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BUILDING A BETTER SOFTWARE BASE FOR METER SERVICES

Monday, October 2, 2023 11:00 am

Presented by Tom Lawton TESCO – The Eastern Specialty Company



SOFTWARE AS A TOOL

Software is no different than any other tool or process we have at our disposal, but it has the power to provide exponential returns be leveraging the data we know best. The more we know about how these tools help us, the better we can bring them to bear on existing problems and issues and future problems and issues. At Tesco, we're doubling down on software.





TESCO'S VISION

A series of platforms that have all of the information we need to make the best-informed decisions for operations and infrastructure development.





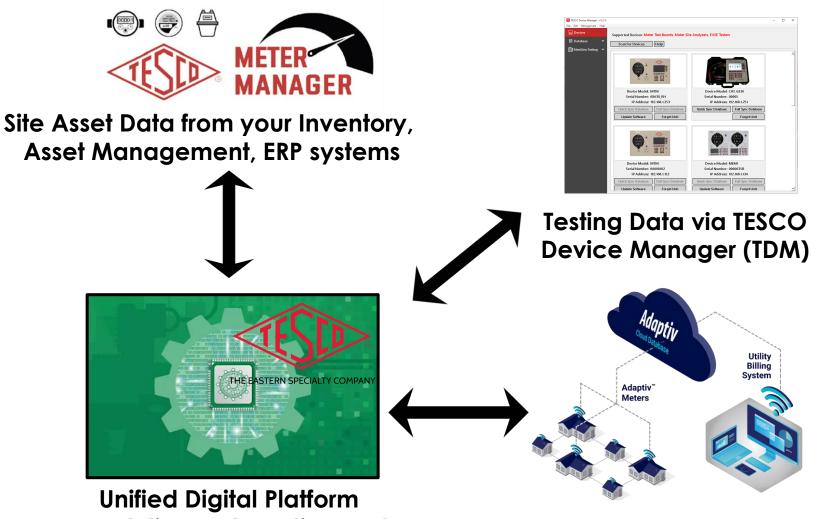
Having access to and analyzing data from

- Assets
- Customer Usage
- Testing
- AMI non-billing site data

Creating routine work tickets to correct and improve the distribution system







For Analytics, Automation and Al

Usage Data from your AMI system

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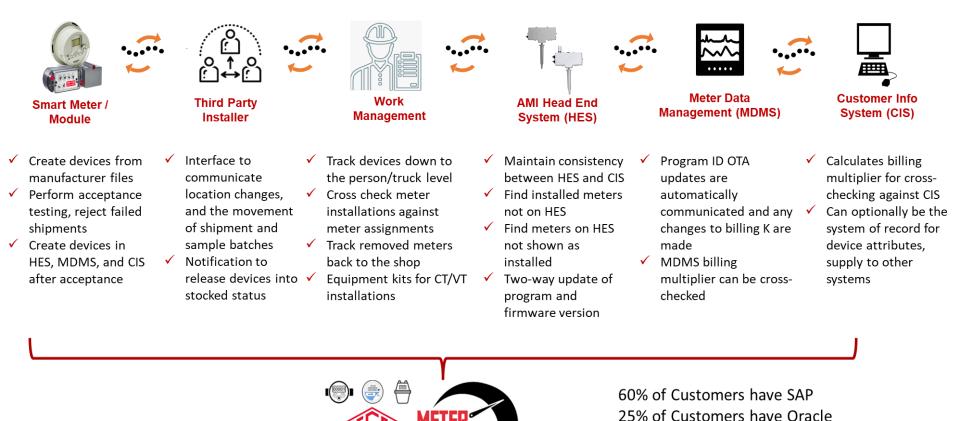
METER MANAGER







