



11th Edition

MICROGRID

GLOBAL INNOVATION FORUM & VPP-DERMS SUMMIT • NORTH AMERICA

The **11th Microgrid Global Innovation Forum**, March 10-11, 2020 in Chicago (www.microgridinnovation.com/Chicago) brings together key industry executives for focused networking and information sharing concerning the design, implementation and operation of renewables-centric microgrids in North America and globally. The emphasis is on maximizing the effective use of sustainable distributed energy resources, refining the positive business model for a range of microgrid deployments, and sharing real-world case studies in both grid-tied and off-grid environments.

The event will focus on:

- Microgrid feasibility, design, and implementation
- Refining the business case for hybrid, renewable energy microgrids
- Solar + storage advances
- Utilization of energy storage for microgrid scenarios
- Advanced battery, fuel cell, and flow battery technologies
- Microgrid power control, management, and grid integration
- Optimizing the management of distributed renewable energy resources
- Effective project evaluation, implementation, and management
- Microgrids as a grid resiliency and reliability strategy
- Standards and interoperability issues
- Market drivers and opportunities worldwide

The audience for the Forum includes microgrid project developers, owners, and entrepreneurs; utility and energy provider executives; renewable energy professionals; energy storage providers, technology researchers, investors and regulatory representatives, and more.

Day two of the Forum in Chicago will be devoted to the closely related topic of next-gen Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) and their emerging role in orchestrating and integrating distributed renewable energy resources into the energy mix.

Sponsorship of the Forum allows organizations to showcase their thought leadership and innovation to key executive decision makers within this high-growth market.

"The was a great networking opportunity. Speakers were interesting in and of themselves, but the mix (tech, policy, regulatory, markets) made for deeper conversations than most events provide."

-- Paul Roegel, Vice President - Strategic Initiatives, Typhoon HIL

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Agenda

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

07:30 - 08:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

08:30 - 10:00 **How Microgrids Are Transforming Business**

Today's businesses are seeing increasing uncertainty in the electric grid with cost, reliability, and resilience. This is a concern. Businesses are asking deeper questions about their energy options. The panel will discuss how microgrids contribute new options to businesses.

- Cases where businesses have exercised different options (distributed energy)
 - Key technologies that enable these new energy options
 - Key financial approaches that enable these new energy options
-
- Michal Oprzadek, Senior Vice President, Origination, **AlphaStruxure**
 - Bob Wengel, Senior Vice President, Facilities, **Shedd Aquarium**
 - Richard Hoskins, Managing Director, **Carlyle Group Infrastructure Fund**
 - Phillippe Bouchard, Senior Vice President, **Eos Energy Storage**
 - Mark Feasel, President, Smart Grid North America Operations, **Schneider Electric**

10:00 - 10:30 Networking Coffee Break

10:30 - 11:00 **Keynote Address: Microgrid Evolution - Electric Vehicles and Critical Infrastructure at the Intersection of Necessity**

Mobile stored energy in the form of electric vehicles is another input resource for campus microgrids when managed with intelligent controls. And microgrids are islands of energy during emergency events. Mr. Moretton will discuss state of the market for vehicle to microgrid solutions and several justifiable implementations for utility/government partnerships.

- Dean Moretton, President, **Adaptive Microgrid**

11:00 - 12:30 **How Utilities are Leveraging Storage & Microgrids**

This session will explore how utilities are looking to the future and ways both investor-owned and municipal utilities are exploring the role energy storage and microgrid projects will play in their portfolios. Southern Company will share lessons learned from their Birmingham Smart Neighborhoods[®] Initiative which incorporates a community-scale microgrid, rooftop solar, battery storage, energy efficiency and smart home technologies. Xcel Energy will provide an overview of their Peña Station NEXT connected community powered by a microgrid, renewables and enhanced mobility solutions. Finally, Lansing Board of Water will provide the municipal utility perspective on how they are investing in community solar and energy storage projects.

- Tracy West, Director, Research & Development, **Southern Company**

- Brandie Ekren, Executive Director, Strategic Planning & Development, **Lansing Board of Water & Light (LBWL)**
- Andre Gouin, Business Technology Consultant, **Xcel Energy**
- Nathalie Osborn, LEED A.P., Director, Smart Grid Initiatives, **NextEnergy**

12:30 - 1:30 Networking Lunch

1:30 - 3:00 **Innovations in Large Scale Implementation EV Charging and EV Energy Storage Infrastructure**

This panel will focus on innovations in EV charging infrastructure which are bringing about market transformation and the drivers behind the dramatic growth of the industry. Panelists will also discuss integration of EV charging infrastructure into microgrids and the new industry being created around the reuse of EV batteries into grid-scale energy storage systems.

