The increasing global demand for natural gas has led to production growth and infrastructure expansion. To compete for new business, natural gas pipeline operators are seeking innovative ways to manage their commercial pipeline operations more efficiently.

With pipeline operators looking to automate manual, spreadsheet-based processes, many are turning to software-as-a-service (SaaS) offerings. Delivered via web, such platforms can reduce upfront capital costs, deliver rapid implementation, keep up with market changes, manage data security and require little to no IT staff involvement.

Our Solution

FIS’ Aligne SaaS | Pipe Ops Express provides a real-time tariff and operational framework for processing pipeline transactions for U.S. non-regulated, FERC-regulated and Mexico’s CRE-regulated natural gas pipelines. By providing access to real-time data and analytical tools, this solution streamlines day-to-day business processes, such as nominations, scheduling, contract maintenance, allocations, imbalance management and invoicing.

To significantly reduce the time and cost required to implement the solution, Aligne SaaS | Pipe Ops Express is delivered with a standardized out-of-the-box configuration. For company-specific configuration, the comprehensive reference data module facilitates straight-through processing for even the most challenging business situations. The system’s modern, service-oriented architecture offers efficiency and scalability, as well as the ability to adapt to future regulatory and business requirements.

Aligne SaaS | Pipe Ops Express is ideal for gas gathering system, pipeline or storage facility operators interested in a solution that features a low-cost monthly subscription and can be implemented within 90 days.

Why Pipe Ops Express?

- **Drive business growth**
  Attract new customers through use of advanced commercial software
- **Improve efficiency**
  Eliminate data duplication and data-entry errors with straight-through processing
- **Ensure compliance**
  Robust controls and full audit history for business assurance
- **Scale as your business grows**
  Move to custom implementation (hosted or onsite) as business requirements change
- **Low cost of ownership**
  Monthly subscription model
- **Implement within 90 days**
  SaaS deployment with customer-specific reference data, contracts and counterparties
Benefits
With Aligne SaaS | Pipe Ops Express, you can:

- **Enhance customer service** – Provide web access to your shippers, allowing them to see their real-time actuals, charges and invoices.
- **Reduce errors** – Ensure a single system of record by consolidating spreadsheet and other data.
- **Improve efficiency** – Automate manual processes such as accounting, invoicing and reporting.
- **Make timely decisions** – Use real-time data from SCADA or other measurement systems, instead of old data.
- **Ensure NAESB compliance** – Maintain historic data for reporting and timely response to inquiries.
- **Manage the IT budget** – Keep costs minimal, while staying current with technology and maintaining flexibility to scale.
- **Protect data** – Stay safe from cyber threats as our system regularly undergoes penetration testing.

Functionality
Aligne SaaS | Pipe Ops Express provides complete horizontal coverage of capabilities from our Aligne suite, which is used by major pipeline and storage operators.

Basic package includes:

- Reference data management
- Tariff and rate schedule maintenance
- Service contract entry and management
- Web portal for shipper nomination entry
- Confirmations and scheduling
- Measurement data upload and allocation
- Imbalance management
- Invoicing
- Informational postings website
- Capacity release

SaaS and Cybersecurity
Cybersecurity is becoming top-of-mind for many technology executives in the energy and commodities market, especially as they consider web-based software solutions. As a Cybersecurity Research Partner with the U.S. DHS, FIS responds to cyber threats to the global financial and energy industries and maintains close relationships with domestic security and intelligence communities.1 We have a keen understanding of how to handle and respond to cybersecurity incidents and create frameworks for protecting client systems and their data at all times in all our solutions, including the Aligne SaaS | Pipe Ops Express.

About FIS Solutions for Energy and Commodities
FIS’ solutions for energy and commodities help utilities and retailers, pipeline and storage operators, marketers and traders as well as integrated energy companies compete efficiently in global markets by streamlining and integrating the trading, risk management and operations of physical commodities and their associated financial instruments. Through real-time data, connectivity and analysis, FIS solutions help you achieve transparency and regulatory compliance, optimize end-to-end transaction and operational lifecycles, and meet time-to-market needs with flexible deployment options. As your technology partner, we can help take advantage of the latest innovation and explore new opportunities. For more information, email us at getinfo@fisglobal.com.

Enabling the Adaptive Enterprise
Sitting at the intersection of technology and finance, FIS is focused on delivering fresh ideas and inventive solutions to help our customers adapt to and thrive in an ever-changing environment. With a blend of software solutions, cloud infrastructure, global service capabilities and deep domain expertise, FIS is capable of supporting virtually every type of financial organization, including the largest and most complex institutions in the world. For more information, please visit www.fisglobal.com.

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1 [https://www.fisglobal.com/c026000](https://www.fisglobal.com/c026000)