

PPL Electric Utilities Reduces Customer Outage Minutes with Sensus Solution

Pennsylvania electric distribution company expands successful pilot

Raleigh, NC (March 15, 2010) – Sensus, the leading provider of innovative technology solutions for electric, gas, and water utilities, has been chosen to provide equipment and services for PPL Electric Utilities’ Remote Operator Controlled Switch program which has been approved for system-wide use.

PPL Electric Utilities, which provides electricity delivery services to about 1.4 million customers in Pennsylvania, wanted to reduce customer outage minutes by having system operators identify fault locations and sectionalize circuits before its crews arrived on the scene.

After a successful pilot program in which the utility installed the Sensus Telemetric MicroRTU along with faulted circuit indicators and Cleveland/Price distribution-class motor operators on existing air-break switches, the utility approved the equipment for use on its entire distribution system. The Sensus solution provides fast, reliable two-way communication of information to the utility.

“This is a great example of proven, cost-effective Distribution Automation that can be deployed immediately using existing components. The two-way communication capabilities enable remote operation of distribution switches and reclosers that reduce customer outage minutes which is a key performance metric for utilities,” said Steve Isaacson, Director, Sales and Marketing – Distribution Automation at Sensus.

“The real-time status information allows the utility to quickly identify fault locations, isolate the fault and immediately restore service to the maximum number of customers possible before crews arrive. Another benefit is the ability to dispatch crews directly to the fault location, further reducing customer outage minutes,” said Isaacson.

In addition, the Sensus Telemetric MicroRTU reports fluctuations in voltage conditions as well as momentary and continuing outages, all of which benefit distribution engineers and system operators. The product is interoperable with SCADA/EMS/DMS systems using industry standard DNP 3.0 protocol (a NIST identified Smart Grid protocol) and can use existing assets for distribution automation with no need for new development.

About Sensus

Sensus is the leading provider of innovative technology solutions that enable the conservation of water and energy. Sensus has led the discovery, development, and implementation of technologies for the energy and water industries for more than a century. Water, gas, and electric utility customers around the world benefit from the company's open, flexible products and solutions to help them optimize their resources – today and tomorrow. Headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., USA, Sensus serves customers from locations throughout the Americas, Europe, Africa and Asia. For more information, visit www.sensus.com.

For product information, visit www.sensus.com/T866.

About PPL Electric Utilities

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation, a subsidiary of PPL Corporation that provides electricity delivery services to about 1.4 million customers in Pennsylvania, has consistently ranked among the best companies for customer service in the United States. More information is available at www.pplelectric.com.

Contact

James J. Hilty
Sensus Vice President, Business Development
(919) 845-4007
Jim.hilty@sensus.com