



Advancing Grid Modernization



May 19, 2016

President's Update



Members,

In April's newsletter, I announced that SGIP received the award for the DOE Orange ButtonSM program, which was started to improve the exchange of solar data. Following that milestone, we began our outreach to assemble interested parties to come together on this initiative. Within the first three days of our outreach, we received interest from more than 150 parties. This response shows the consensus throughout our industry on the potential of this work.

Orange ButtonSM aims to simplify and standardize solar data, so state governments, customers, utilities, financiers, solar companies, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders can exchange quality data. Because access to high quality-data impacts up to 54 percent of the total price of a residential PV system, a robust data infrastructure for the solar industry is needed to enable rapid and seamless data exchanges between producers and consumers of solar data.

Ultimately, our hope is that Orange ButtonSM will reduce transaction inefficiencies and improve market transparency in a self-sustaining manner. The SGIP award is \$615,000 over two years, during which we will facilitate stakeholder engagement, strategy and requirements generation with our partner SEIA (Solar Energy Information Association). To learn more about Orange ButtonSM and join our effort, go to our website at <http://www.sgip.org/orange-button>.

Acknowledging the contributions of our active SGIP community is always a pleasure. The Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee's (SGTCC) collaboration with NEMA has resulted in the publication of the Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM) as an ANSI NEMA standard. Congratulations to both teams for their accomplishment.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon S. Allan".

Sharon Allan
President and CEO

Announcements



New Standard Provides Framework for Smart Grid Testing and Certification

Earlier this month, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) published a new standard, [The Smart Grid Interoperability Process Reference Manual, ANSI/NEMA SG-IPRM 1-2016 \(IPRM\)](#). The standard codifies a publication, the Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM), which was developed and refined over the past six years by NEMA's Distribution Automation Technical Committee and SGIP's Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC).

Aaron Smallwood, Director of Technology Operations, SGIP, said, "The approval of this new standard represents a substantial effort by SGIP's membership and our commitment to interoperability and advancing grid modernization through industry collaboration. It contains testing and certification recommendations and best practices that promote the introduction of interoperable products in the marketplace."

"Since the establishment of SGIP and its SGTCC in 2009, we've been strong proponents of testing and certification for smart grid interoperability," said Cuong Nguyen, lead for NIST's smart grid testing and certification project, vice chair of the SGTCC, and chair of the NEMA committee that drove the standard development process. "Testing programs are needed to ensure that products are both compliant with standards and interoperable. The IPRM embodies the SGTCC's vision for the smart grid testing and certification ecosystem."

The IPRM standard defines a process by which industry stakeholders may procure, test, and assert interoperability between different vendors of smart grid products. For example, the IPRM process defines requirements and recommendations for general test policies, test suite specifications, test profiles, governance, laboratory qualifications, process improvements, and technical programs for interoperability testing and certification authority. All this can help establish an Interoperability testing and certification Authority (ITCA).

For more detailed information about this topic, a good place to start is the November 20, 2014 webinar hosted by SGIP called "What's New with the Interoperability Process Reference Manual." Here is the link to the archived webinar. <http://www.sgip.org/archived-webinars/>

The SGTCC plans to develop a user guide for the standard in 2016. The user guide will include further guidance on how to establish an ITCA and a set of frequently-asked questions. The committee is seeking participants for a new Working Group to develop this user guide. If you are interested in participating, please contact Nguyen at cuong.nguyen@nist.gov.

Approved: New Standard to Help Consumers Enter the Smart Grid

On May 2, 2016 ANSI approved a new standard called the Facility Smart Grid Information Model (FSGIM) that can help facilities ranging from a small house to a large college campus understand, manage and communicate about electrical energy consumptions and forecasts. With the many different control technologies used in facilities, and the standards to support them, the FSGIM charts a course to bring these technologies in alignment with smart grid environments. ASHRAE—an international society

advancing heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration—partnered with SGIP and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) to collaborate on the standard. Steve Bushby, Group Leader, Mechanical Systems and Controls at NIST was the committee chair for Standard Project Committee 201 (SPC 201) that led the SGIP PAP17 team on FSGIM. It is soon to be published as an ANSI/NEMA/ASHRAE standard.