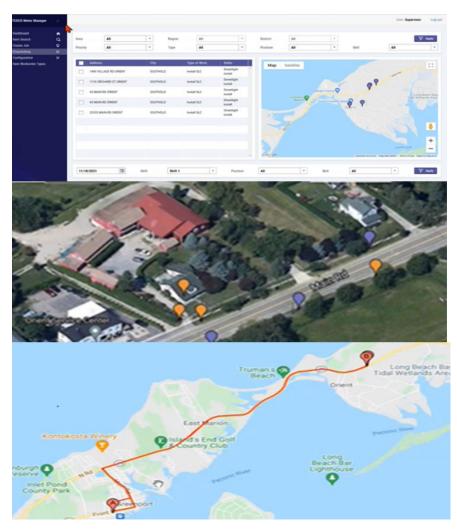
Architected with touchpoints to efficiently process core information



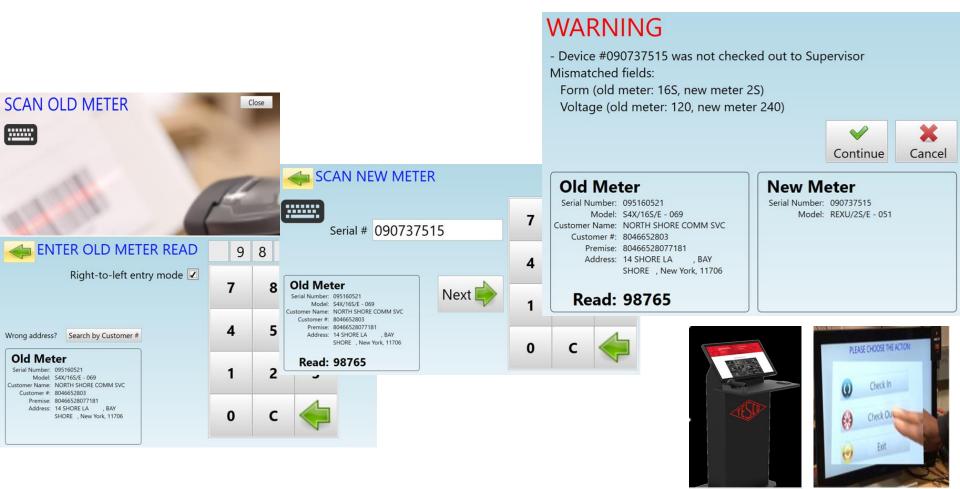
15% of Customers have legacy/other CIS



- ✓ Skills based work order assignment
- Configurable tasks for each work order and/or equipment type
- Schedule a technician on-the-fly and instantly notify and update their schedule for re-routing
- ✓ Optimized routing that recommends the best and safest route for any location with the effort to complete work order (complex / simple) factored into the schedule
- Works standalone and when network available reconnects automatically and syncs data
- Increase field work's accuracy and efficiency through GPS



ESE BUILT IN INTELLIGENCE WITH REAL-TIME INFORMATION



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TESCO DEVICE MANAGER - TDM





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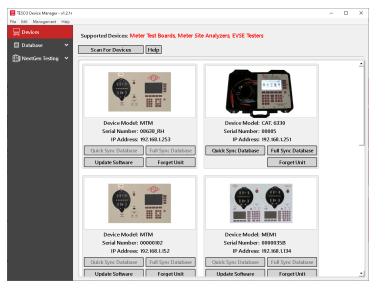
TESCO DEVICE MANAGER (TDM) LINKING TO THE HARDWARE

Software is a tool. This tool needs to be easy to use and intuitive to understand. All Microsoft products have a look and a feel that tells you they are Microsoft products. If you can navigate in one you can generally navigate in another.

We are working hard at TESCO to do the same across all of our platforms. TDM has been developed to bring efficiency to the meter shop by using the same platform to control all TESCO lab equipment, shop equipment and field equipment.

