



# COGnissance

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## Fall Fever!!

As we enter the final quarter of 2017, Cognera is able to reflect back on some key new projects brought onboard throughout the year.

Whether it be through recent acquisitions or new solutions in development, it all represents some exciting new opportunities for the company moving forward.

Q3 did see some meetings and updates as it relates to the carbon levy and microgeneration sites. It also saw some market fallout from the Waterton and Cardston fires.

In this issue, we will be highlighting one of the products that comes with Cognera's acquisition of Excelergy. We take a look at some of the things that are involved in Cognera's Revenue Assurance checks and their benefits to our clients. As well we highlight Cognera's recent involvement in the community through Calgary Corporate Challenge.

Regulatory updates will once again provide current industry information about what is impacting billing and settlement in the Alberta market, as well as provide the latest update on Government regulations and climate change initiatives.

As always, we encourage your feedback! So please feel free to email us at ([cognissance@cognera.com](mailto:cognissance@cognera.com)) with any comments, suggestions or topics you would like to hear more about.

- Randy Brookes, Senior Executive Vice President.

*“As we start to see signs of Alberta’s economic landscape turning back around, new opportunities will ultimately arise and new doors can be opened.”*

- Randy Brookes, SEVP of Cognera



## Regulatory Updates

**Rule 021/028** – The AUC held a meeting in early September to review issues and discuss proposed rule changes. Material proposed changes for 2017/2018 can be grouped into the following categories:

- Updates to accommodate grouped Microgeneration sites;
- Updates related to erroneous enrolment procedures; and
- Updates related to load settlement audit requirements.

**Rule 004** – The AUC held a meeting in early September to review issues and proposed code changes. The group discussed Distributor classification of property tax vs. municipal franchise fees/local access fees in TBF files. It would appear some Distributors are grouping property tax charges with access/franchise fees at this time. Both Distributors and Retailers have been asked to provide additional information on current invoice display. Cognera is working on the request from the AUC and will provide further details when action items, if any, are known.

**Carbon Levy** – A Carbon Levy meeting was held in early August to confirm approach for the pricing change as of January 1, 2018. Both AltaGas and ATCOGas confirmed like methodologies for implementation, while Distributor reporting was also discussed. If you have any questions regarding collection/bad debt reporting for carbon levy charges, please reach out to your team lead and we can assist further.

<https://www.alberta.ca/electricity.aspx>

<http://www.auc.ab.ca/acts-regulations-and-auc-rules/rules/Pages/Rule021.aspx>

<http://www.auc.ab.ca/acts-regulations-and-auc-rules/rules/Pages/Rule028.aspx>

<http://www.auc.ab.ca/acts-regulations-and-auc-rules/rules/Pages/Rule004.aspx>

<https://www.aeso.ca/market/capacity-market-transition/>

<https://www.aeso.ca/market/renewable-electricity-program/>

<https://www.encyclopediaalberta.ca/>

**Cardston/Waterton Fires** – At this time, it appears the market will follow the same processes put in place for the Fort McMurray fires:

### *Electricity Sites:*

- Electricity sites were blocked from billing by FortisAlberta for the evacuation period (Distribution/TBF billing);
- FortisAlberta will provide one time Distribution credits for the evacuation period in the TBF file(s) created, This will happen once the block is removed; and
- FortisAlberta will work with the AESO to determine one time financial credits, if appropriate, for settlement data at a later date. We expect to see consumption in the preliminary data set, so any Retailer looking to provide credits in advance of the AESO/FortisAlberta provision will need a manual process put in place.

### *Gas Sites:*

Retail gas sites were not affected by the evacuation/fire.



## Excelergy Brings HedgeDirect to Cognera's Suite of Software Solutions

The acquisition of Excelergy last quarter brought with it a number of new and exciting products and services to Cognera's solution portfolio. Adding a wider range of products that now includes licensed software for purchase along with increased expertise in American and European markets, allows Cognera the versatility to offer its clients a more complete suite of energy billing options.

