

Latest in Smart Grid and Smart Metering

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Smart Newsletter from www.refabrica.com

OPOWER Unveils Enhancements to its Web Portal for Smart Grid

December 17, 2009 - OPOWER, the Smart grid software company, unveiled significant enhancements to its Web portal to allow customers to view what portion of their energy consumption is attributed to home heating. The customers participating in the energy reporting program from Puget Sound Energy, the electric and gas utility will be able to view their consumption for heating use. OPOWER's Insight Engine software is the analytical software built on patent-pending statistical algorithms powers the Web portal.

Echelon and GEO Announces Collaboration on Energy Displays

December 16, 2009 - [Echelon Corporation](http://www.echelon.com) and Green Energy Options Ltd. (GEO) announced a collaboration to develop GEO's energy displays for Echelon's Networked Energy Services (NES) System. The collaboration comes after the recent announcement from UK Government to provide all homes with real-time energy displays.

Atheros Completes the Acquisition of Intellon

December 15, 2009 - Atheros Communications Inc. has completed the acquisition of Intellon Corp. The acquisition will enable Atheros to combine Intellon's home networking and smart grid technology with Atheros' wireless communication business. Atheros issues more than \$113 million in cash and more than 5 million shares of its common stock.

Siemens Delivers Smart Metering Proof of Concept to Bluebonnet

December 15, 2009 - Siemens USA has successfully delivered the Meter-to-Bill testing of its Smart Meter Integration and Enablement (SMIE) solution which will be deployed for Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, the electric utility from Texas. Siemens' SMIE solution integrates eMeter's EnergyIP MDMS with SAP ECC 6.0 for Meter-to-Bill solution.

AHAM Releases White Paper on Smart Grid Guidelines

December 15, 2009 - The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) has released a white paper at Copenhagen Climate Conference with the guidelines for establishing a widely accepted Smart Grid. The paper, '[The Home Appliance Industry's Principles & Requirements for Achieving a Widely Accepted Smart Grid](#)', outlines three key requirements - a uniform pricing rate & usage structure & incentives to consumers, open communications standards & protocol and consumer choice & privacy.

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BPLG Launches Temperature Monitoring System for Transformers

December 15, 2009 - BPL Global, Ltd. (BPLG) launched its Temperature Monitoring System (TMS) integrated with its existing Serveron software platform for monitoring power transformers. The solution provides real-time temperature monitoring which improves the reliability of transformers, reduced maintenance and customer outages. The TMS measures oil temperature and calculates Winding Hot Spot (WHS) temperatures to determine the maximum transformer load.

Perth Energy Implements Gentrack Velocity Billing and CRM Solution

December 15, 2009 - Perth Energy, the energy supplier in Western Australia, has implemented Gentrack's latest version of Velocity Billing and CRM software platform. The Gentrack Velocity delivers complex billing capabilities with support for interval billing and tariff management.

Western Power Selects [IBM](#) as System Integrator for its Smart Grid Project

December 15, 2009 - Western Power, the Australian utility, has selected IBM as the System Integrator for its SmartGrid-Advanced Meter Infrastructure project which is part of \$73.5 million Perth Solar City program. The Perth Solar City program is Australia's Seventh Solar City.

PowerStream Introduces Time-of-Use Inquiry Facility

December 14, 2009 - PowerStream, the electric distribution utility in Ontario, has introduced an online facility called 'Smart Meter Hydro Consumption', for its customers to access interval consumption data. This web-based facility is available to all customers who have Smart meters and been migrated to Time-of-Use (ToU) pricing.

NanoMarkets Releases Report on Sensors for Smart Grids

December 14, 2009 - The NanoMarkets have released its new report on sensors, 'Sensors for the Smart Grid: Market Opportunities 2010-2017', which claims that the new Smart Grid infrastructure will generate \$11.4 billion revenues for sensors and other related products. The report forecasts that sensors for remote monitoring of transformers will generate \$2.3 billion in revenues, sensors for dynamic line rating devices will generate more than \$1 billion and \$2.3 billion by sensors for Homer Area Networks by 2017.

SenGenuity Announces TempTrackr Wireless Temperature Measurement System

December 10, 2009 - SenGenuity, a division of Vectron International, announced the release of TempTrackr™ Wireless Multipoint Temperature Measurement System for Smart Grid. The system can monitor the thermal health of field electrical devices such as switchgear, overhead transmission lines and other equipment in real-time for reliability and control.

