



AMS Overview

Provante's Asset Management Suite is based on a core of [common services](#) and [common application functions](#). This gives AMS the foundation it needs to support your business 24X7 and the flexibility to allow us to tailor it to your specific requirements through the [business personalities](#) built on top of our core functionality.



Common Services

AMS' technical foundation is established in the common services described below. Our modular approach gives us a very reliable and flexible infrastructure to build upon. Our clients see the value of a stable platform that works day in and day out, but that can be extended to meet their unique requirements.

Communications

The Communication Service enables the software to talk to multiple communications vendors using various protocols. This is an area of continued development as exciting new cellular and satellite technologies emerge. Provante is keen to embrace new technologies that will provide the best value, reliability, and coverage for our clients. Our clients can choose the appropriate mix of cellular and satellite communications for their business needs. Regarding satellite communications, we currently support [MSAT](#) communications for North American and [Iridium](#) for global, pole-to-pole coverage.

User Interface

The User Interface is how people work with the computer. Provante has designed an effective user interface that runs in Internet Explorer, employs familiar browser controls, and is based on Microsoft's powerful .Net technology. People across the entire spectrum of computer literacy must interact with AMS and we have built it with that in mind. We have built-in calendars where you need them, intuitive navigation throughout the application, and have seen to it that all forms are no more than a click or two away. Our vehicle automation solutions use brilliant touch screen monitors to display a series of screens that walk the user through each work function. This approach minimizes training requirements and allows your workers to be more productive quickly.

Status Monitoring

It is critical that AMS' hardware, software, and communications are functioning when our clients are operating. Provante has a suite of tools that enable us to manage our infrastructure and your assets. We operate "heartbeat" systems that tell us whether the end-to-end links to our communication providers are working properly. Our software also knows when one of your units is late sending a scheduled GPS report and can be configured to notify us and/or you via email, mobile phone text messaging, or map icons when this occurs. Onboard the managed asset, there is a simple monitor program that indicates at a glance the status of communications.

Database Management

AMS is built on SQL database technology. Aboard the asset, we Sun's mySQL. At our hosting site, we use Microsoft SQL Server Enterprise Edition. This means that every transaction you

make is recorded in a database that you can query later. Every position report is saved and time-stamped, so you can retrace the location of an asset if you need to a month or a year from now.

Common Application Functions

AMS common application functions are the building blocks that Provante has used to build the business-specific applications whether sending tickets to your loading rack or managing a fleet of trucks or a busload of children.

Position Tracking

A key value of an asset management system is to let you know where your moving assets are at any given time. The hardware we use with AMS vehicle automation includes GPS units. At time intervals established and managed by you, we receive GPS reports indicating your asset's whereabouts. This information is stored in our tracking database so it can be displayed real-time on maps or reported later by our clients.

Messaging

Aside from knowing the location of your asset, you need to be able to communicate with the asset itself or with the people who are aboard. The messaging service enables all communications – asset to asset and asset to you. It uses the communications function described above to receive and record all information received from your asset or to send information to your asset. By isolating this function, Provante has the flexibility to send any kind of communication such as commands, acknowledgements, text messages, program updates, position reports, or business forms that your business demands. Messaging can also be integrated with other vehicle automation products so you can manage your fleet from a common interface.

Mapping

AMS' mapping functionality enables you to see where your assets are currently located on a map that you can zoom down to street level, if needed. You can also go back in time and see the path of any asset drawn on the map and examine the detail GPS records for each node. AMS mapping effectively uses icons to draw your attention to the exceptions among your moveable assets. When your asset misses a position report or signals an emergency condition you will know instantly.

Admin

AMS provides a range of administrative controls that you have over how your assets are managed. For example, you can set GPS report frequency, set automatic notification parameters, add/remove/rename assets, download revised company information to assets – all from the web. In AMS.Operations, this component provides the Front to Back office functionality.

Business Personalities

Built on top of the common foundations, [common services](#) and [common application functions](#), AMS has 4 business-specific identities:

1. AMS.Fleet: Truck fleet automation and tracking
2. AMS.Guardian: School bus security
3. AMS.Operations: Front, Mid, and Back Office system for buying, selling, processing, and transporting Natural Gas Liquids products
4. AMS.Rack: Rack system that manages truck and rail rack operations