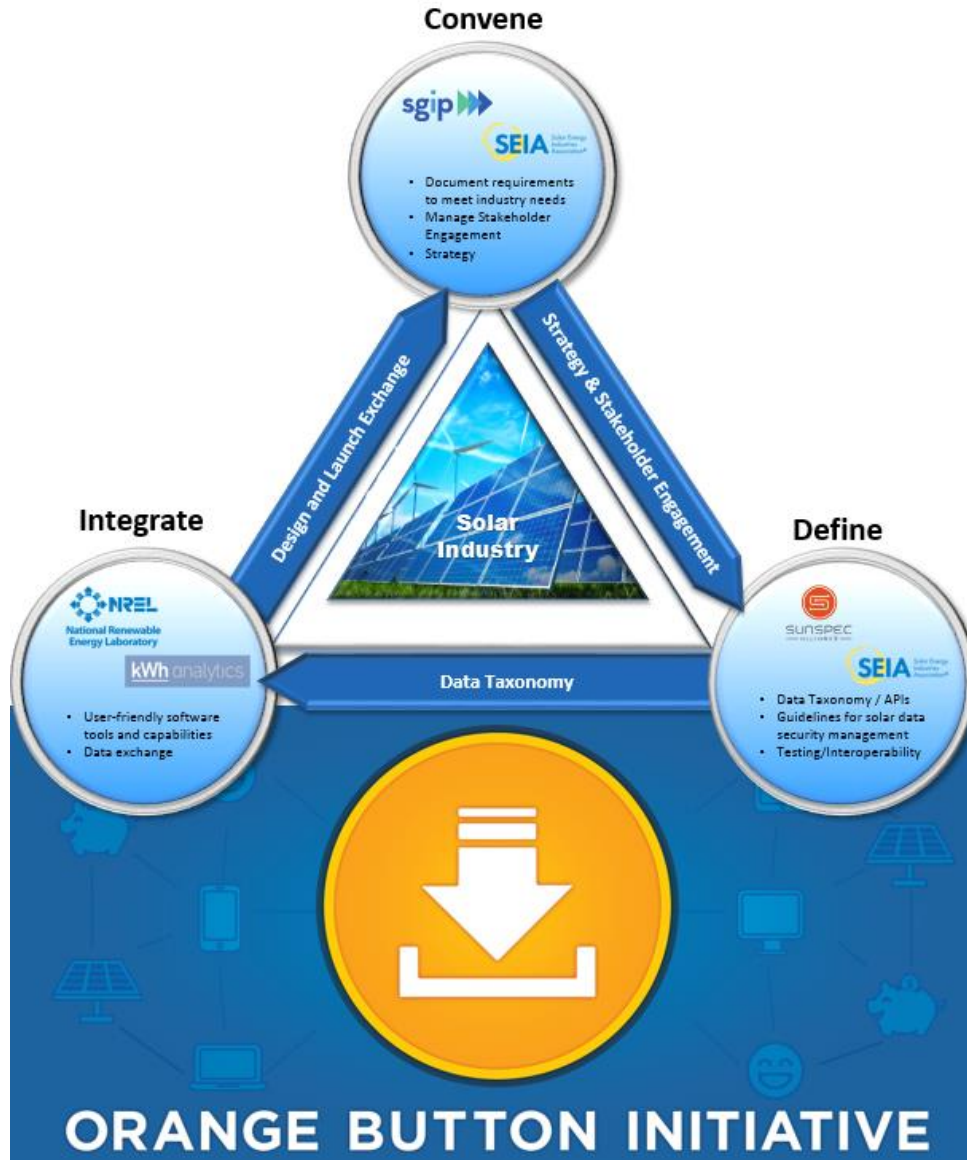
PMO Update from Aaron Smallwood, SGIP Director of Technology Operations



Orange ButtonSM is Underway

SGIP's key Orange ButtonSM activities in May are communicating, recruiting, and planning. We are convening a strategy working group, and five SME working groups focused on data used in the solar project lifecycle: Deployment, Financial, Real Estate, Solar O&M, and Grid Interconnection.

