



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1898 & Co. and IFS Announce Strategic Partnership to Help Utilities Modernize Asset Management

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — [1898 & Co.](#), a global business and technology consultancy, part of Burns & McDonnell, announces a strategic partnership with [IFS](#), a leading provider of industrial AI and enterprise software solutions. This partnership creates a unique, end-to-end offering that integrates top-tier enterprise software with deep engineering, construction, and operations experience, empowering utilities to manage the full capital asset lifecycle.

As utilities navigate the complexities of aging infrastructure, workforce evolution and heightened reliability demands, the need for an integrated approach to asset management is increasingly critical. The partnership combines the robust IFS platform with the specialized technology and strategy consulting capabilities of 1898 & Co., backed by the century-long engineering and construction legacy of Burns & McDonnell. Together, these capabilities position the partnership to deliver holistic solutions that integrate functions ranging from system planning and capital project delivery to asset operations and maintenance activities.

The collaboration bridges the gap between the physical and digital worlds. By aligning the IFS asset and work management platform with the specialized utility knowledge of 1898 & Co. and Burns & McDonnell, organizations can better align technology investments with practical engineering considerations while supporting long-term operational and financial objectives.

“Utilities are balancing significant infrastructure investments with increasing expectations for reliability and operational performance,” says Chris Underwood, president of 1898 & Co. “This partnership brings together technology and practical implementation experience to help organizations modernize asset management and get more value from their investments.”

Utilities can address increasingly complex asset management and operational needs through a combination of industry knowledge and enterprise technology.

“Asset-intensive organizations need solutions that connect technology, people and processes,” says Maddy Hawkins, vice president of channels at IFS. “1898 & Co. brings deep utility and infrastructure experience to the partnership. Together, we can help organizations take a more connected approach to asset management while improving operational performance.”

1898 & Co. and IFS will support utilities and other asset-intensive organizations through:

- End-to-End Capital Asset Management: Strategy, system integration, and optimization services covering the full asset lifecycle.



- Asset and work management modernization initiatives that improve operational efficiency and reliability.
- Digital transformation and operational improvement programs that help organizations increase the value of technology investments.

By connecting technology, strategy and execution, the partnership helps organizations improve asset visibility, enhance workforce productivity, strengthen maintenance programs and build more resilient operations. As utilities continue to modernize infrastructure and adapt to changing operational demands, 1898 & Co. and IFS will help them develop practical, data-driven approaches to managing assets and supporting long-term reliability.

About 1898 & Co.

1898 & Co. is a global business and technology consultancy that brings together a unique blend of engineers and industry leaders to deliver strategic business insights and solutions for critical infrastructure industries. We partner with clients to plan, invest, secure and optimize critical assets for a successful, sustainable future. [Learn more.](#)

About Burns & McDonnell

Working from more than 75 offices around the world, Burns & McDonnell designs and builds critical infrastructure. Our family of companies — driven by engineers, construction professionals, architects, planners, technologists and scientists — delivers projects grounded in safety and a desire to make a difference as we make our clients successful. Founded in 1898, Burns & McDonnell is 100% employee-owned. [Learn more.](#)

About IFS

IFS is a leading provider of industrial AI and enterprise software for companies that manufacture, maintain and service the world's critical assets. The company's solutions help organizations improve efficiency, optimize operations and deliver exceptional customer experiences across asset-intensive industries.