

The Challenge

Reliable load forecasting for operational excellence

How do you address the challenge of reliable load forecasting as the basis of your profitable operations, asset optimization, and positive bottomline impact?

Integrated load forecasting with reliable, intuitive and user-friendly tools is key to your profit maximizing and risk mitigating strategies

A lot rides on your forecasting accuracy. Operational processes such as scheduling, unit commitment, outage planning, and asset optimization depend on the quality of the load forecast. It's critical for risk management strategies and operational excellence in managing your asset portfolio. In short, load forecast quality will impact your cash flow and bottomline.

Cover your bases with SoftSmiths' Load Forecasting solution integrated with e-Merchant Transaction Management System for improved decision-making, reduced operational risk, and minimized uncertainty in your operations. e-Forecaster will give your managers that crucial window into the future, which impacts your trading, asset usage, risk mitigation strategies, and ultimately your profits.

Load Forecasting with Sharp Focus on Increasing your Return on Assets

The process of energy asset management begins with insight into load and price behavior in the future. It's imperative to start this process off on the right track. The quality of your load forecasting will shape your scheduling and bidding strategies, resource availability, real-time operations, P&L and revenues, directly impacting your bottomline performance.

With SoftSmiths' e-Forecaster and eMerchant Transaction Management System, you can integrate load and price forecasts into your real time and day ahead planning processes in order to maximize profits while eliminating complex mathematic modeling and simulation requirements. e-Forecaster bases load forecasts upon prior forecasts and actual load measurements, blended with time, temperature, and other attributes applicable to your area to keep surprises at bay.

Fine tune your operations and business decisions with reliable and proven forecasts by optimizing offers in energy and ancillary markets, managing bilateral contracts, tuning fuel purchases and usage, and scheduling outages. With e-Forecaster you will be able to look into the future with confidence, using its reliable and proven forecasting engine. e-Forecaster combined with e-Merchant produces a highly configurable system that lets you streamline your business operations aligned with the load forecast, and gives you a holistic control of your energy and financial transaction processes.

Functionality such as scenario planning and 'what if' analysis will add insight to your decision-making processes. Plan for any hidden surprises in your operations and purchases using iterative inputs with independent variables.

In addition to generation owners, SoftSmiths' Load Forecasting solution is an effective tool for power marketers and traders, providing critical data for the following processes:

- **Power marketers:** delivery point price forecasts, portfolio forecasts, geographical area forecasts and aggregation, single point wholesale load forecasts, etc.
- **Traders:** spark spread forecasts, profit and loss forecasts, contract positioning, FTR auction pricing, and ancillary markets forecasts.

SoftSmiths' energy business technology solutions provide a seamlessly integrated platform to facilitate straight through processing. You will benefit with e-Merchant's ability to pass load forecasting advantages through out the transaction chain and beyond to analytics. Extend your information using SoftSmiths' web based interfaces to reach enterprise wide operations through an intra-net or the Internet.

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The Solution

Accurate Load Forecast Integrated with your Transaction Business Processes

e-Forecaster

The e-Forecaster provides the ability to forecast load based on historical information, most common variables, and potential future changes. As part of the e-Merchant product suite, e-Forecaster integrates with its trading, scheduling, and settlement applications to simplify and automate operational forecasting of loads and related outputs.

e-Merchant

e-Merchant Power provides Load Forecasting, Resource & Portfolio Management, Real-time and Term Trading, Multi-Commodity Deal Capture, Net Position and "What-If" Impact Analysis, Volume and Mark-to-Market reporting, P&L reporting, Scheduling, Transmission Reservation and Electronic Tagging. In the Middle Office, e-Merchant capabilities include Operational and resource constraints, Risk Measurement, Controls and Monitoring, while the Back-office provides financial settlement, invoicing, payment tracking and reporting.

The e-Merchant Gas product suite is a collection of robust and easy-to-use interactive applications providing Front, Middle and Back-Office capabilities for Natural Gas Marketers, LDC, Utilities and Pipeline companies. e-Merchant Gas provides Deal Capture, Transportation Management, Storage Management and Risk Management. In the Middle Office, e-Merchant capabilities include Operational and resources constraints, Risk Measurement, Controls and Monitoring, Nominations and Pipeline Imbalances, while the Back-office provides Contract Management, Confirmations, Financial Settlement, Invoicing and reporting.

- e-Generation
- e-Forecaster
- e-Cal+

e-Cal+

e-Cal+ provides a sophisticated mechanism for implementing user-defined calculations that are dynamically updated in real-time.

EMSLink

SoftSmiths EMSLink provides seamless integration between 3rd party Energy Management Systems and our e-Merchant and e-Wheel suites. EMSLink provides net scheduled interchange data in the required format to EMS/SCADA systems for use in Automatic Generation Control (AGC). Further it complements the capabilities already provided by e-Merchant and e-Wheel to make use of EMS/SCADA information, such as meter data, to perform control area energy accounting functions such as calculation of inadvertent interchange.

Contact us for more information at 713-626-9184 or at mkt@softsmiths.com.

SoftSmiths' proven solutions and in-depth knowledge of the industry's business practices allow its customers to automate manual processes, eliminate redundancies, and increase business visibility across the enterprise to allow faster decision making and more informed decisions, thereby improving profitability, operational efficiencies and cash flow.



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