Along with our partners: Solar Energy Industry Association (SEIA), SunSpec Alliance, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), and kWh Analytics; we've begun our outreach and will begin documenting the current state of solar industry data standards and market needs.



If you're interested in participating in the Orange ButtonSM initiative please visit <http://www.sgip.org/orange-button/> to learn more and register.

Interoperability Process Reference Manual Now an ANSI/NEMA Standard

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) has published ANSI/NEMA SG-IPRM 1-2016 10-2015: Smart Grid Interoperability Process Reference Manual. The standard was a joint effort by the NEMA Distribution Automation Technical Committee and SGIP's Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC). The IPRM contains Testing and Certification recommendations and best practices that promote the introduction of interoperable products in the marketplace.

Next Step: The SGIP Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC) is seeking participants for a new Working Group to develop a companion user guide for the Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM) Standard.

Another new Standard: Facility Smart Grid Information Model (FSGIM/PAP-17)

On May 2nd, ANSI provided final approval of ASHRAE/NEMA/ANSI Standard 201: Facility Smart Grid Information Model (FSGIM). SGIP's PAP-17 started in 2010 and is a foundational piece of this standard that refined the use cases for the FSGIM. NIST's Steve Bushby led the PAP-17 team and the ASHRAE joint Standard Project Committee that developed Standard 201.

Member Spotlight



Each month SGIP will turn the spotlight on a member who is making an impact in their professional field and around the association. These members exemplify the mission of SGIP to advance grid modernization. It's a great way for you to meet your colleagues and find members with similar interests.

Robby Simpson

Robby Simpson, PhD, is a System Architect for GE Grid Solutions, where he guides the architectures for GE smart grid systems. He is also a member of the SGIP Board of Directors. Mr. Simpson designs and evaluates GE Grid Solutions' architectures with particular attention to scalability, security, and interoperability. After a number of years in the smart grid industry, he has published several refereed conference and journal papers on topics like network measurements, network security, and network simulation. Mr. Simpson has received numerous awards for his academic and industry efforts and is an Eagle Scout.



>>>[Click here to read more about Robby.](#)

SGIP News



Grid Management Working Group Update

The 'utility only' Grid Management Group has been formed with the purpose of bringing together grid operations technology and business leaders from utilities to discuss key operational concepts/capabilities and architecture principles relating to future Grid Control and Operational technologies needed to manage a more complex grid due to the rapid rise of DERs. The group is chaired by Alekski Paaso, ComEd and John Bubb, SCE.

A series of monthly meetings have been scheduled around various topics with a focus on the grid of the future and the impact with high penetration of DER. Meetings will rotate between both coasts, to be hosted by various utilities. >>>[View meeting schedule here.](#)

3rd Meeting is being Held May 19th at ComEd in Chicago

SGIP is holding its third monthly meeting on May 19, 2016, hosted at ComEd. This Grid Management meeting will focus on the systems, processes and optimizations needed to manage system reliability.

