



THE CONDUCTOR

SGIP NEWS UPDATES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **SGIP Member Groups Meetings and Inaugural Conference Wrap-up: Frameworks and Reliability Key**
- **Conference Highlights**
- **Media Coverage from the Conference**
- **Smart Grid Implementation Methods Committee (SGIMC) Update**
- **SGIP Actively Engaged in Cybersecurity Issues**
- **PAP-02 (Wireless Communications) Nears Completion of Task**
- **NIST Seeks Public Input on Updated Smart Grid Cybersecurity Guidelines**
- **NIST Moves Forward on White House Cybersecurity Order**
- **SGIP, New and Improved: Making the Case for Collaboration on Interoperability Standards**
- **SGIP is a Proud Supporter of the Following Events:**
- **U.S. – Turkey Smart Grid Technical**

SGIP Member Groups Meetings and Inaugural Conference Wrap-up: Frameworks and Reliability Key



Frameworks, interoperability and reliability were the trending topics at SGIP's Inaugural Conference: Progress through Collaboration.

Conference Highlights

Frameworks:

During the conference several frameworks were advanced addressing key Smart Grid issues including cybersecurity, transactive energy, technology testing and implementation:

- The [GridWise Architecture Council \(GWAC\)](#) launched its Transactive Energy Framework. GWAC is welcoming feedback to this document in an effort to work toward a truly collaborative and engaging Smart Grid model. Access the document [here](#). Case studies in Interoperability & Testing Certification Authority (ITCA) and Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM)

Workshop: Partnering to Power the Future, December 10, 2013

- **Storm Outage Restoration, December 11-12, 2013**
- **U.S. – Colombia Smart Grid Workshop: Partnering to Power the Future, February 11-12, 2014**
- **Have Interesting News and/or Information to Share?**
- **Join SGIP**

Please join SGIP's Board and members for the following upcoming events:

•**PowerGrid International Webinar:**

Tuesday, December 3, 2013. For details and to register, click [here](#).

•**SGIP eMeeting “How the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel Supports Electric Utilities, Regulators, Manufacturers and Integrators in 2014 to Ensure Electric Grid Reliability”:** Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 1 p.m. ET. View additional information [here](#), and register [here](#).

•**SGIMC webinar:** Friday, December 13, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. ET.

•**Globecomm:** December 9-13, 2013, Atlanta. The applications of Communications Technology and the role of Standards to Energy Infrastructure (“the Smart Grid”).

•**IEEE ISGT,** February 19-22, 2014, Washington DC.

design and implementation were presented.

- NIST facilitated a conversation on the [draft release of the 3.0 Smart Grid Framework](#), which provided a more detailed review of the material which included cyber, architecture, testing/certification and standards.
- SGIP's Smart Grid Implementation Methods Committee's (SGIMC) introduced the Interoperability Implementation Experiences (IIE): a new process for members to share their interoperability experiences and best practices. This includes working group sessions, webinars and templates for sharing data.
- Keynote speaker Hank Kenchington, deputy assistant secretary, advanced grid integration, Department of Energy, highlighted the importance of interoperability in today's Smart Grid industry. He stated that interoperability leads to benefits such as collaboration, increased reliability, additional jobs, innovation and more. His story about President Obama served as a reminder about the importance of SGIP mission. Kenchington stated that standards interoperability will play a key role addressing the technical challenges of the grid today and challenged stakeholders not to stop there but to look to the needs of implementation and beyond.
- Keynote speaker Phillip Q Hanser of the Brattle Group, gave a presentation on why the Smart Grid is incomplete without smart rate design. Hanser highlighted the challenges being faced by utility companies and provided a glimpse of what a future electrical system structure might look like.

Reliability:

The advancement of Smart Grid reliability was an underlying theme at the conference, relating to topics that include infrastructure, microgrids and the Internet of Things. Highlights include:

- Vicky Pillitteri, advisor for information systems security, [NIST](#), moderated a panel discussing Executive Order 13636, “Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity.” The session provided updates on the improvement of cybersecurity measures. Early adopters were noted as being key to the success of strong infrastructure.
- The Ensuring AMI/OMS Success through Interoperability panel explored the role of AMI and how it has changed the game for customer communications and storm restoration. It also shared insight into how integrating Outage Management Systems (OMS) can dramatically improve response times.
- Jim Reilly, principal, Reilly and Associates, moderated a panel on microgrids, which explored the concept of “islanding” – the ability for these complete power systems to operate both while connected to the grid, as well as when the power is not available from the main grid.
- The Future Look: Sensors, Data and Internet of Things panel evaluated the proliferation of sensors in the electrical transmission and distribution environment and the demand for

better control of data. The session also provided an overview of what utilities are doing to install new machine to machine technologies.

