



2011 EnergyAxis awards

Awards showcase how utilities and partners use the EnergyAxis® System to accomplish goals and objectives.

For the second year, Elster has recognized the best EnergyAxis projects. Utilities and partners submitted their nominations, and an independent committee of industry experts reviewed each nomination and selected the award winner for each category.

The winners of the 2011 EnergyAxis awards were announced at the annual EnergyAxis User Conference, held in Bonita Springs, Florida.

City of Ocala

Smart Utility

The City of Ocala (Florida) was selected as the winner for their well-documented and extensive savings resulting from their EnergyAxis System deployment. City of Ocala tracked, analyzed, and reported substantial reductions in field activity, operational costs, and even water leaks, saving both the utility and the consumers money.

One judge noted: "...appears to be an overall, well-rounded implementation hitting on all cylinders, bringing all the benefits included in the usual AMI hype. Well done!"

Entergy

Green and Clean

Entergy (Arkansas) was selected for their strong demand response results working with rural irrigation pumps for rice fields. This project demonstrates the benefits of two-way control vs. older direct load control, and in a challenging rural environment. Although the benefits to Entergy and their customers were several, the ability to control, verify, and measure results in a real time environment offered Entergy significant advantages.

Midstate Electric Cooperative

Best Customer Service

Midstate Electric Cooperative (Oregon) was the unanimous pick by the judges for best customer service. One judge described the Exeleron/EnergyAxis prepayment project as "transformative! Enabling pre-pay is clearly changing the relationship between a challenged (and difficult) portion of their customer base." Cash-strapped account holders who struggle to pay their bills are pleased to have an option that does not require a deposit and gives them the freedom to choose the amount and frequency of their payments. The prepaid program gives members more control over their electricity consumption and their budgeting practices.

Entergy

Best Collaboration

Entergy (Arkansas) was selected for its two-year collaboration with Elster on the development of a unique hardware solution. In 2010, the hardware solution was commercialized as the AGI Remote Load Control (RLC) polyphase interrupter and the direct connect A3 ALPHA® IP-enabled meter.

Each year of the pilot phase, a team consisting of both Entergy and Elster participants was coordinated to review lessons learned and action plans. These teams were represented by all areas impacted, including engineering, product development, operations, customer service, regulatory, and marketing. This collaboration requires the support of executive management from both organizations for the required financial and development resources.

Miguel Muniz, Importadora MGS

Most Innovative

Miguel Muniz, Importadora MGS (Dominican Republic) was selected for his creative and very effective solutions to pervasive non-technical losses. Two of the three largest utilities in the Dominican Republic have been working with Importadora MGS in a plan to reduce drastically non-technical losses. After 19 months, the results are very promising. Losses are down from 25 % to the 5 % target level and the solution has been beneficial to both the utilities and this company as both expand their coverage.

About the judges

The 2011 winners were decided by an independent panel of judges:

- Suzanne Shelton
President and CEO, Shelton Group
- Bob Gohn
Research Director, Pike Research
- Teresa Hansen
Editor-in-Chief, Power Grid International, Electric Light & Power, and Utility Products magazines.

About Elster

Elster (NYSE: ELT) is one of the world's largest electricity, gas and water measurement and control providers. Its offerings include distribution monitoring and control, advanced smart metering, demand response, networking and software solutions, and numerous related communications and services - key components for enabling consumer choice, operational efficiency and conservation. Its products and solutions are widely used by utilities in the traditional and emerging Smart Grid markets.

Elster has one of the most extensive installed revenue measurement bases in the world, with more than 200 million metering devices deployed over the course of the last 10 years. It sells its products and services in more than 130 countries across electricity, gas, water and multi-utility applications for residential, commercial and industrial, and transmission and distribution applications.

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