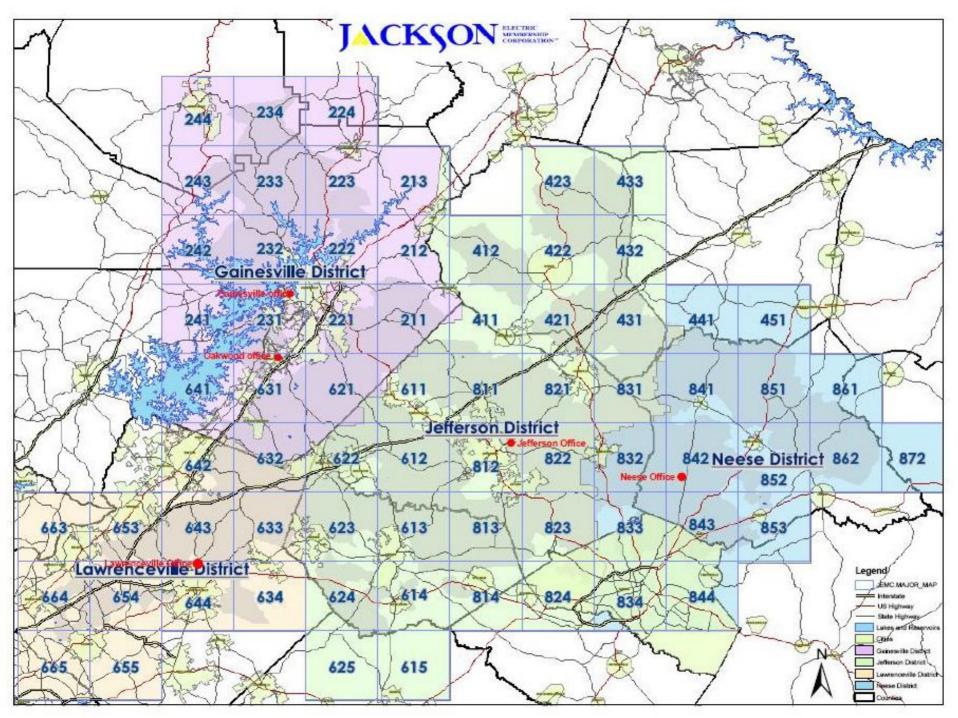
REGIONAL Lagniappe derives from New World Spanish la ñapa, "the gift," and NOTE: ultimately from Quechua yapay, "to give more." The word came into the rich Creole dialect mixture of New Orleans and there acquired a French spelling. It is still used in the Gulf states, especially southern Louisiana, to denote a little bonus that a friendly shopkeeper might add to a purchase. By extension, it may mean "an extra or unexpected gift or benefit."

