



The Power Behind Renewable
and Distributed Energy

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Smart Grid Live Event Showcases Spirae Capabilities

Fort Collins, Colorado - Jan 5, 2011: The Smart Grid Live event at Spirae headquarters in Fort Collins, CO, provided the setting for the launch of the demonstration phase of the Fort Collins RDSI project and the announcement of Spirae's Center for Smart Grid Advancement. The smart grid-focused event included tours of local RDSI project sites, insights from industry experts and local dignitaries, and a Keynote address by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter.

The Smart Grid Live event, sponsored by the City of Fort Collins, the Governor's Energy Office, Colorado Clean Energy Cluster, and Spirae, formally kicked off the demonstration phase of the Fort Collins RDSI project, funded in part by the US Department of Energy, and announced the launch of the Center for Smart Grid Advancement. Speakers, including Eric Lightner from Department of Energy, Tony Frank, President of Colorado State University, Fort Collins Mayor Doug Hutchinson and City Manager Darin Atteberry, Don Marostica and Tom Plant from the Governor's offices, Chris Shapard of Colorado Cleantech Industry Association, Judy Dorsey of Colorado Clean Energy Cluster, Steve Catanach from Fort Collins Utilities, Wade Troxell from Colorado State University, Steve Hauser of Gridwise Alliance and NREL, and Julie Zinn Patti and Dr. Sunil Cherian from Spirae spoke on smart grid technologies and how they are facilitating the use of renewable and distributed energy resources and driving Colorado's new energy economy.

Center for Smart Grid Advancement

The Center for Smart Grid Advancement (CSGA), led by Spirae, will provide the infrastructure and education necessary to address the numerous technical, regulatory, economic and operational issues that must be addressed to realize the full potential of smart grids. The Center, explained Julie Zinn Patti, Spirae Director of Operations, supports Spirae's ongoing effort to educate and inform industry stakeholders about the challenges and opportunities facing the transformation of the electric power system.

The Center leverages the InteGrid Test and Development Lab, one of the largest physical simulation labs in North America; and the Smart Grid Network Operating Center (NOC), a new facility at Spirae to provide hands-on training and power system operations experience to participants. A range of professional training courses will be

developed by Colorado State University, Spirae, external subject matter experts, and industry sponsors. The first Smart Grid course through this initiative will be offered in summer 2011.

Renewable and Distributed Systems Integration Project

The Fort Collins Utilities-led Renewable and Distributed Systems Integration (RDSI) project is a three-year DOE-funded smart grid demonstration initiative utilizing Spirae's BlueFin™ Active Distribution Management platform. The RDSI project serves as the jumpstart zone for the larger FortZED (Fort Collins Zero Energy District) initiative and has a specific goal of significantly reducing peak load on feeders served by a major substation operated by Fort Collins Utilities through the coordinated use of 5 MW of distributed assets, including PV, conventional backup generation, biogas generation and Demand Side Management from multiple partner sites within the demonstration area.

Dr. Sunil Cherian, CEO of Spirae, said "Today's Smart Grid Live event not only showcased advanced technologies for grid operations as part of the DOE RDSI program in Fort Collins but also launched the Center for Smart Grid Advancement. CSGA offers industry professionals and stakeholders a Smart Grid 'flight simulator' to learn about the technologies, operations, and policy frameworks required for grid modernization using the unique capabilities of the InteGrid Lab and the Smart Grid Network Operations Center."

About Spirae:

Spirae, based in Fort Collins, CO, provides control and analysis solutions to the utility industry for managing large quantities of distributed energy resources on the power system. Distributed energy resources can take many forms, including wind generation, solar photovoltaic, electric vehicles, controllable loads, and smaller conventional generation located at consumer sites. Spirae's simulation and BlueFin™ control solutions are designed to facilitate maximum contribution and participation from these resources while maintaining reliable and efficient operation of the power system. Spirae also co-owns and operates the InteGrid Test and Development Lab in collaboration with Colorado State University for the purposes of advanced grid simulation and research. For more information about Spirae, please visit spirae.com and integridlab.com.