

## eRemote

### Manual Meter Reading Just Got Smarter.....

#### The Concept

The process of manual meter readings can prove to be arduous and lead to inaccuracies. This is usually due to a number of reasons. The information that users carry around with them during manual reads is limited. This means that:

- ✓ It is sometimes difficult to ensure that the correct meter is being read
- ✓ The meter data cannot be verified at the point of read
- ✓ Incorrect numerical formats can be recorded
- ✓ Meters may accidentally be missed

eSight Energy masterminded the eRemote product to combat these, and other problems associated with manually reading meters. eRemote is designed to provide a cost effective, slick, quick and easy method of obtaining accurate, manually read meter data.

#### The Solution

eRemote is an additional module that forms part of the eSight product suite. It provides users with the ability to take manual meter readings electronically via a PDA device. Meter readings are entered directly into the PDA and uploaded to eSight once complete.

#### How Does It Work?

eRemote consists of two main elements. These are a management module within eSight and the eRemote application that runs on the PDA.



The eRemote module within eSight allows users to manage PDA devices which can communicate with eSight. In addition, the meters that can be read by a PDA are configured.

The eRemote application software on the PDA provides the facility for entering manual meter readings and uploading the data to eSight.



#### Getting Started

eRemote is an extremely user friendly product that is very easy to setup and use. There are three main steps to the setup procedure:

- ✓ **Setup the PDA devices in eSight**  
This simply involves entering basic information about the PDA (make, model, serial number, password etc). This is required in order for eSight to recognize which PDA it is communicating with.
- ✓ **Setup the meters in eSight**  
The next step is to tell eSight which meters you intend to read manually. The required meters can be grouped together and then placed into a "walk-order". This is the order that you would normally walk round and read the meters in.
- ✓ **Download the information to the PDA**  
The information you have setup in eSight is then automatically sent to the PDA device so that it is stored, ready for when you walk round the meters.

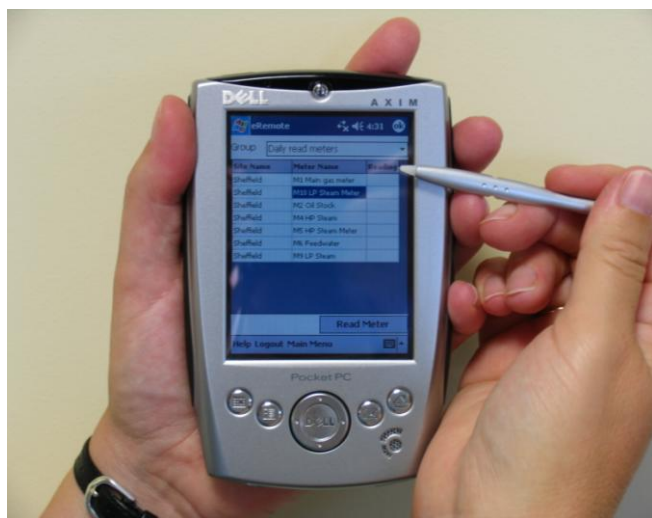
You can then log onto the PDA, select the group of meters and immediately start entering readings. If a walk-order has been specified, the meters will be listed in that order. Once you have finished reading the meters, you can upload the data to eSight for analysis.

## Portable Meter Data

Meter data is downloaded from eSight to the PDA unit. This includes:

- ✓ Site & Meter Name
- ✓ Meter Number
- ✓ Serial Number
- ✓ Previous Reading (including read date)

Availability of this data at the point of read allows the user to check that they are reading the correct meter if unsure. If an unexpected reading i.e. one lower than the previous reading is entered, eRemote informs you immediately, allowing problems to be corrected at source.



## Walk Order

Within each group of meters, a walk order can be set. This is simply a list of meters organized into the order in which you expect to read them.

The meters appear on the PDA in the set order, ensuring that you don't miss any readings for that group. The walk order can easily be changed, but is set as an option for data accuracy.

## Security

Security is an important feature of eRemote. To ensure the integrity of meter data in eSight, each user has a password to logon to eRemote on the PDA. The PDA in turn has a password required to communicate with eSight. This double security ensures that:

- ✓ No unauthorized user can logon to eRemote
- ✓ No unauthorized PDA can communicate with eSight

## How Does The PDA Device Communicate with eSight?

There are a wide variety of options available for the PDA to communicate with eSight. This communications allows data to be downloaded to the PDA and new meter readings to be uploaded. There are a number of potential methods of facilitating this communication depending on your individual PDA device's capabilities:

### ✓ Docking Station

The PDA can be connected directly to a PC (that can communicate with eSight) via a docking station or USB cable.

### ✓ GPRS

A GPRS enabled PDA (also called an XDA) provides a permanently online connection. This enables eRemote to synchronize data with eSight at any point.

### ✓ Wi-Fi

If you have wireless connectivity available on your PDA, you can synchronize remotely.

### ✓ LAN

PDA's with a network card may connect with eSight via a network connection.

### ✓ Modem

PDA's with a Modem card or external modem connection may connect with eSight via dial-up.

### ✓ Infrared

Infrared enabled PDA's allow connectivity to eSight via other Infrared devices such as a mobile phone.



The multiple communication methods allow you to select the option that best suits your requirements.