



# THE CONDUCTOR

## SGIP NEWS UPDATES

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Registration opens in March. More details coming soon.

## Simplifying Energy Management

Regulators and appliance manufacturers have been asking us to simplify energy management. So the Home-to-Grid Domain Expert Working Group (H2G DEWG) recently released a white paper, "Broadcast-based H2G Communication Solutions," which details a simple method to deliver energy management data from a power utility or energy service provider to consumer products. It also explores a new paradigm for the consumer-centric use of broadcast tools. If you haven't already, download the paper [here](#).



## SGIP's Critical Role in Interoperability and

## Standards

*By Eric Gunther, SGIP Board Member*

When discussing how SGIP fits into the overall standards ecosystem, it is important to note that SGIP is not a standards development or standards setting organization (SDO/SSO). While SGIP does not write, sell or otherwise directly engage in the business of standards development, the organizations role is still critical to advance interoperability. SGIP is an efficient enabler of standards development, updates and application. SGIP accomplishes this by acting as an honest broker and collaboration facilitator through the broad and balanced stakeholder community. SGIP is the only global organization focused on capturing input from a broad stakeholder community on the need for interoperability. The organization brings together these stakeholders to discuss interoperability through the lens of a particular topic or a particular interface point in energy infrastructure. SGIP provides a very efficient, facilitated and collaborative environment where:



- industry issues can be discussed,
- standards-based interoperability elements of those issues are documented
- gaps are identified,
- value-based ranking of those gaps are agreed upon, and
- action plans are developed.

Executing the action plans results in clear, concise and traceable requirements that enable an SDO/SSO to engage in creating and updating standards.

Read more [here](#).

## Member Spotlight: Mark Smith, Reliant

Since SGIP's inception in 2009, Reliant, a Retail Electric Provider (REP) based in Texas, has been an active SGIP member. "We like the fact that through participating in SGIP we have visibility to a majority of standards development efforts that are the most pertinent to Smart Grid," Mark Smith, Principal, Smart Energy for Reliant explains. "Beyond just visibility, we have the opportunity to chime in on these standards with key stakeholders all in one place. In addition, the opportunity to meet and network with the most influential Smart Grid experts from utilities, vendors and government agencies has been a large benefit to participating."



Knowing key players and understanding interoperable standards is a benefit to Reliant's work. Texas has a highly competitive market for Smart Grid-related programs. Efforts related to home area network (HAN) deployment must be coordinated among 50-plus REPs and four transmission and distribution service providers (TDSPs). Thus, interoperable standards are critical to success.

As a REP, Reliant is strongly vested in Smart Grid efforts that directly affect the end customer, specifically Green Button, data privacy, HAN Standards and Home-to-Grid efforts. Mark also sees data privacy as an issue that will get ever-increasing attention over the next year.

"I have optimism that the work taking place at NAESB and NARUC will likely converge on a common set of ground rules and best practices this year," Smith said. "I believe as standards from the Catalog of Standards (COS) become commonplace and issues are resolved, the next step will be to move up the maturity model to optimize repeatable processes. To do this, I see 'big data' and advanced analytics playing a key role in the future of Smart Grid."

## **SGIP Helps Educate Regulators at the NARUC Winter Meeting**

## Attendance Hits Record

"We can't transport 21st century energy, on a 19th century system," U.S.

Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx stated during his speech to the record-breaking National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) crowd of 1,400 regulators, electric industry experts and government leaders at the **NARUC Winter Committee Meetings**.



## Watch conference highlights from Patrick Gannon

As Congress considers legislation that, if passed, will drastically alter the regulatory landscape, utility issues are dominating the national stage. From climate change to wireless consumer standards to critical infrastructure concerns, state regulators will play a significant role in shaping these debates. SGIP leaders were present to provide status updates to NARUC commissioners and share the work of the Business and Policy Domain Expert Working Group (BnP DEWG). This included in-depth reports on SGIP activities to three key NARUC Committees: Electricity, Energy Resources and the Environment and Critical Infrastructure, delivered by SGIP Executive Director Patrick Gannon.

SGIP was a sponsor of the event, and the booth was a popular location for Commissioners and staff. Parties that stopped by SGIP's booth learned how member group activities expand the resources of regulatory commissions. Commissioners learned this is an inexpensive way to stay thoroughly informed and have an up-front impact on the rapid changes in interoperable Smart Grid technology. Commissioner Nick Wagner, the NARUC representative to SGIP's Board of Directors, was equally engaged in the SGIP team discussions with several groups of Commissioners and their staff.

Conversations reflected NARUC members' concerns about energy storage, distribution and renewable resources. SGIP educated attendees on its efforts of its Distributed Renewables, Generation and Storage Domain Expert Working Group (DRGS DEWG) that addresses issues related to Smart Grid integration of distributed renewable/clean energy generation and electric storage, and initiate priority action plans (PAPs) and task groups to address these issues

and gaps. There was high interest in SGIP's DRSG Subgroup E, which is addressing regulatory and market Issues. The subgroup is working to complete a whitepaper on regulatory barriers and challenges in the deployment of distributed generation and storage. The paper is scheduled to be complete and released on later this year.