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|---|---|
| - Ross Malme , Partner, Skipping Stone | - Alden Hathaway , Senior VP, Sterling Energy Assets |
| - Desmond Wheatley , CEO, Envision Solar | - Mark Bailey , Chief Commercial Officer, Connected Energy |
| - Lee Krevat , Co-founder and Chief Strategy Officer
Connect California | |

3:00 - 3:30 Networking Coffee Break

3:30 - 4:00 **A Model-Based Approach for Analysis of Microgrid Systems**

Microgrids are often seen as a promising technology to increase the power systems' reliability at a relatively low cost and environmental impact. They are however challenging systems to design and operate due to the various possible configurations, the multiple KPIs, the rapid fluctuations in the boundaries and the multiple stakeholders. A complete design requires multiple analyses ranging from failure scenario simulations to the long-term assessment of operational cost, system operability and environmental impact. In this session, we will present a model-based approach that allows for a consistent analysis of microgrid systems, from early component design to detailed system verification including controls. We will illustrate elements of the workflow through concrete design and control examples for installations that include electrical, thermal and storage systems.

- Stéphane Velut, Director, Industry Director, Energy and Power, **Modelon**

4:00 - 4:30 **Intelligent Microgrid Case Studies**

This presentation examines microgrid development in agriculture, as well as advancements in CAISO and customer side development. The focus is on enabling resilience and reliability in a vulnerable grid through the use of intelligent microgrids. We will examine the use of AI to control aggregated generation and energy storage assets, resulting in an efficient ecosystem. Will also look at how the ability to load-follow solar and wind, dispatch storage, and fill in the gaps with firm cogeneration is an advancement in the power supply business.

- Matthew Willis, Vice President, Project & Business Development, **Concentric Power**

4:30 - 5:00 **The Value of Microgrids at the Grid Edge**

In many cases, microgrids have struggled in business case evaluation as they are primarily considered for their capability in provisioning resilience which is inherently difficult to value. What has gone often unnoticed is the measurable economic value that microgrids can bring through monetization of the microgrid assets relative to regional electricity markets and local utility and end user ancillary service interaction. Grid-connected microgrids spend the majority of their time connected to the grid which results in underutilization of the assets. The distributed energy assets in the microgrid can and should be utilized and economically dispatched beyond their inherent role in resilience. This session will explore this topic and leverage actual microgrid installations globally to bring real world experience to bear.

- Nathan Adams, Director, Technology and Business Development, Microgrid and Energy Storage Group, **ABB**

4:30 - 6:00 Networking Drink Reception

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

8:00 - 9:00 Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 10:15 **Changing The "Rules Of The Road" To Capture Microgrid Value**

Technically, microgrids have the potential to help re-shape the infrastructure and operational parameters of our electric grid and communities. Equipped with "smart" information, communications and control technologies, as well as data management and analytical capacity, microgrids can combine, manage and optimize multiple supply, demand and storage assets to provide integrated energy solutions to the Grid, Market and Communities. However, electric utility regulators have been slow to recognize the value of microgrids in modernizing the grid.

This panel will discuss:

- What are the technical capabilities of advanced microgrids to co-optimize benefits for the grid, markets and communities?
 - What are the drivers and barriers with respect to reforming our electric utility "rules of the road" to recognize the value of microgrids?
 - What kinds of regulatory changes should be pursued to support the long-term market development of microgrids versus short-term project development?
 - What type of institutional support is needed for regulators, including technical assistance on demonstrations to advance learning?
- Larisa Dobriansky, Chief Business & Regulatory Innovations Officer, **General Microgrids**
 - Michael J. Zimmer, Washington Counsel, **Microgrid Institute**
 - Michael T. Burr, Executive Director, **Microgrid Institute**

10:15 - 10:45 Networking Coffee Break

10:45 - 12:15 **VPP International Case Studies & Lessons for N. America**

The virtual power plant (VPP) model of DER aggregation and optimization is spreading around the globe to respond to the need for increased grid reliability and to lower the cost of renewable energy integration. What can projects being deployed in Germany, Japan and Australia reveal to the U.S. market, which centered its initial forays into VPPs around demand response? How can electric vehicles, residential rooftop solar PV systems and new kinds of batteries all help balance the grid - while also providing discreet resiliency services to project hosts? This panel will offer participants the following:

- A peek at cutting edge VPP being deployed around the world - and projections of future global growth
 - Examine what kinds of market reforms are opening the door to more sophisticated VPPs
 - The growing role of energy storage in the VPP space
 - How artificial intelligence and advanced software platforms are evolving to expand VPP use cases.
- Peter H. Asmus, Associate Director, Utilities & Energy, **Navigant Research**
 - Allan Schurr, Chief Commercial Officer, **Enchanted Rock**
 - Rahul Kar, Vice President, Industry Solutions, **AutoGrid**
 - Patrick Lee, President & Co-Inventor, **PXiSE Energy Solutions, LLC., a subsidiary of Sempra Energy**

12:15 - 1:45 **Networking Keynote Lunch**

- Dr. Mohammad Shahidehpour, Distinguished Bodine Chair Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, **Illinois Institute of Technology**; Director, **Robert W. Galvin Center for Electricity Innovation**; and Associate Director, **Wanger Institute for Sustainable Energy Research (WISER)**

1:45 - 3:15 **DERMS and VPP for Future Smart Grids**

The massive integration of renewable energy resources (DER) with dispatchable (CHP, diesel and battery storage systems) and non-dispatchable (PV and wind generators) technologies will definitely change the power system's reliability and robust-optimal operation measures, indices and software solutions (for contingency analysis, economic dispatch and optimal power flow analysis).

ISOs such as California-ISO, ERCOT, and ISO-New England as well as several major U.S. utilities are looking for new software tools such as integrated distribution planning (IDP), DER Management System (DERMS), and Transactive Energy Market platforms for evaluation of DER effects on power distribution grid planning, reliability, control & protection and energy price tariffs.

This interactive panel session will discuss 1) existing pilot projects in north America that involve VPP & DERMS for optimal planning and operations of smart distribution grids, and 2) the VPP-DERMS commercialization roadmap in north America.

Panel Takeaways:

- Clear definition of VPP & DERMS within the context of Smart Energy Grids
- The importance of VPP & DERMS to Future of Energy in north America
- The current pilot VPP & DEMRS projects in north America
- The VPP & DERMS commercialization roadmaps in north America

- Dr. Ashkan Rahimi-Kian, Founder and CEO, **I-EMS Group Ltd.**
- Dr. Mehdi Ganji, Smart City R&D Committee, Chair, IEEE; Vice President, **Willdan Energy Solutions**
- Jason Yedinak, Manager, Power Engineering, **Doosan GridTech**
- Williams J. Agate, Jr., Vice President - Microgrid Services, **Ameresco**

About the Organizer



The *Smart Grid Observer* is an online information portal and weekly e-newsletter serving the global smart energy industry. SGO delivers the latest news and information on a daily basis concerning key technology developments, deployment updates, standards work, business

issues, and market trends driving the smart grid industry worldwide. Visit www.smartgridobserver.com to sign up for a complimentary subscription. Sponsors of SGO programs include:



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- 3Angle Capital
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- Adaptive Balancing Power
- Akuo Energy
- Alliance for Rural Electrification
- Altairnano
- Ameren
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- CEZ Distribuce, Corp.
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- Distributed Sun LLC
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- Landis + Gyr
- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- Leclanché SA
- Leidos
- Lockheed Martin Energy
- Lux Research
- Marsh Creek LLC
- Martifer Solar
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- Morrison Foerster LLP
- MotuSolar
- Narada Power Source Europe
- Navigant Research
- NEDO
- Nemotec
- NY Independent System Operator
- NY State Smart Grid Consortium
- NextEra Energy
- Northern Power Systems
- NovaTech LLC
- Olidata spa
- Omnetric Group
- Omron
- OPAL-RT Technologies
- Oxford University
- Pareto Networks
- Peerless Lighting
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- Southern California Edison
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- Spirae, Inc.
- Sunco Energy SL
- SunEdison
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- Support2develop
- Susi Partners
- Sustainable Power Systems
- TECNALIA
- Tetra Tech
- The Boeing Company
- The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company
- Tractebel
- Trama TecnoAmbiental
- Trojan Battery Company
- U.C. San Diego
- U.S. Department of Commerce
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- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
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- University of Alberta
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- Varentec
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- Vestas
- Vieira de Almeida
- Viridity Energy
- Wells Fargo Bank
- West Monroe Partners
- Win Inertia
- Winch Energy
- World Bank
- Wuhan Huayuan Fukang Electric
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Previous Attendee Job Titles Include:

- Assistant Professor, Microgrids
- Associate
- Associate Professor
- Attorney Advisor
- Business Advisor
- Business Development Director
- Business Unit Development Manager, Grid Automation
- Business Unit Director - Renewables (GB & International)
- CEO
- CEO and Co-founder
- Chairman
- Chief Commercial Officer
- Chief Marketing Officer
- Chief of the Office of Energy and Sustainability (OES)
- Co-Founder
- Co-Founder and CEO
- Co-Founder and President
- Deputy Director
- Director
- Director of Industry and Innovation
- Director, Distributed Electricity and Storage
- Editor
- ElectriFi Manager
- Energy & IT Analyst
- Energy Solutions Manager
- Energy Storage Marketing/Strategy Manager
- Engineer
- Engineering Manager
- Executive Director
- Founder & Managing Director
- Founding Partner
- General Manager
- Global Sales Manager Microgrids
- Global Sector Co-ordinator, Innovative Finance
- Head of Direct Sales
- Head of Innovation - Global Infrastructure & Networks
- Head of Microgrid & Digital Substation Solutions
- Head of Project
- Independent Consultant
- Industry Research Analyst
- Journalist and Economist
- Manager of Market Intelligence, Strategy and Innovation
- Manager, Business Development
- Manager, Optimization and Forecast
- Manager, Policy and Innovation
- Manager, Smart Grid & Technology
- Manager, Technology Development
- Manager, Utility of the Future
- Manager-Emerging Technologies Office
- Managing Director
- Managing Partner
- Market Design Specialist - Distributed Resource Integration
- Microgrid Advisor
- Microgrid Laboratory Responsible
- Microgrids CTO North America
- News Director
- Of Counsel
- Operations Manager
- Partner & Co-Founder
- Portfolio Analyst
- Power Systems Group Leader
- President
- President & CEO
- Principal
- Principal Engineer
- Principal Research Analyst
- IEEE Fellow
- Program Director, Sustainable Energy Transformation and Microgrid Project
- Project Engineer
- Project Manager
- Renewable Energy Segment Manager
- Renewable Energy Specialist
- Research Associate Renewable Energy
- Research Officer
- Researcher and Industrial Engineer, Grid Integration
- Sales Manager
- Senior Analyst
- Senior Consultant Hydropower
- Senior Director, Energy & Utilities Practice
- Senior Engineer
- Senior Manager, Smart Grid Integration, North America
- Senior Portfolio Analyst
- Senior Principal, Sustainability
- Senior Vice President, Policy and Business Strategy
- SETS Program Manager
- Sr. Climate Change Specialist and Program Manager
- Technical Consultant - Power Supply & Protection
- Technical Expert – Regulatory Instruments
- Technical Sales Manager
- Technical Support Manager
- Venture Developer
- Vice President
- Vice President - Smart Grid, North America Operations
- Vice President Business Development
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[Microgrid Institute](#) is a collaborative organization supporting development of microgrids and distributed energy assets around the world. Our efforts address market development and analysis, regulatory and financial models, and microgrid feasibility, structuring, and deployment. Professionals on our staff and in our networks bring a broad range of experience in the utility, independent power, industrial cogeneration, and distributed energy industries.



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"Intra-disciplinary approach leads to this Forum as the premier program in microgrid innovations and thought leadership."

-- Michael J. Zimmer, Washington Counsel, Microgrid Institute

"Excellent. I have benefitted from hearing quite an array of perspectives and case studies. You have brought together a wealth of talent that generated great dialog and will stimulate cross-fertilization."

-- Larisa Dobriansky, Chief Business & Policy Innovation Officer, General Microgrids

"One of the best, with highest quality presenters on timely topics."

-- David E. Geary, PE, Co-Founder and Principal Engineer, DC Fusion

"The conference had a very good mix of academia, research, manufacturers, developers and investors." -- Dr. Maria Bruccoli, Research Engineer - Smart Energy Systems, EDF Energy R&D UK Centre

Registration

Standard - Equipment, Software, or Services Providers	\$1,095.00
Discount – Government, Academic, and Non-Profit Organizations	\$895.00

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Register securely online at www.microgridinnovation.com/register.htm



Event Venue

Chicago Conference Center

205 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60605

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