The meeting objectives include:

1. Developing a shared understanding of the systems, processes, and optimizations needed to manage system reliability with high penetration of DER
2. Identifying and discuss the technical, operational and business requirements with high penetration of DER to manage operations (This is not just a focus on DERMS but encompassing grid operations minus FLISR.)
3. Generating requirements that can be used in future sourcing or roadmap plans

Requirements focus on the following

- Long- and near-term Distribution Planning
- Load and DER Forecasting
- Managing peak load while considering third-party DER
- Changes needed in Modeling
- Optimization of asset utilization, configuration and control
- Control of storage
- Managing the Point of Common Coupling (PCC) with the Customer
- Feeder Reconfiguration (other than FLISR)
- VVO methodologies and technologies (also single vs. three phase, mechanical vs. electronic, low voltage versus medium and high voltage)

Participate in the Orange ButtonSM Working Groups



Through the newly-launched Orange Button Program, SGIP and three other organizations are advancing the way the solar industry establishes and manages data. Such an ambitious goal requires a variety of perspectives from different corners of the market to develop strategies and business requirements. Therefore, SGIP is teaming partnering with Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) to form five Strategy and Business Requirements Working Groups. If you are interested in participating, see the list of the working groups and [register online](#).

Deployment: (including solar asset installers, engineering firms, permitting officials, etc.) Focused on the data needs associated with concerns like structural and electrical safety. This working group will include building code and safety standards experts, project developers, and other relevant stakeholders.

Financial: (including banking and specialty finance institutions, solar project developers, solar asset managers, solar financiers and investment professionals, etc.) Engaged in supporting efficient finance for projects, as well as efficient financial reporting practices during project operation. This working group will examine data practices for tax and accounting systems, streamlining information exchange between banks and developers to assess development risk, and the data exchange environment necessary to conduct effective financial asset management activities.

Real Estate: (including professionals experienced in identifying and transacting in real estate for solar projects) Focused on data requirements of the real estate industry (as they are relevant to solar projects) to deploy projects at various types of commercial real estate (e.g., owner-occupation of buildings, types of lease structures held by tenants).

Solar O&M: (including project developers, O&M service providers, etc.) Focused on all data requirements behind project operations and maintenance practices and cost models.

Grid Integration: (including electric utilities, project developers, ISOs, state regulatory bodies, etc.) Focused on the data needs for utilities, ISOs, and solar developers with regard to new utility-scale and behind-the-meter connections.

Join the New SGTCC Working Group

The SGIP Smart Grid Testing and Certification Committee (SGTCC) is seeking participants for a new Working Group to develop a user guide for the Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM).

SGIP and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) have successfully converted the Interoperability Process Reference Manual (IPRM) into an ANSI/NEMA standard. The user guide will include further direction on how to establish an Interoperability Testing and Certification Authority (ITCA) as well as a set of frequently asked questions.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Cuong Nguyen, Vice Chair of the SGTCC at cuong.nguyen@nist.gov.

Participate in SGIP 2016 North American Grid Modernization Test Bed Survey

We're asking you, our members, [to take a look at last year's report](#) and let us know how you think we could improve it, what else you'd like to see in the report, and if you'd like to be involved!

Please let us know:

- Do you have a test bed that we didn't include in last year's report?
- Do you know of a test bed we missed?
- Are there specific areas of research you'd like us to include in the survey?
- Are there questions we didn't ask, but should?

Send your replies to Aaron Smallwood (asmallwood@sgip.org) SGIP's Director of Technical Operations. We'll be launching the next test bed survey this summer. Help us make it a useful tool for you and your fellow SGIP members.



Submit Your DTECH 2017 Abstracts by June 13th

Do you want to attend DistribuTECH 2017? Would you like to share your expertise with the industry?

Don't miss this great opportunity to attend DistribuTECH, share your expertise and demonstrate SGIP thought leadership.

The deadline to submit abstracts is June 13. [Click here for information on submitting an abstract.](#)
[DistribuTECH 2017: Call for Abstracts](#)

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 are not currently following our page please click here and select "[Follow](#)."

Launched: SGIP Website Redesign

We are pleased to announce that the newly redesigned SGIP website was launched on time on April 25th. The redesigned public website improves the website environment and experience, as well as makes SGIP intellectual assets, announcements, and SGIP member info, easier to reach and more accessible.



Advancing Grid Modernization

We appreciate the feedback we've received from our members and are working with individual committees by request to add content to their pages.

