



March 16, 2017

President's Update



Members,

Thank you to all member companies who took the time to vote in the ballot for SGIP's Intent to Merge with SEPA (Smart Electric Power Alliance). We had 117 eligible member companies who could participate in the vote and received 82 Yes Votes, 3 No Votes, and 1 Abstention.

Just as SGIP1.0 transitioned to SGIP2.0, we will now make the transition to SEPA. Helping our industry advance grid modernization in a safe, reliable, and economic manner will remain our focus as we execute under the SEPA brand. I'm confident the SGIP community will grow and strengthen because of this merger.

SGIP has two remaining items to execute in order to meet the conditions of the Merger Agreement. The two remaining items are the successful reassignment of our NIST and DOE grants. These conditions must be met in order for our organizations to merge. We are targeting to close on the Merger on March 31, 2017 pending meeting these remaining two conditions. If this all happens as planned, we will be operating as SEPA on April 1, 2017.

Once we have executed the Merger, all of you will be receiving a welcome to SEPA and information about accessing the SEPA member benefits.

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Assessed our Industry

In other news, last Thursday, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave America's infrastructure a D+ grade in its [Infrastructure Report Card](#). Our work can help bring that grade up, and ASCE agrees, as they [addressed the electric grid in their report](#), stating that distributed generation and resilient microgrids can offer needed benefits.

Speaking at the Grid Modernization Forum in Chicago

The more we advance, the more opportunities we unlock for electric energy investments, but we need to share knowledge with each other to accelerate progress. That's why I'll be presenting the Opening Address at the [Grid Modernization Forum in Chicago, Illinois on April 3, 2017](#). I will discuss the impacts of DER on planning and operational systems at utilities. I hope to see some of you there.

New entries to our Catalog of Standards

Another way we share knowledge is by publishing standards, and SGIP members recently approved five new candidates for our [Catalog of Standards \(CoS\)](#). These new entries were created through close collaboration between SGIP and our [technical working groups and committees](#), as well as partner organizations. With their help and expertise, we continue growing our catalog to inform the development of an interoperable and secure grid.

Welcoming new members

I'm pleased to announce two new members have joined our SGIP community. SparkCognition is a leader in computing analytics headquartered in Austin, Texas, and our other newcomer is Steve Ray Consulting. Steve Ray is a long time contributor to the SGIP community, but now he joins SGIP under his consulting business.



Sharon Allan
President and CEO

Announcements

Grid-edge Generation and Devices Top Research Focus at National Test Beds

Researchers from some of the largest, best-known grid modernization testing facilities in North America are investigating technologies that will move generation, intelligence and control to the grid edge. That's a key finding of SGIP's just published [2016 Grid Modernization Test Bed Survey](#).

This is the second year that SGIP has conducted its survey, which was initiated to foster industry collaboration by identifying technology under study at various facilities and pinpointing where partnerships are welcome.

To see complete results, [download a copy](#) of the survey from the SGIP website.

[Read More](#)

SGIP White Paper Addresses Protecting Smart Grids from Electromagnetic Phenomena

In February, SGIP announced the publication of a new white paper addressing the performance of smart grid devices near power lines, where electromagnetic (EM) phenomena could threaten grid reliability. Manufacturers of smart grid devices, along with EMC test labs, power utilities and more can benefit from this free resource.

The [Evaluation of the Electromagnetic Phenomena Issues on Smart Grid Reliability white paper](#) was developed by the Electromagnetic Interoperability Issues Working Group (EMIIWG), an [SGIP committee](#). Readers will have a better understanding of the EM environment where smart grid devices operate, tests to determine the immunity of those devices to EM phenomena and sources of further information on testing.

[Read More](#)

New SGIP White Paper Addresses Smart Grid Security with Broadcast Communications

Last week, [SGIP](#) announced the release of a free white paper that addresses the issue of system security for smart grid broadcast communications. [Smart Grid System Security with Broadcast Communications](#) was published by the Home/Building/Industry-to-Grid Domain Expert Working Group (H/B/I2G DEWG) at SGIP.

The white paper is for utilities, energy service providers and vendors of energy management equipment. It explains how home-based devices can authenticate the sources of broadcast messages.

[Read More](#)

PMO Update

From Aaron Smallwood, SGIP VP Technology

Orange Button Year Two Gets Underway

SGIP has been working with Orange Button partners NREL, kWh Analytics, and the SunSpec Alliance to align working group meeting schedules for 2017. The schedules and information about how to participate will be published soon. We also have information on the Data Taxonomy requirements that were recently completed and submitted, a webinar on March 23, and more. [Read the full PMO Update](#) for details.

SGIP Catalog of Standards Vote

On March 1, 2017, the SGIP member vote to include five new standards

in the [SGIP Catalog of Standards \(CoS\)](#) closed with all standards approved. Thanks to all those who advocated for the standards, participated in the standards reviews, and who voted. There are now 81 standards included in the CoS.