OG&E Selects Five More Partners for its Smart Grid Program

December 10, 2009 - Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E) has selected five more partners for its Positive Energy Smart Grid Program. The five new partners are Corix Utilities Inc., EnergyICT, Comverge, Inc., Silver Spring Networks and Global Energy Partners. Corix Utilities will coordinate and install smart meters across the territory. EnergyICT will provide their EIServer, the Meter Data Management System (MDMS). Comverge will provide multiple services including marketing support to recruit customers for the program and installation of home area network devices. Silver Spring Networks will provide the software solution for home area networking, demand response and web portal (CustomerIQ). Global Energy Partners will be responsible for statistical validity of the results from Smart Grid program.

Vodafone and Alcatel-Lucent Partners for Smart Metering in Germany

December 10, 2009 - Vodafone Germany and Alcatel-Lucent announced that they will work together to develop the Smart metering services for the German market. Alcatel-Lucent through its subsidiary in Germany will provide its Smart Metering Management System (SMM 8617) and the system integration services. Vodafone Germany will provide secure connection between the Smart meters and the Smart Metering Management System. The M2M communication will be either through fixed-line DSL connection or wireless GPRS connection.

Frost & Sullivan Estimates European Smart Meter Market at \$11 Billion by 2015

December 9, 2009 - The Frost & Sullivan asserted in its news analysis - the European Smart Meter Markets, that the European Smart Meter Market is estimated to reach \$11 billion by 2015.

GridWise Alliance Releases Smart Grid Reports

December 9, 2009 - The GridWise Alliance has released two reports on most important metrics for the measurement and understanding of success of Smart Grid. The two reports are the '[Handbook for Assessing Smart Grid Projects](#)' which has been authored by KEMA and '[What is Missing in our Fundamental Knowledge of Smart Grid Implementation](#)' by US DOE.

Tres Amigas Files with FERC for Regulatory Approval

December 9, 2009 - Tres Amigas, LLC has submitted filings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for approvals on its Tres Amigas SuperStation, the US' first renewable energy transmission hub. The SuperStation will connect the three American interconnectors - the Eastern Interconnection, the Western Interconnection and the Texas Interconnection.

Alliant Energy Begins AMI

December 8, 2009 - Alliant Energy's subsidiary Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WPL) has begun the installation of advanced metering infrastructure for customers. WPL has already contracted VSI Meter Services for meter installation.

Atmel Introduces Single Chip MCU for Smart Grid Devices

December 8, 2009 - Atmel Corporation has introduced new family of AVR wireless microcontroller (MCU) for wireless applications such as ZigBee and IPv6/6LoWPAN. The new ATmega128RFA1 is IEEE 802.15.4 compliant and combines its picoPower AVR MCU and a 2.4GHz transceiver.

Essensium Joins Wavenis Open Standard Alliance

December 8, 2009 - Essensium N.V., a fabless provider of System-On-Chip (SOC) solutions, has joined Wavenis Open Standard Alliance (Wavenis-OSA) as a participating member and has started the volume production of Coronis' first Wavenis compliant SOC. Wavenis technology was developed by Coronis and is widely used with more than 4 million devices already in use. Wavenis technology is based on power optimised communications protocol in conjunction with a sub-GHz RF transceiver.

AT&T Signs Agreement with Silver Spring Networks

December 8, 2009 - AT&T has signed an agreement with Silver Spring Networks to deliver M2M wireless communication services to Silver Spring's utility customers in US. AT&T's cellular data network will enable communication between the field devices and Silver Spring's UtilityIQ software platform.

Landis+Gyr Ships Two Millionth Advanced Meter

December 7, 2009 - Landis+Gyr has achieved an important milestone with the shipment of its two millionth FOCUS AX meter. The FOCUS AX is an advanced meter which supports multiple communication platforms and meets ANSI specifications.

OATI Provides Smart Grid Software to KPC&L

December 7, 2009 - Open Access Technology International Inc. (OATI) is providing its webSmartEnergy software, the Distributed Resource Management System, to Missouri's Green Impact Zone project by Kansas City Power and Light (KCP&L). webSmartEnergy will integrate the Distributed Energy Resources and the Demand Response (DR) systems with other power systems and energy market operations.

