

THE CONDUCTOR

News & Activities of SGIP



Vol. 02 | 12 February 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Join SGIP on March 5th in Arizona
- President's Letter
- New Involvement Opportunities: Distributed Intelligence, Testing for IEC 61850, Cybersecurity
- Update on 2015 Board Call for Candidates
- New Paper: Cloud Computing Considerations in the Smart Grid
- SGIP in the News

Join SGIP on March 5th in Arizona



ENGAGE2015

One day. Face-to-Face. Two Tracks.
Open to All. Registration is Free.

Want to do meaningful work in modernizing the grid? Come to the SGIP March 5th meeting in Phoenix, Arizona where you can have hands on opportunities to design, secure, and test next generation grid systems and devices. Two parallel working sessions will be held on Open Field Message Bus and Cybersecurity as they relate to grid modernization.

SGIP Engage sessions are focused upon what is important, who cares, and how do we move forward. Learn more at SGIP.org/Engage2015.

MARCH 5, 2015 | ALL DAY | SHERATON PHOENIX DOWNTOWN

President's Letter



Many of us recently returned from DistribuTECH where over 11,000+ attendees descended upon San Diego for the 25th Anniversary of this event. Michio Kaku, author and futurist, was one of the keynote speakers and told the audience to embrace technological innovation, or else get left behind: "Be like a surfer," he said. "Ride the wave of the future." I cannot possibly do his speech justice but let me say it was

very entertaining, thought provoking, and humorous.

SGIP held a cocktail hour and press conference at DTECH. We had 87 attendees at our event. I shared our next phase of growth for our organization and our focus on our end goal which is to “improve individual quality of life by securely and intelligently integrating energy resources.”

I explained that we will work on projects prioritized by the interest of our members, that we will continue to strengthen systems with our cybersecurity focus, and that we leverage the use of testbeds as a way to prove out interoperability.

We issued two press releases. The first was the launch of **the Open Field Message Bus Project (OpenFMB)**. This project will result in delivering the Internet of Things reality to our sector. We will be working with our membership, Duke Energy, and new companies to create a new paradigm for true interoperability and peer- to-peer communication across vendor architecture. This project will increase business intelligence and operational efficiencies while allowing for secure and reliable communication and fast decision-making in the field.

I am excited to be part of building out this microgrid at Duke Energy as well as taking part in an effort that will shape our industry. Stuart McCafferty is working across our committees to support this effort. If your company wants to be involved in this ground initiative, reach out to Stuart. Going forward, we aim to be part of more utilities’, independent power producers’, and energy service providers’ implementation programs. It is through these actual programs that we can operationalize things and truly drive interoperability.

Second, we announced **Engage2015**, to be held in Phoenix on March 5th, a must-attend working group with two parallel tracks on OpenFMB and cybersecurity. The cybersecurity session is a forum for practitioners to share information as well as define SGIP next areas of focus to strengthen their efforts.

I appreciate all of your continued support and welcome your ideas as we work together to assist our utilities, independent power providers, and energy service providers with their grid modernization projects. Locking arms to achieve an outcome with those who have the capital and are executing the programs is a key focus for our organization so that our activities are grounded in the operational realities.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon S. Allan". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Sharon Allan
President & CEO

New Involvement Opportunities: Distributed Intelligence, Testing for IEC 61850, Cybersecurity

During DTECH, SGIP announced the **Open Field Message Bus (OpenFMB) Project**, a special SGIP working group designed to leverage existing standards and structured processes to create a new paradigm for true interoperability and peer-to-peer communication across vendors architecture. This project will increase business intelligence and operational efficiencies while allowing for secure and reliable communication and fast decision-making in the field.

Using Duke Energy's Distributed Intelligence Platform reference architecture demonstrated in the "Coalition of the Willing" project as a springboard, SGIP will work in defining the OpenFMB concept as the way distributed applications and open interfaces can enable interoperable peer-to-peer data exchanges between distributed power systems devices on the electric grid's field area network(s).

The OpenFMB initiative fosters new and innovative utility grid control and management features and functionality by enabling devices to communicate quickly with each other in an open, secure, and scalable fashion to create a more resilient, reliable, and robust grid that is integrated with the supply-side operations and demand planning.

Another key benefit is improved integration of grid devices and services to end-use customer, especially in the wake of the fast growth of distributed energy resources and the advent of transactive energy.

Next steps for the OpenFMB Project include a kick-off meeting of the working group on March 5 in Phoenix, Arizona. [Learn more here.](#)



As the Internet of Things continues to grow with the proliferation of devices, security considerations become more critical. With that in mind, a special face-to-face working group meeting will happen on March 5th in Phoenix regarding key aspects of cybersecurity and protection programs. Discussion topics will include transitioning to CIP v5, risk management frameworks and best practices, and real world lessons of implementation. [Learn more here.](#)

IEC 61850, Communication networks and systems in substations, is a widely recognized standard for substation automation and its testing was identified as a top priority by utilities and vendors to the Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC). SGIP Members established the working group, PAP-23: Testing Profile for IEC 61850, to help achieve the promise of multi-vendor interoperability and lower

the cost of systems integration using IEC 61850.

Interested in joining this work? Contact PAP-23 Chair Erich Gunther at erich@enernex.com and [visit their webpage to learn more](#).

Update on 2015 Board Call for Candidates

Thank you to all those that submitted nominations. And thank you to the volunteers for the Candidate Evaluation Committee who are currently reviewing the nominations and finalizing the slates.



SGIP Participating Members will be voting on the candidates for their Interest Category and At-Large Board seats later this month. When Member voting opens, an email notice will be going out to the voting representatives. Voting will be open for one month to give SGIP Members ample time to review all candidates.

New Paper: Cloud Computing Considerations in the Smart Grid



The Smart Grid, which integrates information and communication technologies with the delivery of electricity over the power grid, is making increasing use of cloud computing.

Developed by the SGIP Smart Grid Cybersecurity Committee, this 16-page paper shares:

1. Background material on cloud computing and its essential characteristics.
2. Smart Grid options for cloud services.
3. How the risks may or may not differ when cloud services are used (e.g., privacy for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), employee issues, data ownership, etc.)
4. SLA priority requirements such as availability, security, and auditing of the service provider.

[Download publication now.](#)

SGIP in the News



McCafferty, Puccio strengthen new SGIP team led by Sharon Allan

By Editors of Electric Light & Power/ POWERGRID International

February 11, 2015

[read article](#)



CEA CEB29 added to SGIP Catalog of Standards

By Jaclyn Brandt

February 10, 2015

[read article](#)



Green Button Alliance to Drive Adoption of the Green Button Standard

February 9, 2015

[read article](#)



Green Button Initiative forms alliance to drive Whitehouse-led project

February 6, 2015

[read article](#)



Green Button Alliance launched to help consumers save money, conserve energy

By Doug Peeples

February 5, 2015

[read article](#)



Location Standards Emerge as Critical to Utilities' Outage Response

By Ron Exler

January 30, 2015

[read article](#)



The Bigger Picture: Appliance Energy-Usage Guest Editorial: San Bernard Electric Installs Advanced Data Exchange Part II

By Doug Lambert and Dominic Geraghty

January/February Issue

[read article](#)



Legacy Grid, Smart Grid, Grid 3.0?

By Chris Greer

Winter 2015

[read article](#)

You are receiving this because you subscribed from our website.

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

Smart Grid Interoperability Panel
401 Edgewater Place, Suite 600
Wakefield, MA 01880
SGIP.org