Each standard in the catalog represents many months of teamwork in [SGIP technical working groups and committees](#). [Read the full PMO Update](#) to learn about the five new standards.

[Click here for the full Update.](#)



LEARN MORE

SGIP News

SGIP Members Approve Merger with SEPA

In a vote ending on March 10, 2017, SGIP members approved the Merger with SEPA (Smart Electric Power Alliance). Sharon Allan, CEO and President of SGIP, and David Forfia, SGIP Chairman, announced the results in a letter to members later that day. "We are very excited about the Merger and bringing SEPA/SGIP combined benefits to our members and to the industry," read the letter. "Both SEPA and SGIP Board of Directors have approved the merger."

Pending the completion of two remaining items, SGIP and SEPA are targeting March 31, 2017 to close the Merger, meaning both organizations will be operating as SEPA on April 1, 2017. Once the merger is completed, SGIP members will receive a welcome from SEPA and information about accessing SEPA member benefits.

More Merger Details

SAVE the Date! July 25-27, 2017 in Washington, DC

SGIP's Annual Conference Combining with SEPA's Grid Evolution Summit | A National Town Meeting

With SGIP and SEPA (Smart Electric Power Alliance) merging under the SEPA brand, the two organizations will also merge annual conferences, creating new conference opportunities for both communities. This year, the SGIP Grid Modernization Summit will be combined with [SEPA's Grid Evolution Summit | A National Town Meeting](#) held July 25–27, 2017 in Washington, DC at the Washington Hilton.



Event Details

SAVE the Date! May 10-11, 2017

GMLC Interoperability DER Technical Review Meeting

The GMLC Interoperability DER Technical Review Meeting will be held, in partnership with SGIP, on May 10-11, 2017 at the AEP (American Electric Power) Gahanna Ohio facility. Key project artifacts being reviewed at this meeting include the Interoperability Strategic Vision, and Interoperability Maturity Assessment and Roadmap Methodology documents.

Further information concerning DOE's GMLC Interoperability project can be found here: <https://gridmod.labworks.org/projects/1.2.2>. For interested parties, please contact Steve Widergren at Steve.Widergren@pnnl.gov.

Contribute to *The Conductor*

SGIP's monthly newsletter isn't just an opportunity for you to hear from other thought leaders - it's also your chance to share your views and accomplishments with the industry and the SGIP community. If you have opinions, initiatives or upcoming events that can help others in grid modernization, they can be published in *The Conductor*.

Your insight and work could be promoted in several ways:

- **Articles**
- **Case Studies and White Papers**
- **Webinars**
- **Conferences**



> > [Click here for more details on how you can contribute](#)

If you would like to contribute to *The Conductor*, contact Gabrielle Puccio, Vice President of Member and Public Affairs, at gpuccio@sgip.org.

SGIP Webinars You May Have Missed

Economic Value of The Integration of Consumption Preferences in Electric System Planning

The electric power industry has traditionally operated with pricing set by tariffs. Most product and commodity prices are set by market forces of supply and demand, moderated by competition.

This webinar gives an overview of the SGIP white paper, "[Economic Value of the Integration of Consumption Preferences in Electric Systems Planning](#)," and examines the potential benefits to operators and customers of using market prices for electricity to influence consumption decisions, rather than fixed tariffs (usually set by regulation).

This webinar presented the motivating factors and benefits for moving toward retail competitive pricing to influence electricity demand, as well as described the white paper's metric to be applied by decision-makers in determining the value of industry alternatives.

Speakers:

Dr. Kenneth Wacks, Management & Engineering Consultant
Dave LeVee, Principal of PwrCast Inc.

[Click here](#) to see the webinar replay.

[Click here](#) to download the webinar PowerPoint slides.



Did you miss any other SGIP webinars?

If you missed a webinar that interests you, no worries. You can find recorded webinars and a list of upcoming webinars by [clicking here](#).

Upcoming SGIP Events

Cyber-Physical Resiliency Webinar

Leaders from three organizations will discuss best practices for cyber-physical resiliency in smart grids and grid modernization. Attendees will learn what cyber-physical resiliency is and how it's supported by architecture and cybersecurity. This webinar is open to the public and targeted toward architects, system designers/engineers, cyber-physical security professionals, and operating practitioners.

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. EST, approx. 1 hour

Speakers:

Suzanne Lightman, Senior Information Security Adviser, NIST

Ron Cunningham, IT Enterprise Architect, AEP

Elizabeth Sisley, Ph.D., Founder/CEO, Calm Sunrise Consulting, LLC

[Register here](#)

Where SGIP is Speaking

2nd Annual Grid Modernization Forum, April 3-5, 2017 in Chicago, will closely examine lessons learned to date by industry leaders pushing the frontiers of grid modernization and reliability. Key technology innovators and executives will come together to share perspectives on how best to leverage AMI investment, engage the customer, and take the smart grid to the next level. Case studies of improved network performance, resiliency, outage restoration, and distributed energy resource (DER) integration will be examined with an eye toward determining best practices and technology advances for today's energy ecosystem. Sharon Allan, President and CEO at SGIP, will be speaking on April 4, 2017.