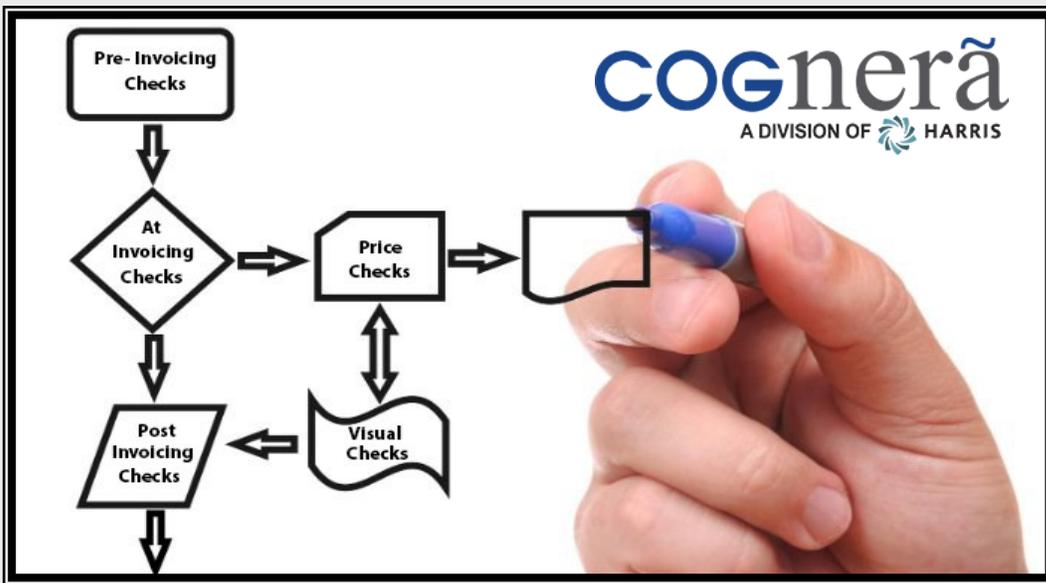
Excelergy Contract Management is a real-time transaction management platform that provides automation and accuracy in the quoting, execution, confirmation and management of structured retail pricing for single or mixed commodities. It is a single solution, with integrated modules that support end-user customer prospecting, meter data management, quote forecasting, product management, curve building, customer pricing, document/contract creation, sales force management, and invoicing of simple and complex power and gas supply contracts. Excelergy Contract Management seamlessly integrates contract pricing with billing ensuring that what is priced and contracted is exactly what can be billed, including the use of complex business rules.

This centralized command and control protects margins and minimizes risks to provide the proper checks and balances and to ensure consistency in the pricing and contracting process.

### **Contract Management:**

- Ensures data integrity within pricing, billing, and provides ability to integrate to trading systems
- Generates time sensitive price quotes safeguarding against market volatility
- Enables reporting to identify margin levels on cumulative retail sales
- Replaces manual processes with real-time pricing
- Adapts to any market within a flexible structure
- Facilitates closer coordination between risk, trading, and sales





## Cognera Makes Your Revenue Its Top Priority

The goal of Revenue Assurance is to ensure that every charge received by outside suppliers has been properly loaded, calculated and invoiced. Revenue Assurance also develops effective validations and auditing practices to track data input and flow, while managing to reduce the errors caused by manual intervention.

We work meticulously to ensure the validity of checks during the entire process of invoicing. Clients pre-invoicing checks can vary depending on what type of services they offer. Additionally, during the invoicing phase we check applicable calculated charges, ad hoc charges, and pass thru charges to ensure they are invoiced accurately. We maintain all reports for these checks and enhance/update them when needed.

### Contact Us

We want to hear from you! Send us an email or give us a call for more information about our services and products.

**Note:** *If you do not wish to receive the Cognera newsletter please respond to this email address to be removed from the distribution list.*

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## In The Community

*2017 Calgary Corporate Challenge brings employees out to share in the spirit of activity and community!*

Another year of fast paced CCC action is in the books. Always a fun and entertaining time for a lot of companies in Calgary as they battle it out for sporting supremacy.

Cognera always looks forward to participating in a number of events including: curling, basketball, spin, horseshoes, trivia, table tennis and more...

Some of this years highlights included 5th place finishes in both table tennis and spin along with a gold medal in the blue division for curling!

Congratulations to all the participants and thanks again to all the sponsors and the CCC for another great year!

- Travis Knee, Sales & Marketing Coordinator