- The conference closed with a keynote from Lisa Polak Edgar, commissioner, [Florida Public Service Commission](#). During her speech she highlighted the importance of interoperability and its role in improving grid resiliency and advanced rate structures that give consumers more control over their energy use and improve reliability for consumers.

Other highlights included:

- Nawal Parwal, business development manager, GE, introduced and provided an overview of the new [Smart Grid Standards Mapping tool](#). This tool provides visibility into how standards work together across the Smart Grid.
- SGIP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Brazil's Inmetro to foster the sharing of best practices, knowledge and insights between SGIP and Inmetro.
- Tuesday's sessions closed out with a Members' Meeting followed by a welcome reception. John McDonald and Patrick Gannon gave an overview of accomplishments during the past year, and laid out the business plan for 2014. If you would like to see a recording of the Members' Meeting, you may access it [here](#). Alternatively, members may also download the slides for John McDonald's presentation [here](#), or Patrick Gannon's [here](#).
- Hiroshi Kuniyoshi of the New Energy Development Organization and Japan Smart Community Alliance, provided an insightful look at Japan's energy ecosystem two years after the Tsunami and its "Smart Communities."
- The conference focused heavily on the importance of interoperability internationally. We heard from Leocadia Zak, director, US Trade and Development Agency about the necessity of the US bringing its technology to emerging and other international markets, because other countries are beating us to the punch. We also got international snapshots of the grid from speakers stemming from countries including Brazil, Colombia, India, Japan and more.



More detailed information on the conference is available [here](#). See the Twitter conversation at #SGIP and follow @SGIPnews for future information and check out the photo gallery [here](#).

Media Coverage from the Conference

- SmartGrid Today: [FERC's Norris hinges US climate goals on smart grid](#)
- SmartGrid Today: [GWAC chief explains new transactive energy framework](#)
- SmartGrid Today: [NIST has draft of updated smart grid cybersecurity standards](#)
- SmartGrid Today: [NIST'S Greer explains need for informal comments on framework](#)
- Smart Grid News: [Breakthrough! The best tool yet for smart grid standards](#)
- SmartGrid News: [Smart grid wins: first major U.S. transmission project in decades \(and more\)](#)
- SmartGrid Realities: [Thoughts from SGIP 2.0](#)
- GigaOM: [Plugging interoperability into the nation's electric grid](#)
- Between the Poles: [SGIP: Disruptive forces in the U.S. electricity utility industry—natural gas and solarPV](#)
- Between the Poles: [SGIP: Open data is critical for utilities in the age of the smart grid](#)
- Between the Poles: [SGIP 2.0 Inaugural Conference: Interoperability is essential for smart grid solutions](#)
- Electric Light & Power: [New + Old = Value: Substation Automation, Legacy Equipment & Your Utility](#)
- Altenergymag.com: [The Smart Grid Interoperability Panel Inaugural Conference Fosters Progress through Collaboration](#)

Smart Grid Implementation Methods Committee (SGIMC) Update

The Smart Grid Implementation Methods Committee (SGIMC) is launching a new initiative for 2014 – the Interoperability Implementation Experiences (IIE) program. This will consist of a series of case study presentations on the “lessons learned” by utilities and other grid operators based on real-world implementations of standards or interoperability for different smart grid applications. The goal of the IIE is to provide a forum for the implementer community to share experiences that facilitate utilities’ near-term deployments of smart grid applications. Each bi-monthly project in the series will consist of –

- An implementation presentation
- A moderated discussion among SGIMC members
- An Ad Hoc Working Group of members to be supported by an outside technical expert on the topic
- A curated summary of the implementation in a concise paper.

Read more [here](#).

The next (Webinar) meeting of the SGIMC is on Friday, December 13, 2013 at 11 a.m. ET. For more information on how to get involved with the IMC, click [here](#).