For more information, click [here](#).

IEEE ISGT 2017 Conference, April 23-26, 2017 in Arlington, Virginia, will involve Dave Hardin, Smart Grid Interoperability Panel, Jeffrey Taft, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and Ron Melton, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, speaking about the basics of Grid Architecture with examples of how to apply them.

For more information, click [here](#).

Industry News

SEPA Power Player Awards

SEPA Power Player Awards recognize collaborative and innovative efforts by utilities, their industry partners, and individuals that expand knowledge of and access to distributed energy resources, transform the worldview of the electric industry, and further progress towards an integrated clean energy future. There are 7 award categories open for nominations, which can be found [here](#).

Nominations for the SEPA Power Player Awards are open through March 24, 2017. For more information about the award categories, the nomination process and frequently asked questions, click [here](#).

Learn More

Enbala Power Networks Raises \$12 Million to Transform Distributed Energy Resource Market

Enbala Power Networks, the leader in distributed energy resource management, announced that it has raised \$12 million in Series-B venture financing, adding marquee strategic investors that expand and accelerate the company's capabilities, scope and market presence.

Grant Allen, Head of ABB Technology Ventures, said, "I am excited to bring together ABB's deep experience in distribution and energy market operations with Enbala's best-in-class software to design a solution tailored to the unique needs of our global client base, many of whom are leading the charge in integrating distributed energy resources."

Read More

NIST's Global City Teams Challenge to Hold a Workshop for its Smart Energy, Water, and Waste SuperCluster

NIST's [Global City Teams Challenge \(GCTC\)](#), now entering its third year, is focusing its attention this year on the establishment of "SuperClusters"—multi-city, multi-stakeholder deployments of smart city projects in sectors such as energy, transportation, and public safety. The creation of these multi-team SuperClusters will enable existing GCTC action clusters to work together, thereby increasing the scale and impact of their efforts. One of the five active SuperClusters—the Smart Energy, Water, and Waste SuperCluster—is holding a workshop in Atlanta on March 22-23, 2017.

The GCTC Smart Energy, Water, and Waste SuperCluster Workshop—co-hosted by NIST, the City of Atlanta, AT&T, Smart Cities Council, and Siemens—will be held on March 22-23, 2017, at the AT&T Corporate Office in Atlanta, Georgia. Registration is now open at [this website](#).

This free event will explore how smart technologies can accelerate sustainable and resilient energy, water, and materials systems in the Atlanta region and in cities around the world. Participants will begin drafting a high-level blueprint of replicable, scalable, and sustainable energy, water, and waste management utilities operating within smart cities, based on successful real-world examples and best practices. The goal is for this blueprint to be utilized by cities around the world as a way to jumpstart their efforts.

The workshop will combine general content sessions with multiple parallel breakouts and working groups. Key themes include a common "architecture" for smart utilities, public-private partnerships, and the linking of regional and global smart cities' efforts.

If you'd like to learn more about this SuperCluster's activities, join the google group [Energy, Water, Waste Management SuperCluster group](#) to receive updates.

Industry Events

Xtensible Webinar: Utility Analytics: Jump Start Your Enterprise Analytics, March 21, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mountain Time

Siemens-OMNETRIC Industry Day, March 22, 2017 in Golden, Colorado

2017 SunSpec Alliance Annual Member Meeting, March 30, 2017 in San Francisco, California

[For details on these three industry events, click here](#) and scroll down to Industry Events.

Welcome, New SGIP Members!

SGIP welcomes two new members to our community: SparkCognition and Steve Ray Consulting. SparkCognition is a leader in computing analytics headquartered in Austin, Texas. Steve Ray has been a member of SGIP in the past, but now he joins us as a consultant with his own business.



SparkCognition is a global leader in cognitive computing analytics. A highly awarded company recognized for cutting-edge technology, SparkCognition is successfully deploying a cognitive, data-driven analytics platform for clouds, devices, and the Internet of Things industrial and security markets by applying patented algorithms that deliver out-of-band, symptom-sensitive analytics, insights, and security. For more information on the company, its technology and team, please visit <http://www.sparkcognition.com>.

[Steve Ray Consulting](#) offers interoperability services for Advanced Technologies, Healthcare, Manufacturing and Smart Grid.

Connect with SGIP



LinkedIn Update

We encourage our group members to follow our SGIP Company Page to stay up-to-date on the latest SGIP and industry news. If you don't already, [Follow Us](#) today.

Visit Our Website

Smart Grid Interoperability Panel | 401 Edgewater Place, Suite 600 | Wakefield, MA 01880

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