NIST Smart Grid and Cyber-Physical Systems

NIST Smart Grid and Cyber-Physical Systems Newsletter
August 2015

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Transactive Energy Challenge: Webinar (Aug. 6, 2015) and Kickoff Event (Sept. 10-11, 2015)

The smart grid community will have two opportunities in the next five weeks to learn about the upcoming NIST Transactive Energy Modeling and Simulation Challenge (TE Challenge). See below for details about registering for the one-hour webinar on Aug. 6, 2015, and the kickoff event at NIST-Gaithersburg on Sept. 10-11, 2015.

The TE Challenge will bring researchers and companies with simulation tools together with utilities, product developers, and other grid stakeholders to create and demonstrate modeling and simulation platforms while applying transactive energy approaches to real grid problems. "Transactive energy," as defined by the Department of Energy GridWise Architecture Council's Transactive Energy Framework, refers to "a system of economic and control mechanisms that allows the dynamic balance of supply and demand across the entire electrical infrastructure using value as a key operational parameter."

Initiated by NIST and developed in collaboration with federal partners and industry, the TE Challenge will help the industry better understand the potential for TE and create a path for real-world trial implementations. The TE Challenge website and the soon-to-be-available TE Challenge collaboration site (watch for link on TE Challenge website) provide information about the challenge timeline, goals, and potential participants.

On Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. EDT, the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) will host a webinar providing an overview of the TE Challenge. The webinar, presented by TE leaders from NIST and SGIP, will also present draft plans of some organizations planning to participate, as well as information about how you can get involved and benefit from the Challenge. Visit http://www.sgip.org/webinars to register.

On Sept. 10-11, 2015, NIST will be hosting a kickoff event in Gaithersburg, Maryland. To view the preliminary agenda and register for the event, please visit the conference website.

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Global City Teams Challenge (GCTC): Gearing Up for GCTC 2016

Building on the momentum of the highly successful NIST Global Cities Teams Challenge (GCTC)

2015 program, smart city leaders are already looking ahead to next year. Sokwoo Rhee, Associate Director of the NIST's Cyber-Physical Systems Program, said, "We are committed to building on the success of the GCTC and aim to convene a larger, even more global initiative that will support partnerships between local governments and innovators and advance IoT deployments in cities across the globe." Later this year, NIST and US Ignite will release plans for GCTC 2016 and will announce the date of a kickoff meeting.

The GCTC program will have a presence at next month's [Smart Cities Week 2015 event in Washington, DC (Sept. 15-17, 2015)](#). Sponsored by the Smart Cities Council, the event will include two GCTC-moderated sessions ([Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 5:10 to 6:10 p.m.](#) and [Wednesday, Sept. 16, from 9:30 to 10:10 a.m.)](#) reviewing past successes and future plans of the GCTC program.

Earlier this summer, the GCTC Expo (June 1, 2015, Washington, DC)—featuring more than 60 GCTC teams and 1300 attendees—brought the GCTC 2015 program to a festive conclusion. [Archived video footage of all 60+ presentations and keynotes](#) delivered at the Expo and [copies of the presentation materials](#) are now available online. (The [June 2015 issue](#) of this newsletter also includes further highlights of the event).

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Green Button Update

The Green Button Initiative continues to grow—and to attract attention at the highest levels of the federal government.   A recent article on the White House Blog, ["Green Button Initiative Makes Headway with Electric Industry and Consumers,"](#) reports that more than 150 utilities and service providers have committed to providing more than 60 million U.S. households (including altogether 100 million people).   The article also highlights the role played by NIST and the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) in the development of energy usage data standards and in the creation of "a rich ecosystem of interoperable solutions that enable consumer access to electricity usage data."

NIST's Dave Wollman, Deputy Director for Smart Grid and Cyber-Physical Systems Program Office, co-authored the blog article with DOE'S Kristen Honey and OSTP's Dipayan Ghosh.

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Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) Update

SGIP hosted a public webinar on June 18, 2015, on "C2M2 and the NIST Cyber Framework: Applying DOE's NIST Cyber Security Framework Guidance."   (C2M2 is the Department of Energy's Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model.) NIST's Victoria Pillitteri was one of the webinar presenters. Archived copies of the webinar recording and presentation are now available online; visit the [SGIP webinar page.](#)

SGIP will host a webinar providing an overview of the Transactive Energy Challenge (see details in first article, above).

The SGIP Annual Conference, Nov. 3-5, 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana, will feature a theme of "Advancing through Collaboration." The speaker program will feature utility, vendor, and industry senior executives. [Registration information and the conference agenda are now available on the SGIP Annual Conference page.](#)

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Comings and Goings: Staff Changes at NIST

Edward Griffor has joined the NIST team as Associate Director, Smart Grid and Cyber-Physical Systems Program Office. With 35 years of international experience, Ed's most recent position was as Walter P. Chrysler Technical Fellow and Chair of the FCA Technical Council for Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA).

Dean Prochaska, a key member of NIST's smart grid leadership team, has accepted a new position with FirstNet, where he will serve as Director of Standards. FirstNet, an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration, has the mission to build, operate, and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety.

Victoria Pillitteri, leader of NIST's smart grid cybersecurity effort since 2013, has accepted an internal detail position in NIST's Program Coordination Office in the Office of NIST Director Willie May.   With Vicky's transition under way, Suzanne Lightman has now joined the NIST smart grid team to play a lead role in smart grid cybersecurity.   Suzanne has been a Senior Information Security Advisor at NIST since 2010.

Kahlil Anderson, a student at University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus, has been a participant this summer in NIST'S Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program under the guidance of mentor Marty Burns. For his project, Kahlil built an application to enable data to be accessed from a commercial sensor database system used on the NIST campus by means of a Green Button server.

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