UN ITU-T Agrees on G.hn Networking Standards

December 7, 2009 - HomeGrid Forum announced that United Nation's International Telecommunication Union (ITU-T) G.hn working group has agreed upon a number of key specifications that will form the baseline requirements for Smart Grid products. Smart Grid products that will benefit from G.hn standards include Smart meters, In-home display, Smart thermostats, Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEV), Smart household appliances and Energy System Interface (ESI) devices.

Ofgem Sets £500 Million for Smart Grid Projects in UK

December 7, 2009 - Ofgem, the UK energy regulator, has set tough price controls on UK regional Distribution Network Operators as part of the 5-year Price Controls from April 2010. Ofgem has also set a new £500 million fund called Low Carbon Fund (LCF), for innovative Smart Grid projects. The DNOs will have an opportunity to bid for this cash to use over coming 5 years.

Analog Devices Introduces Four Energy Metering ICs

December 7, 2009 - Analog Devices, Inc. has introduced four new Energy metering Integrated Circuits (ICs) to improve the accuracy and performance of Smart meters. The four new ICs are considered the first in industry to measure both reactive and active energy with an accuracy of 0.1 percent. The new ICs are named ADE7878, ADE7868, ADE7858 and ADE7854.

NorthStar Utilities Signs Agreement with Tillsonburg Hydro for SaaS

December 3, 2009 - NorthStar Utilities Solutions has signed an agreement for multi-year Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) with Tillsonburg Hydro Inc., an electric utility, for MeterSense. MeterSense is an Operational Data Store which will assist Tillsonburg to monitor and validate its Smart metering rollout.

NorthStar Utilities Signs Agreement with Hearst to Implement MDM

December 3, 2009 - NorthStar Utilities Solutions has signed an agreement with Hearst Power Distribution Company Ltd., an electric utility, to implement MeterSense as an Operational Data Store for Hearst. MeterSense will enable Hearst to health check the metering infrastructure, improve operational efficiencies and advanced reporting on system loading and asset optimisation.

Stadium Electronics Secures Smart Meter Manufacturing Contract

December 3, 2009 - Stadium Electronics has secured a manufacturing contract from Universal Metering to manufacture SmartMeter Prepayment System™ Water meters for utilities in Africa and Brazil. The contract is valued at £2.3m per annum for 30,000 meters.

SSE and SGS Commercially Deploys Smart Grid in Scotland

December 3, 2009 - Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) and Smarter Grid Solutions Ltd. (SGS) has commercially deployed the Smart Grid technology on SSE's electricity distribution network in Orkney. The Smart Grid deployed in Orkney enables greater number of renewables generators to connect in to existing electricity network without any need for reinforcement which would have cost nearly £30 million. The technology has been developed by SSE in association with University of Strathclyde.

SmartSynch Launches First Universal Smart Grid Communications Solution

December 3, 2009 - SmartSynch, Inc. launched its GridRouter™ which is considered industry's first universal Smart grid communications solution. GridRouter is IP-enabled and built on open and interoperable standards.

Space-Time Insight Announces New Demand Response Solution

December 2, 2009 - Space-Time Insight released its Demand Response Composite, the first-ever Smart Grid solution to support visual-balancing of demand and supply of electricity. The solution correlates the streaming field data with enterprise data to deliver geospatial analytics and satellite view of grid and surroundings.

UK Energy Minister Opens Europe's First Smart Grid Center

December 2, 2009 - UK Energy Minister Lord Hunt has officially opened Europe's first Smart Grid Center at GE Energy's premises at Bracknell. The GE's Smart Grid Center demonstrates the latest technologies to improve energy efficiency and offers the first-ever 'generation to appliances' view of Smart Grid to utilities, government and consumers.

Chartwell Launches Smart Grid Customer Research Engagement Council

December 2, 2009 - Chartwell, Inc. has launched a utility-only task group called Smart Grid Customer Research Engagement Council, to help utilities better understand their customers as utilities embark on their Smart Grid initiatives. Chartwell has recently concluded Smart Grid Energy Survey of 1,500 utility customers in US and Canada which highlighted major gaps in understanding of Smart metering and Smart Grid.