SGIP Actively Engaged in Cybersecurity Issues



When President Obama met with eight CEOs from the information technology, financial services and energy sectors on October 29, the focus of the meeting was on efforts to improve the cybersecurity of our nation's critical infrastructure. A week later, when members of SGIP gathered for their inaugural conference, they were discussing the same topic.

The White House meeting, which included Joseph Rigby of Pepco Holdings as an electric industry representative, coincided with the **Federal Register's request for comments of the preliminary version of the Cybersecurity Framework** (The 45-day public comment period ends on December 13).

SGIP and its members are very actively involved in the cybersecurity arena in a variety of ways. Read more [here](#).

PAP-02 (Wireless Communications) Nears Completion of Task

Since being established in August 2009, the Priority Action Plan 02 (PAP-02) has been faced with a very big and broad assignment — “to develop guidelines for the use of wireless communications in a Smart Grid environment.” Earlier this fall, the PAP-02 team finalized and approved its key deliverable, Version 2 of NISTIR 7761: Guidelines for Assessing Wireless Standards for Smart Grid Applications. The 200-page document is now under review and consideration as an entry in SGIP's Catalog of Standards, with a

ballot by SGIP Members anticipated in late 2013, or early 2014.

Dr. Nada Golmie, NIST, has served as chair of the PAP-02 effort for the past four years.

“When we began,” said Golmie. “Many people in the Smart Grid community felt that wireless communications wouldn’t work well for Smart Grid purposes. By bringing vendors, utilities and Standards Setting Organizations (SSOs) together to talk to each other — for the first time — we’ve shown that wireless can be a viable option for a number of Smart Grid applications.”

Although wireless technologies for technical and business communications have been available for more than a century, many of today’s wireless communications and networking standards were not developed specifically for smart grid applications. This means that system vendors’ offerings have often dictated the technology decisions made by utilities, rather than vice versa. Read more [here](#).

NIST Seeks Public Input on Updated Smart Grid Cybersecurity Guidelines



The U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce, is requesting public comments on the first revision to its guidelines for secure implementation of Smart Grid technology. An official notice announcing the call for comments was recently published in the U.S. Federal Register.

The draft document, NIST Interagency Report (IR) 7628 Revision 1: Guidelines for Smart Grid Cybersecurity, is the first update to NISTIR 7628 since its initial publication in September 2010. Over the past three years, use of smart grid technology has expanded dramatically, particularly the number of smart energy meters on homes, and technology and laws have progressed as well. As a result, these changes prompted NIST to update its document. Members of SGIP’s Cybersecurity Working Group (CSWG, 2010-2012) and Smart Grid Cybersecurity Committee (SGCC, 2013) were largely responsible for

helping draft this update. Read more [here](#).

NIST Moves Forward on White House Cybersecurity Order

Smart Grid News
September 2013



On February 12, 2013, President Obama signed Executive Order 13636, which deals with “Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity.” According to the order, “The Secretary of Commerce shall direct the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (the “Director”) to lead the development of a framework to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure (the “Cybersecurity Framework”).”

On September 13, 2013, NIST concluded the last of four Cybersecurity Framework Workshops leading to the release of a document designed to meet the agency’s obligation under the order. Read more [here](#).

SGIP, New and Improved: Making the Case for Collaboration on Interoperability Standards



Public Utilities Fortnightly
By John McDonald
August 2013

The old joke about standards – “Which one? There’s so many to choose from ...” – has been effectively laid to rest, as you read this article. Today, we see the convergence of global standards into just a handful for fundamental utility communications, an amazing development based on decades of experience and just a few years of very focused work by stakeholders. Read more [here](#).

SGIP is a Proud Supporter of the Following Events:

U.S. – Turkey Smart Grid Technical Workshop: Partnering to Power the Future, December 10, 2013



Storm Outage Restoration, December 11-12, 2013



U.S. – Colombia Smart Grid Workshop: Partnering to Power the Future, February 11-12, 2014



Have Interesting News and/or Information to Share?

SGIP is looking for relevant contributions to our member newsletter. To have your content considered, please contact Blaine Kohl (bkohl@sgip.org).

Join SGIP

Any non-member organizations who would like to join SGIP in order to participate in any of these activities are invited to submit a Membership Application, which they can download [here](#).

[Edit your subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Wakefield, MA 01880