Read more [here](#).

## SGIP: An Active Voice Heard at ISGT 2014

SGIP had a significant presence at the **IEEE PES Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Conference** (ISGT 2014) in Washington, DC this past month.



- SGIP Board Chair John McDonald, GE Digital Energy, chaired the “Progress in Smart Grid Standardization” panel, which included Chuck Adams from IEEE-SA and Patrick Gannon, SGIP.
- Steve Widergren, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), spoke on “Residential Transactive Control Field Results” for the panel: “Scalable Microgrids for Increasing System Reliability, Security & Resiliency in the Smart Grid Era.” Steve was also part of the plenary session, “New Frontiers of Smart Grid,” moderated by Henry Kenchington, deputy assistant secretary, Department of Energy (DoE). PNNL’s Ron Melton chaired the “Transactive Energy” panel.

Read more [here](#).

## SGIP in the News

### **Smart grid interoperability: We now have an answer (its initials are MQTT)**

Smart Grid News

By Geoff Brown

March 4, 2014

Machine-to-machine communications (M2M) and the Internet of Things (IoT) continue to be hot industry topics, as the amount of data

available to utilities increases and smart grid technologies become more widely adopted.

M2M and IoT are separate and complex entities, applying in different ways to various industries, companies and people. Let's examine these topics through the lens of the smart grid, which encompasses smart homes, smart cities, renewables integration and electric vehicles, all of which incorporate M2M and IoT.

Read more [here](#).

### **SGIP 2.0 and the near future**

Intelligent Utility

By John McDonald

Feb. 2014

At this key juncture in its brief history, SGIP 2.0, Inc., has become fully operational as a private entity focused on critical power industry issues most relevant to our stakeholders, which include utilities, regulators, equipment vendors and integrators.

The challenges we're addressing are familiar to everyone involved in grid modernization: cyber security, the integration of renewable energy resources, gaps in standards, harmonization of global standards, consumer engagement and transactive energy—to name just a few.

SGIP 2.0, Inc. doesn't need a crystal ball, however, to see 2014 with a degree of clarity. We've developed a strategy and structure to make tangible progress on power industry challenges—progress that will plant the seeds of value creation.

Read more [here](#).

### **Broadcast-based Energy Management**

Energy Central

By Kenneth Wacks, Ph.D.

Feb. 25, 2014

The Smart Grid Interoperability Panel's (SGIP) Home-to-Grid Domain Expert Working Group (H2G DEWG) has developed a white paper entitled **Broadcast-based H2G Communication Solutions**. The H2G DEWG chair, Ken Wacks, explained that the development of this paper was motivated by a request from regulators and appliance makers for a simple method to deliver energy management data from a power utility or energy service provider to consumer products.

Read more [here](#).

### **Siemens helping Colombian utility with technological roadmap**

Smart Grid Today

By Brett Bune

Feb. 14, 2014

Colombian utility Empresa de Energia del Pacifico SA (EPSA) is knee-deep in work with Siemens on a smart grid maturity model, John Edward Ceballos, project and innovation leader for the utility in Valle del Cauca, Colombia, told us recently in an exclusive interview in Florida. "EPSA is writing the final report of the maturity model and is reviewing how best to make the investments in technology that allows the company a high degree of modernization and efficiency," he added.

Read more [here](#).

### **Smart Planning for a Successful Smart Grid Roll Out**

Breaking Energy

By [Environmental Defense Fund Energy Exchange Blog](#)

Feb. 3, 2014

Ben Franklin famously said, "If you fail to plan, you're planning to fail." This saying certainly holds true for smart grid deployment plans, which can cost utilities several hundred million dollars. Given these high stakes, good planning is essential.

Many utilities have installed smart grids. Currently, 25% of U.S. electricity customers have smart meters, a key component of the smart grid. Some early deployments were rocky, but utilities have learned their lessons. Utilities have incorporated these lessons learned in the planning process for more recent smart grid deployments.

Read more [here](#).

## **SGIP Outreach**

March 4-7: [ISGAN SIRFN Technical Meeting](#) and the IEEE-SA International Conference on Standards for Smart Grid Ecosystems—Bangalore, India

- SGIP Speaker: Robby Simpson, GE

March 28-29: [2nd Interdisciplinary Workshop on Smart Grid](#)

**Design** – Gainesville, FL

- SGIP Speakers: John McDonald, GE, Tariq Samad, Honeywell and Patrick Gannon, SGIP

March 30- April 1: **Creating Next Generation Systems” XI – CIINDET 2014** - Cuernavaca, Mexico

- SGIP Speakers: Ralph Mackiewicz, SISCO, Inc. and Keynote Address by Patrick Gannon, SGIP

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