Features include:

- Direct to PDF reporting
- Report customization with company logo
- CSV data exporting
- Ability to simultaneously extract data from multiple units
- Ability to import data from any test equipment into any other software tool for analysis
- Ability to simultaneously update multiple units





TESCO TDM WITH METER MANAGER









TDM can create test sequences to automate tasks and reduce wasted effort;

For Standard As Found and As Left Tests

- Create sequences for standard forms
- Link with Meter Manager to automatically set up for any individual meter or other device being accuracy or functionally tested
- Do the same for Instrument transformers or anything else that you are using TDM to test

For First Article Testing

• Create a sequence for every functional and accuracy test you want to run and ensure that every new type of meter or iteration of a new type of meter are tested in a consistent manner with far less manual intervention.

For Sample Testing

• Create an automated sequence for sample testing of any meter and soon for any instrument transformer or even electric vehicle charger

Being able to create these sequences allows the meter engineer or the meter tech the ability to ensure consistent testing while also removing a significant amount of unnecessary labor









A TESCO COMPANY



NIGHTHAWK

About Nighthawk

- Nearly 30 years of utility experience
- 100+ utilities served

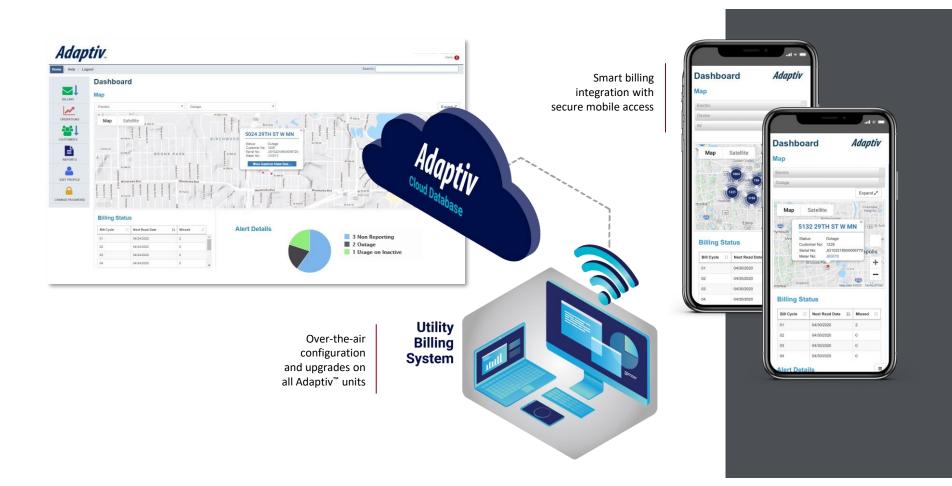
About Adaptiv[™]

- Unique zero-infrastructure network
- Cellular + Mesh Communications
 - Verizon LTE
 - AT&T
- Ideal for either incremental or rapid deployment
- Lowest total cost of ownership in the industry