If you would like to contribute to the website or wish to request a change. You can fill out the simple form on the "[Contact Us](#)" page.

As a thank you for sharing your comments on the website redesign, members who responded via email or via the web survey form were included in a random drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift card. This winner of the gift card is Ralph Mackiewicz, Vice President, Business Development at SISCO, Inc. Congratulations and thanks to all who participated.

New SGIP Logo

Need a copy of the New SGIP Logo?

If you are an SGIP member, you can access the art file for the new logo in the Kavi collaboration site by [clicking here](#).

If you have any questions about using the new SGIP logo, please contact Lesley Strand at lstrand@sgip.org.

Upcoming SGIP Events

Save the Date for the SGIP

GRID MODERNIZATION SUMMIT 2016

"ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATION"

WHAT: 2016 Grid Modernization Summit
WHEN: November 7 through Nov 10, 2016
WHERE: The Capital Hilton, Washington, DC
WHO: Everyone! Members and non-members can attend

The conference is named the 2016 Grid Modernization Summit and the conference theme is "Accelerating Transformation."

[Click here to view the Capital Hilton](#), the hotel and venue for the 2016 Grid Modernization Summit.

Contact Gabrielle Puccio at gpuccio@sgip.org if you have any questions.

Interested in becoming a sponsor or exhibitor at 2016 Grid Modernization Summit?
View opportunities below.

>>>[Sponsorship](#)

>>>[Exhibitor](#)

Contact Steven Desrochers (steven@jaguar-expo.com) to sign up for space. Availability is first come, first served.

SGIP-Hosted Events



Grid Management Utilities Only Working Group Meetings

The following is a list of upcoming Grid Management Working Group meetings.

If you are a utility and wish to attend the Grid Management working group meetings, you can now register for each individual meeting on the SGIP website. [Click here to register.](#)

Lesley Strand is responsible for distributing “outlook calendar” invites for the upcoming Grid Management Working Group meetings. If you are a utility and have already joined this working group, but are not receiving the calendar invites, please email Lesley at lstrand@sgip.org to request the meeting invites.

[May 19, 2016, Chicago, IL](#)

Grid Management Meeting focused on Distributed Energy Resource Control Functions and Operations with high penetration of DER

[June 23, 2016, Location: San Jose, CA](#)

Grid Management Meeting focused on Adaptive Protective Functions

[August 25, 2016, Charlotte, NC](#)

Grid Management Meeting focused on Microgrid Functions/Operations

>>>[Check our more details about the meetings here.](#)

Join us for the OpenFMB™ Next Steps Webinar!



SGIP Webinar Thursday, June 2, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. EST

Join us as the two OpenFMB™ industry co-chairs discuss a short history of ground covered to date, the OpenFMB™ framework and the recently ratified NAESB standard. Our hosts will outline next steps for the OpenFMB™ PAP team including: next up use cases, enhancing OpenFMB™ cybersecurity and how to participate. [Get the details of the webinar here.](#)

[Register Now](#)

SGIP Speaking Events

May 18- 21, Shenzhen, China

[7th Asia-Pacific International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility & Signal Integrity and Technical Exhibition \(APEMC 2016\)](#)

SGIP Speaker: Don Heirman

June 21-23, San Jose, CA

[Grid Edge World Forum](#)

SGIP Speakers: Members ComEd, Duke, CPS Energy, Honeywell, Enbala, Itron, and National Grid

Industry Events

Grid Edge World Forum, June 21 - 23, 2016.

Take a three-day journey into the next generation of the grid at the Grid Edge World Forum in San Jose, Calif. from June 21-23. SGIP is a supporting organization of the Grid Edge World Forum. Come out to support SGIP members companies **ComEd, Duke, CPS Energy, Honeywell, Enbala, Itron, and National Grid** who will speak at the forum.



>>>[Click here to learn more and register for the event.](#)


Visit Our Website

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

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