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Providing Modern Customer Experiences

Fifth-largest publicly traded gas utility in the U.S. creates state-of-the-art customer portal with Liferay DXP

Summary

Spire serves more than 1.7 million customers across Missouri, Mississippi and Alabama with a self-service customer experience portal built on Liferay DXP.

spireenergy.com/aboutmy-account

In Brief

INDUSTRY:

Energy

COUNTRY/REGION:

United States

USE CASE:

Customer Portal

KEY FEATURES:

Role-Based Access Controls, Web Content Management, Custom Application Development, Mobile-Friendly Design, Enterprise Integration, Single Sign-On, Identity Management, Online User Dashboard



This solution delivers an engaging user experience and homogenizes our complex back-end systems.

Deborah Banks, Director at Spire

Challenges

- Replace multiple disparate portals for a unified user experience
- Homogenize two ERP systems, two payment processing systems and two mobile workforce management systems
- Give customers real-time account updates, billing information and energy usage data

Results



COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PLATFORM

Self-service tools quickly support customer needs



IMPROVED CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

Comprehensive online service tools provide customers with the support they need, when they need it



SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION

Connecting customer information and billing systems



Portal increases business operations efficiency and reduces agent processing times



Empowering an Energy Company

Spire, is an energy company serving 1.7 million customers across Missouri, Mississippi and Alabama. As the fifth largest publicly traded gas utility in the U.S., Spire's mission is "answer every challenge, advance every community and enrich every life through the strength of our energy." To improve customer service, Spire decided to replace two separate online account management websites with a single platform solution providing a variety of tools at myaccount.spireenergy.com.

After a rigorous evaluation process, the team eventually chose Liferay DXP.



The Liferay platform provided a solid foundation with great flexibility with Liferay partner XTIVIA providing in-depth consultation services and a track record of successful projects. The result was a state-of-the art modern unified customer portal experience leveraging Liferay DXP with an Angular-based client side UI. This replaced two separate sites written in different languages with a single, cohesive user experience. Direct integrations with SAP and Oracle Customer Care & Billing provide customers with real-time information directly from the core customer information systems.

Spire refined detailed requirements for the XTIVIA development team before each development sprint for review before starting actual coding.

"The XTIVIA team exceeded expectations by working with our business and technology groups to deliver a state-of-the-art, turn-key solution in record time," said Deborah Banks, Director at Spire. "This solution delivers an engaging user experience and homogenizes our complex back-end systems. We're excited to continue working with XTIVIA on future projects and releases."

Effective Tools for Customers and Service Agents

This extensive integration provides gas usage charts, online bill payment and self-service tools for enrolling in payment arrangements, paperless billing and a DollarHelp program for customers in need. It also features user management for individual accounts, internal customer service agent single sign-on, custom permissioning and authorization capabilities, fraudulent account detection and lock-out, custom alert messages and more. Also, the portal includes a service layer that homogenizes data and data models from two different customer information systems to provide a seamless user interface, as well as integration with two payment processors and two mobile workforce management systems.

Spire met their objectives and had a successful launch. The My Account site is easy to use and responsive for all devices. Customer service agents now use the same applications and site as consumers, which helps finetune call center operations and reduce costs.

Liferay DXP exceeded Spire's expectations and helped support a larger re-branding effort for the company. Spire has regularly heard from customers about how much they love the My Account site due to enhanced user experiences. Spire plans to introduce many cutting-edge features in the future like real-time service technician tracking, integration with smart home devices and more.