NIGHTHAWK





DirectConnect

• Compatible with all data acquisition software that supports TCP/IP connections





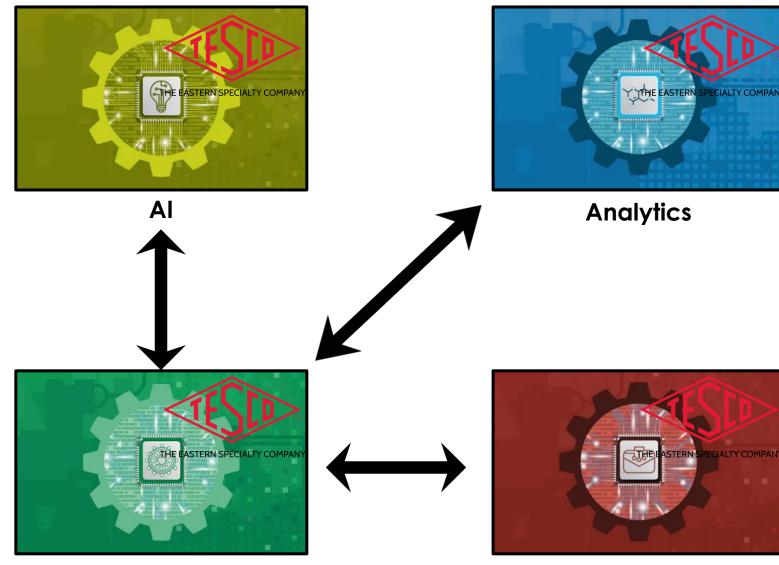








UNIFIED DIGITAL PLATFORM



Tesco Digital Platform

Automation 18











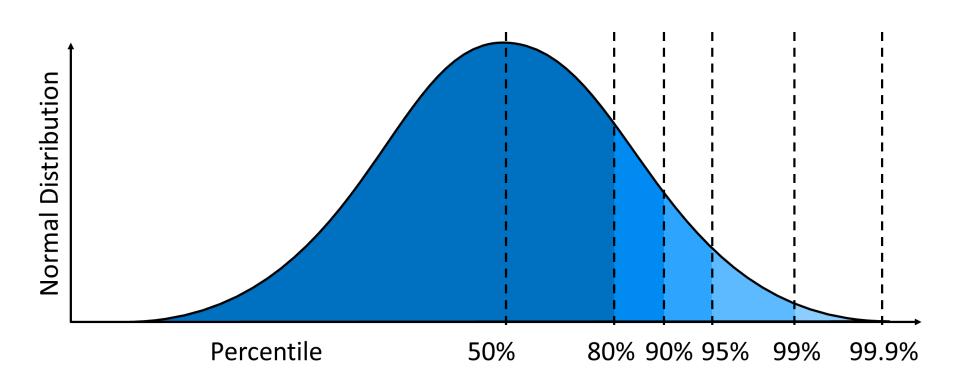
 $P(A) = \frac{\# \text{ outcomes in event } A}{\text{total } \# \text{ of outcomes}}$

- 1. Average, mean, mode, median
- 2. Do this a lot = long run frequency

We do this in Real Time using "Big Data" from all of our sources

SIGNIFICANCE AND TESTING





Now let's look at a few examples of how we use this data to Operational Advantage



Oversized Transformer Reporting

Platforms used:

Meter Manager – has all physical assets at every location including the instrument transformers

Consumption information from the head end – in this case a Silver Spring/Open Way head end



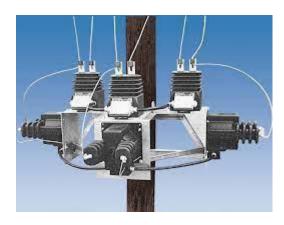
Oversized Transformer Reporting

Output:

A monthly report of the most egregiously over-sized transformer installations with usage going back over the past two years to demonstrate and estimate lost revenue

Use:

Field services receives monthly work orders to replace the instrument transformers with appropriately sized transformers. Extended range transformers further improve the effectiveness of the monthly billing





Oversized Transformer Reporting

Results:

A steady increase in monthly revenue gains on every Commercial/Industrial account addressed. Payback for the work is under three months in every case as there are so many oversized accounts.



A FEW CASE STUDIES ON HOW TO USE DATA ACROSS PLATFORMS

Oversized transformer reporting

Results:

Safety hazards found in the field were initially anticipated to be only failed socket jaw (hot socket) events, but this proved to be only a fraction of what was found. Some of the various safety related issues discovered in the field include;

- Failed meter socket jaw
- Frayed and breaking weather head connections
- Arcing on a customer circuit on the customer side of the service panel in the home
- Arcing at the connection to the Distribution transformers closest to the house
- Arcing in the manual disconnect mechanism of the meter box
- Frayed and failing wires between the socket and the service panel in the home

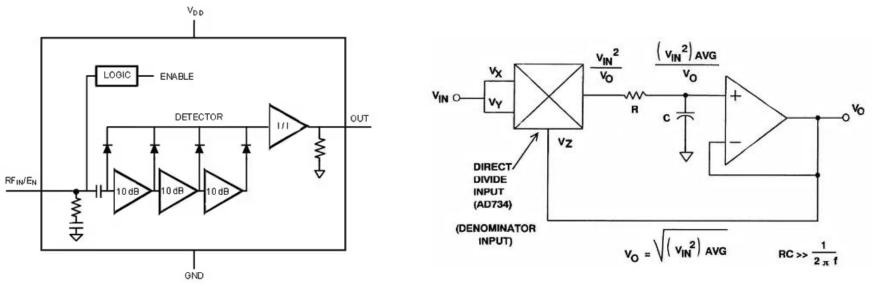


RF Detection Alarms

Platforms used:

