



Fuel Plan Management

Automating and streamlining the fuel supply chain

Overview

With global concerns about climate change and warming, security of supply, and extreme price volatility, energy market participants face increasing pressure to manage risks related to supply. Trading and hedging provide methods to help manage these risks, however, the complexity of the fuels supply chain demands additional tools. Further, determining which fuel to use during which time periods to meet changing market needs is complicated by variable costs and emissions issues.

For companies that utilize fuel to generate power or consume large volumes of fuel in production of goods or services, it is critical to more effectively manage fuel inventories and logistics with accurate and immediate information.

Reducing the cost of procuring, transporting or consuming fuel by even a few pennies per unit can result in hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings over time for a fuel-intensive business. Fuels management systems can provide the ability to improve supply decisions and to manage procurement and delivery of fuel.

Real-time Information from Purchase to Generation

Fuels are the largest direct cost in generating electricity and largest operational cost for many energy-related businesses. Managing fuel costs helps consumers, suppliers and fuel transporters to operate more efficiently. SunGard's Align E Fuels Management provides the foundation for effective fuels management by helping users to track vendor performance, create reports and analyze fuel costs - at the push of a button. Additional modules such as Align E Fuel Plan Management and Align E Rail Car Management extend this capability to help streamline the planning, purchasing, scheduling, tracking and inventory, and accounting for fuels.

Building on Align E Fuels Management: Align E Fuel Plan Management

When combined with Align E Fuels Management and Align E Rail Car Management, Align E Fuel Plan Management incorporates planned fuel mixes, consumptions, contract commitments, operational charges and other budget items into a complete fuel budget to help simplify accounting and reporting. Among the many features included in Align E Fuel Plan Management are the following:

- Fuel and O&M costs
- Budget versus actual variances throughout the budget period
- Support for multiple budget input and reporting scenarios
- Powerful "what-if" analysis and scenarios
- Integrated reporting and forecasting

Fuel Expense Summary report showing monthly fuel costs for various generating units and facilities from 2006 to 2007. Includes columns for months and total expenses.

Figure 1: Example of Fuel Expense Summary report

Contracts established and existing in Align E Fuels Management may be used for forecasting within Align E Fuel Plan Management. The options include designating contracts as actual contracts, which would be applicable when extending or planning against current contracts, or as Planning, which may reflect "hypothetical" deals or a



representation of what is expected of the spot or OTC market or of Bids that have been submitted to fill the 'Need to Buy' fuel.

Aligne Fuel Plan Management offers the ability to create and compare various business scenarios. The components of such scenarios may include similar or variations of the following "plans":

- Purchase plans (data related to all fuel purchase cost). These plans tie into Aligne Fuels Management purchase and logistics.
- Consumption plans (data related to all fuel burned). Forecasted heat requirements from generation forecasting tools may be imported.
- Purchase power plans (data related to any generation that may be purchased instead of generated)
- Power generation plans (defines the generation that is required for a specific budget timeline)
- Initial balances plans (data related to beginning balances for monetary, quantity and quality values). Additionally Aligne Fuel Plan Management allows the use of actual balances calculated and stored in Aligne Fuels Management.
- Heat rate plans (data related to the heat rate required for the specific budget timeline)
- Miscellaneous cost plans (data related to any additionally cost required for the expense calculation within the budget timeline)
- Alternative fuel plan (data related to any cost for fuels that is not being tracked within Aligne Fuel Management)

With the ability to capture projected purchases, projected consumptions an end user will have all information necessary to:

- Predict total cost of projected fuel purchases
- Predict total fuel expense for the forecasted period
- Look at projected inventory positions (quantity, quality and monetary value)
- Develop cash flow projections for fuel related costs
- Assess and compare impacts on various business scenarios
- Compare actual to forecasted
- Preview actual to-date and projected for time frame
- Version scenarios to capture data that will remain unchanged and be available for reporting at any time. This data is a 'snapshot' of all the plans, associated contracts and volume commitments. A versioned scenario may be marked as the official budget for historical purposes.

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#### **ABOUT SUNGARD ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

SunGard's energy solutions help energy companies, industrials and financial services, to efficiently compete in global energy markets by streamlining and integrating the trading, risk management and operations of physical commodities and their associated financial instruments. These solutions provide front to back-office support for capturing deals, delivering market data for valuation, clearing and reconciliation of transactions, invoicing and accounting for transactions, analysis and management of risk, and physical transmission or delivery of commodities. SunGard Energy Solutions also support the logistics and inventory of fuels used in producing

**Website:** [www.sungard.com/energy](http://www.sungard.com/energy)  
**Email:** [energy-marketing@sungard.com](mailto:energy-marketing@sungard.com)

NORTH AMERICA: +1 713 210 8000  
EUROPE: +44 (0) 20 8081 2000

ASIA PAC: +65 6416 9790  
INDIA: +91 20 6624 8000