Imperial Irrigation Department Prepares for Smart Grid

December 2, 2009 - The Imperial Irrigation Department (IID), an Electric and Water utility, is using the Geographic Information System (GIS) from ESRI to collect the field data on its overhead and underground facilities. IID aims to use this field data in preparation and planning for its Smart Grid initiative.

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Ofgem to Play Key Role in UK Smart Meter Roll-out

December 2, 2009 - Ofgem, the UK energy regulator, will play a key role in the deployment of Smart meters in UK, following the announcement by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) to roll-out nearly 50 million Smart meters to nearly 26 million premises by 2020. Ofgem will work with DECC and other organisations to develop a framework for the Smart meter roll-out and aims to release a prospectus in Summer 2010.

UK Government Announces Smart Meter Roll-out Plan

December 2, 2009 - The United Kingdom's Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) has published its response to the consultation on Smart Metering for Electricity and Gas with an aim to deploy nearly 50 million Smart meters by 2020. The response sets out direction on how smart meters will be installed across UK and key points covered are the responsibility of roll-out with energy suppliers, supplying a standalone display device for all homes and centrally coordinated communications infrastructure. The Government also outlined its vision on Smart Grid through a series of documents which can be found [here](#). DECC is also providing £6 million to companies for the development of Smart grid technologies.

NanoMarkets Releases Report on New Materials and Devices for Smart Grid

December 1, 2009 - NanoMarkets has released its new report called "Opportunities for New Materials and Devices in the Smart Grid: 2010 to 2017" which highlights significant revenue opportunities of \$12 billion for suppliers of advanced materials ranging from new compound semiconductors, new nanomaterials, storage devices and insulators. *Check the report [here](#)*

CL&P's Pilot Study Shows Response to Power Signals

December 1, 2009 - Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) has filed the findings with Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) from its Plan-It Wise Energy Program pilot study on Smart Grid technologies. The pilot was participated by around 3,000 consumers and has demonstrated that the consumers do respond to pricing signals with reduced energy usage during the peak demand period.

GridPoint to Provide Smart Grid Solutions to KCP&L

December 1, 2009 - GridPoint, Inc. will provide its Home energy management, load management and electric vehicle management software solutions to Green Impact Zone SmartGrid Demonstration Project for Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L). The project is funded by US DOE.

UISOL to Provide Demand Response Software for \$178 Million Smart Grid Demo

December 1, 2009 - Utility Integration Solutions (UISOL) will provide its DRBizNet software platform for integration and management of demand response for the Smart Grid demonstration project in Salem (US) by Portland General Electric. The project also involves Eaton Corporation and EnerDel, and is part of larger Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration project that has received stimulus funds from US DOE.

Detectent and Contract Callers Forms Alliance for Smart Metering

December 1, 2009 - Detectent, a provider of Customer Intelligence solutions, and Contract Callers, a provider of field-solutions, have entered a strategic alliance to assist utilities in capturing lost revenues

during the Smart metering deployment. Detectent will provide analytic-based solutions to pre-sweep the meter deployment areas to identify metering issues and theft conditions before the meter exchange are carried. Contract Callers will install the Smart meters where there are no issues identified from past and the exceptions will be flagged to be handled with special procedures, allowing utilities to capture lost revenue.

EnerDel Joins Tokyo Smart Grid Project

December 1, 2009 - EnerDel, a subsidiary of Ener1, Inc., will supply advanced energy storage systems to a Tokyo-based Smart Grid project which aims to link all of the essential components of Smart Grid including renewable energy and electric vehicles. The project is scheduled to come online by March 2010 and involves more than a dozen of major partners including Mazda Motor Corporation and Itochu Corporation. EnerDel's lithium-ion batteries will be placed in specially converted electric vehicles from Mazda and will be charged from high-speed recharging stations powered by solar panels.

Arqiva Partners with Sensus for UK Smart Metering

December 1, 2009 - Arqiva, the communications infrastructure and services provider, and Sensus, the Smart metering company, have announced a partnership to deploy radio communications platform as part of the UK-wide Smart metering roll-out. Sensus will provide Arqiva with its FlexNet™ and SmartPoint™ technology for smart metering communication and Arqiva will focus on operations of long-range radio technology in licensed UHF spectrum.



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