Itron Open Way head-end and L+G Gridstream head-end – receive alarm data on the RF signature of electrical arcs in or around the service

TESCO Analytic software – over-arching customized analysis software to work across a variety of platforms



A FEW CASE STUDIES ON HOW TO USE DATA ACROSS

RF Detection Alarms

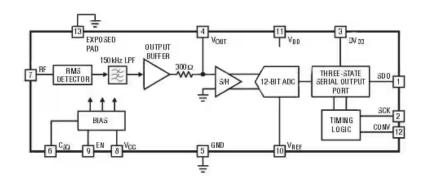
Output:

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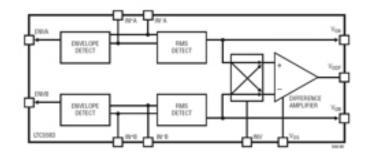
A weekly report identifying sites with RF detect (micro arc) alarms that fit an identified pattern

Use:

Field services receives a weekly report of sites to check for safety related issues. Inspection involves a visual detection as well as the use of RF detection equipment to pinpoint the source of the problem.



PLATFORMS



RADAR ENGINEERS



MODEL M331 MINI RFI LOCATOR



NEXT GENERATION ANALYTICS

Consumption Analysis: Combine data from Tesco Meter Manager and Nighthawk AMI to analyze consumption patterns of utility services such as water, gas, or electricity. Utilities can identify high consumption areas, detect anomalies, and offer energy-saving recommendations to customers.

Demand Forecasting: Use historical consumption data from Nighthawk AMI and Tesco Meter Manager to predict future demand patterns. Accurate demand forecasting helps utilities plan their resources more efficiently, avoiding overcapacity or shortages.

Leak Detection: By analyzing data from both systems, utilities can detect water or gas leaks in the distribution network. Early detection of leaks allows utilities to reduce water waste, prevent potential accidents, and minimize repair costs.

Asset Performance Management: Combine asset data from Tesco Meter Manager with usage data from Nighthawk AMI to assess the health and performance of utility assets. This analysis can aid in predictive maintenance, reducing downtime, and extending the lifespan of infrastructure.

Customer Segmentation: Analyze customer data from Tesco Meter Manager and usage patterns from Nighthawk AMI to segment customers based on consumption behavior. Utilities can tailor their services and marketing strategies to specific customer segments. **Load Profiling:** Create load profiles by analyzing data from Nighthawk AMI and Tesco Meter Manager. Load profiling helps utilities understand peak demand periods, plan capacity, and optimize energy distribution.

Revenue Assurance: Integrate billing data from Tesco Meter Manager and usage data from Nighthawk AMI to identify discrepancies and reduce revenue losses due to metering errors or inaccurate billing.

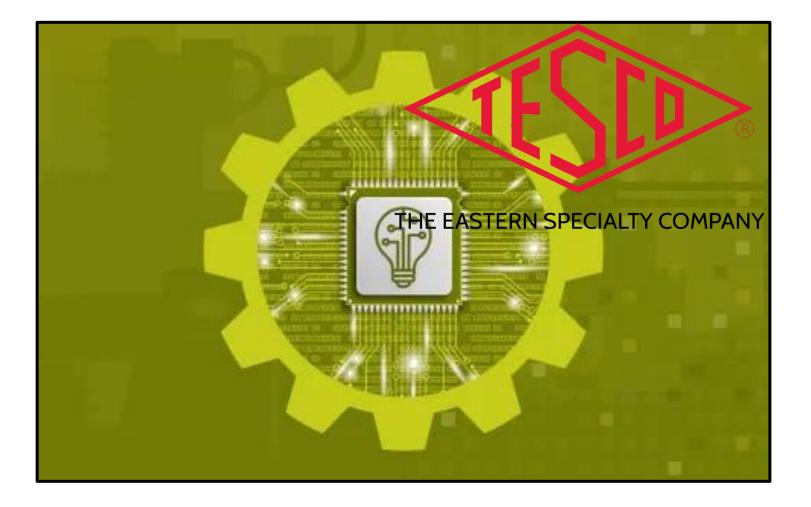
Operational Efficiency Analysis: Analyze data from both systems to evaluate the efficiency of utility operations. Identify areas where processes can be streamlined, resources optimized, and costs reduced.

