

## THE OPPORTUNITY

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) was created in 1924 to serve the small farm communities on the border between Montana and North Dakota. Since then the company has grown into a large regional energy supplier and a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.

From those humble beginnings has sprung an organization that serves nearly 1.1M customers across more than 168,000 square miles (equal to 5.5% of the continental U.S.). But to meet the billing and payment needs of this expansive customer base, MDU needed to overcome the legacy limitations of its previous provider and drive the adoption of its new offerings.

## THE SOLUTION

After an intensive search, MDU ultimately selected the Paymentus billing and payment solution due to its reliability, intuitive customer experience and range of payment options. Post-implementation, MDU customers enjoyed a wider variety of payment options compared to the previous provider's offerings, including:

- Mastercard, Visa, American Express and Discover credit and debit cards
- · PayPal, PayPal Credit, Venmo, Apple Pay and Google Pay
- Cash, debit and Ucards<sup>™</sup> at Walmart stores
- · Automated AutoPay for recurring payments
- Interactive voice response (IVR) phone payments
- ACH/eCheck (savings and checking accounts)

97% Lift in AutoPay & Recurring Payments

Lift in Online Payments Overall

Adoption of Digital Wallets

Paymentus also enabled MDU to present this expansive list of options through a modern online customer payment portal that simplified bill payments and account management. This was supported by proactive and personalized notifications, as well as customized marketing materials delivered by the Paymentus Client Adoption Success Team—a complimentary program that offers strategic consultation and marketing expertise for Paymentus clients.

## THE RESULTS

The expanded payment options and optimized user experience, coupled with a CAST-driven pre-launch campaign, delivered immediate adoption of MDU's new payment channels and customer portal. Within the first three months of its launch, MDU earned:

97%
Lift in AutoPay
& Recurring
Payments

106%
Lift in Online Payments Overall

Adoption of Digital Wallets

While MDU had dedicated specific staff time to address the anticipated inflow of customer questions pertaining to the launch, the intuitive experience and educational pre-launch materials coupled with the customer adoption marketing provided by Paymentus virtually eliminated customer queries.

"Our customers knew what to expect and were prepared for launch day. Call volumes didn't spike, which shows how effective the messaging really was," said Goicoechea.

For Carmen and her team, Paymentus and CAST felt like a natural extension of their organization. With the immediate adoption exceeding initial expectations, both MDU and Paymentus are excited to continue building on this momentum and driving increased customer satisfaction.

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WE SELECTED PAYMENTUS TO HELP US CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE THE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE. THIS WAS OUR BIGGEST FOCUS. THE PAYMENTUS SOLUTION IMMEDIATELY PROVED ITS WORTH IN THIS REGARD. THE INTUITIVE FEATURES, COUPLED WITH THE CAST CAMPAIGN, MEANT OUR CUSTOMERS KNEW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO RIGHT FROM THE START. IT WAS EXACTLY WHAT MY TEAM NEEDED."

## CARMEN GOICOECHEA

Manager, Customer Programs & Communications
MDU

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