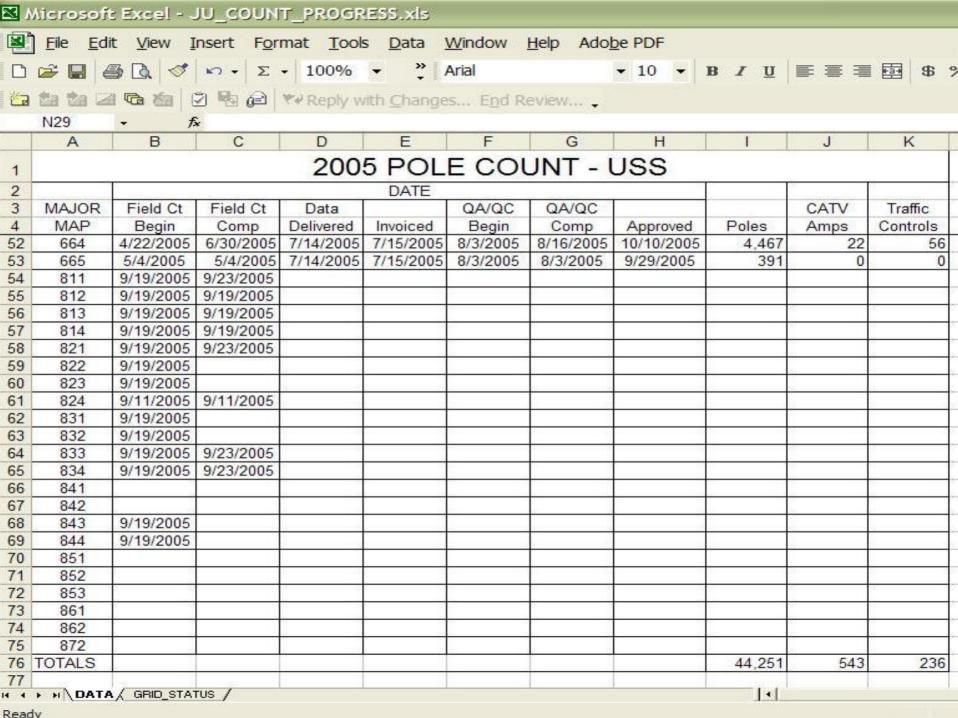
#### LAGNIAPPE

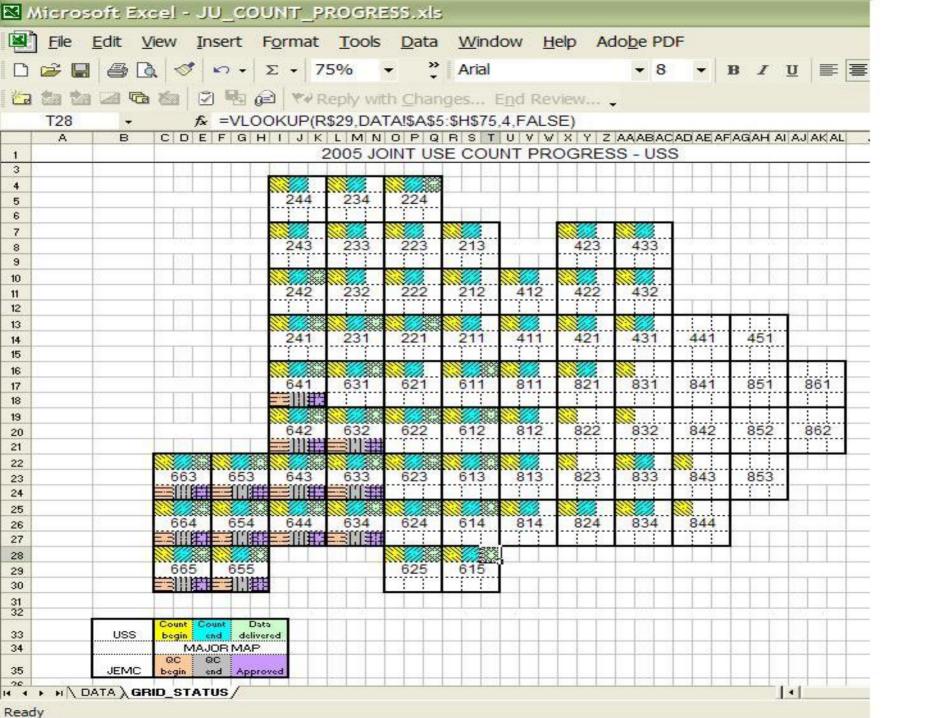


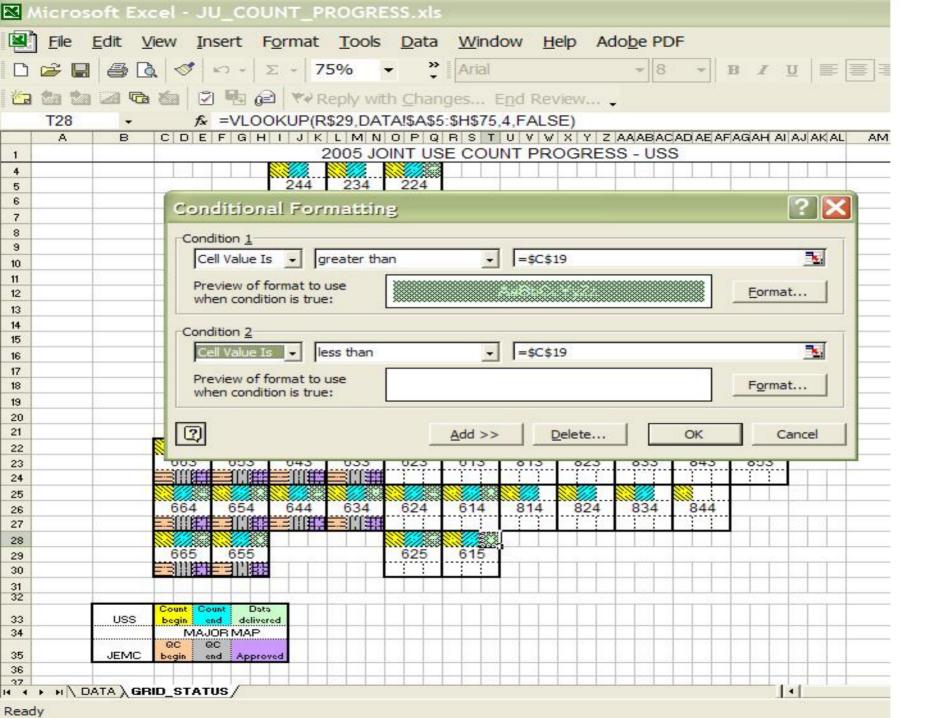
- Spatial project status report of pole attachment inventory project
  - Data is stored in a spreadsheet
  - Grid status display of work completed within a major map grid.
  - Status display is driven by conditional formatting of all cells within the system map grid view within the spreadsheet.













# Noble goals

- Expand the availability of GIS data to as many employees as is economically feasible to maximize the value of the data. (huge investments need to pay huge dividends)
- In mobile GIS installations there is a need to maximize the use of available network bandwidth to distribute large GIS datasets
- Find innovative ways to mine and aggregate existing GIS data to provide added functionality and value to your company





# Thank You !!! Questions ???

Greg Broussard
Jackson EMC
706.367.6150
gbroussard@jacksonemc.com