Outage Management: By combining data from Tesco Meter Manager and Nighthawk AMI, utilities can improve outage detection and management. They can quickly identify affected areas, estimate restoration times, and communicate more effectively with customers during outages.

Environmental Impact Assessment: Analyze consumption data from Nighthawk AMI and Tesco Meter Manager to assess the environmental impact of utility services. Utilities can monitor their carbon footprint, set sustainability goals, and implement initiatives to reduce environmental impact

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE







Al provides the ability to make informed decisions automatically. By using big data in real time, we can augment and make the right decision, better, faster and cheaper, e.g. which alarms become actionable which data become actionable.



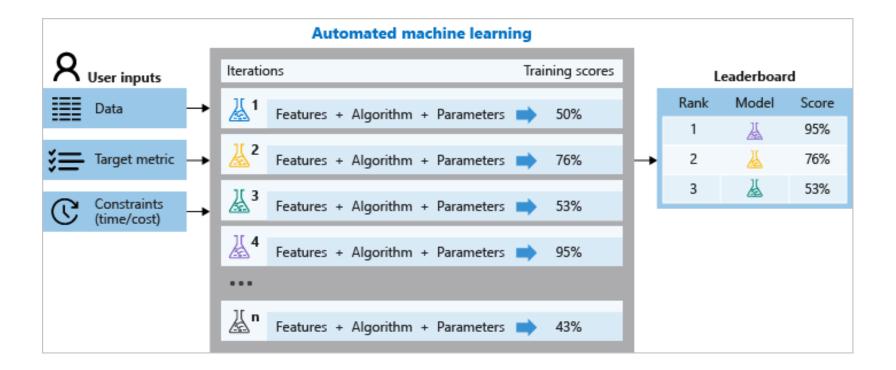
Data Engineering

- Structure, semi-structure, unstructured data
- Integration, consolidation, cleansing, transformation
- Operational and analytical data, streaming data, live data
- Data pipelines, data lakes, data warehouses

