

DATA MANAGEMENT COLLABORATIVE

Surviving the Data Avalanche



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Accelerate data management innovation among utilities.
- Empowering utilities with top-tier practices in data management capabilities.
- Cultivating data literacy and awareness to drive informed decision-making across organizations.
- Utilize the frameworks to assess and enhance data management practices, ensuring agility and competitiveness.

Background, Objectives, and New Learnings

Efficient data management is crucial for utilities in today's dynamic landscape, enabling evolution and adaptation. With diverse data sources and advanced processing technologies like AI and ML, utilities are ripe for transformation. However, challenges such as poor data quality and accessibility hinder progress, despite opportunities for new services and cost optimization. The utilities industry faces various challenges in effective data management, from ensuring quality and governance to leveraging insights for efficiency and innovation. Each organization is in a different stage of its data journey, with unique priorities. The primary aim of this collaborative project is to facilitate knowledge exchange and best practice sharing among participating utilities. Throughout the project, participants will have the opportunity to gain new insights and knowledge in several key areas, including:

- **Data Governance Best Practices:** Learn strategies for developing and evolving data governance to meet evolving business needs. Refine frameworks to ensure effective data management across organizational silos and domains.
- **Data Quality Management:** Learning methodologies and tools for assessing, improving, and maintaining data quality across diverse datasets and systems. Develop metrics that can measure data quality.
- **Organizational Change Management:** Overcoming resistance and fostering buy-in for data initiatives.
- **Data Architecture and Integration:** Exploring approaches to designing and implementing scalable data architectures that support integration, interoperability, and analytics.
- **Data Literacy:** Gain insights into data lake, data mesh, and data fabric concepts.
- **Assessing Data Management:** Utilizing a framework to evaluate data management maturity within one's organization and benchmarking against peers.
- **Align Data Management to Strategy:** Aligning strategic objectives with data management capabilities to bridge gaps and drive business value.

Benefits

The collaborative data management project offers numerous benefits for participating utilities, including:

- **Shared Expertise:** Access to a diverse range of data management expertise and perspectives from industry peers, enabling accelerated learning and problem-solving.
- **Cost Savings:** By leveraging shared resources and best practices, utilities can reduce duplication of effort and minimize investment in redundant tools and processes in data management.
- **Enhanced Innovation:** Collaboration fosters innovation by facilitating the exchange of ideas and enabling utilities to explore new approaches and technologies in data management.
- **Improved Performance:** Strengthened data management capabilities lead to improved operational performance, better decision-making, and enhanced customer service.
- **Maximize Business Value from Data:** Optimizing data management to align with strategic objectives enhances decision-making, operational efficiency, competitive advantage, and regulatory compliance.

Project Approach and Summary

This project aims to be structured around collaborative workshops, knowledge-sharing sessions, and working groups focused on key areas such as data quality, governance, and data architecture. Participants will engage in discussions, case studies, and hands-on exercises to address common challenges and identify practical solutions.

Deliverables

The following deliverables are currently planned:

- A comprehensive Technical Report summarizing lessons learned, best practices, and potential solutions.
- A Data Management Maturity Model.
- A Data Management Assessment Framework.
- Techniques/Framework to map data management capabilities to strategy.

Price of Project

The price to participate in this project is \$50,000. Companies that fund any EPRI program can use Self-Directed Funds (SDF) for up to half their contribution to fund this opportunity.

Project Status and Schedule

The project is expected to run for 12 months and is estimated to start in June 2024.

Who Should Join

Any utility grappling with data management challenges and seeking to enhance their data management practices.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the EPRI Customer Assistance Center at 800.313.3774 (askepri@epri.com).

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