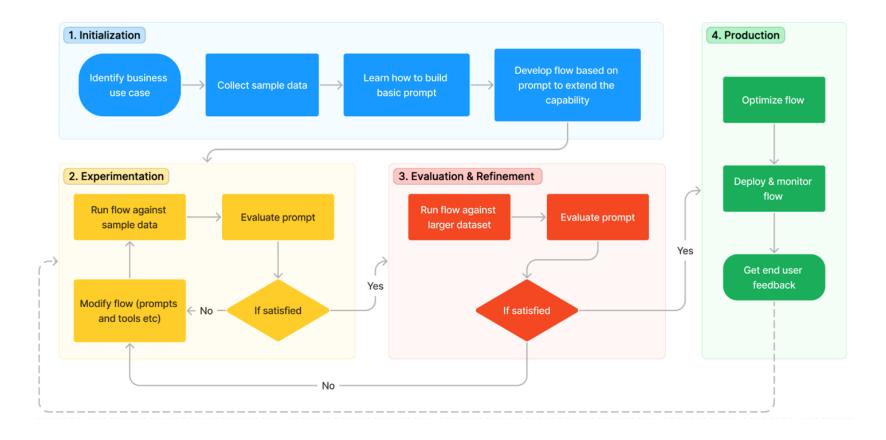




AUTOMATED MACHINE LEARNING







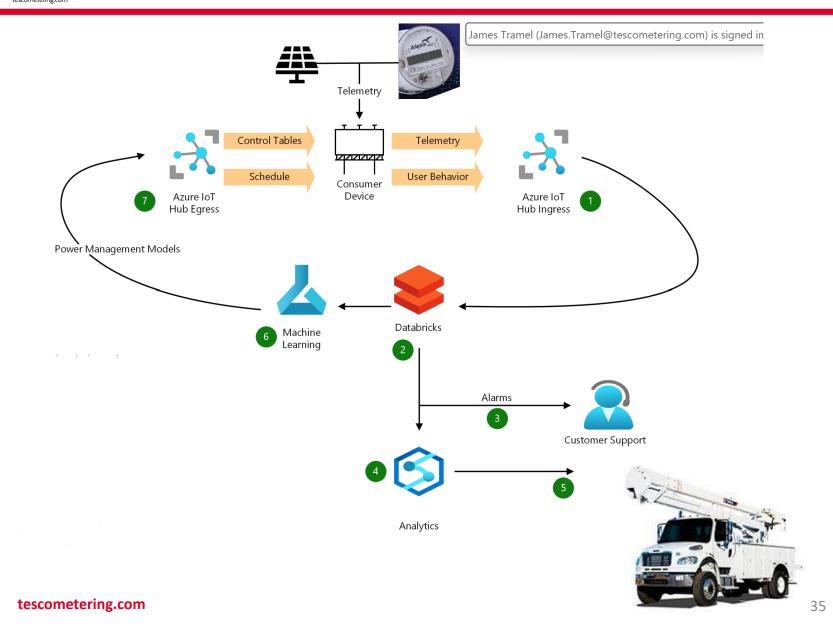
AUTOMATION





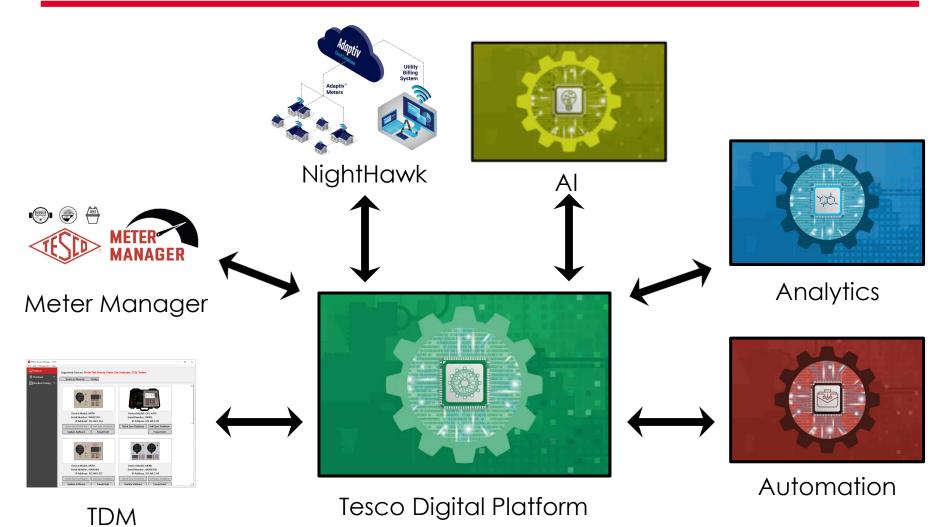


AI & AUTOMATION EXAMPLE - PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE



TESCO DIGITAL PLATFORM





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TESCO DIGITAL

Meter Manager + TDM + NightHawk

- Meter manager
 - System of record, inventory, ERP
- Adaptiv/ Nighthawk
 - Transactional, always on service
- TDM
 - State based, on demand service
- Bring your own systems to integrate with all or part of the platform
- Integrate what you need, when you need it
- Get the insights you need, when you need it





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