



## Press release

### **LUCELEC Deploys Elster's EnergyAxis® System to Lead Smart Grid Initiative in Caribbean Island Chain**

*Utility is first in the Caribbean to deploy a full-scale advanced smart metering system (AMI)*

Raleigh, North Carolina, May 4, 2009. Elster, a leader in smart metering and smart grid systems and solutions, today announced that St. Lucia Electricity Services Limited (LUCELEC) will deploy the first full-scale EnergyAxis® smart metering system in the Caribbean.

LUCELEC selected Elster's EnergyAxis System based on its excellent wireless and networking mesh communications and its ability to increase operational efficiencies, augment conservation initiatives and improve outage response times through enhanced monitoring capabilities. LUCELEC will also enhance customer service capability and operational efficiencies through EnergyAxis remote disconnect and reconnect functionality.

St. Lucia has one power generation station and seven substations that service the entire island and 56,000 customers. The island, 238 square miles (616 sq. km) includes a mix of terrain, including high mountains, dense forests, low-lying lands, and beaches, creating a challenging environment for wireless technology. To ensure the EnergyAxis system would provide robust connectivity in all areas of its service territory, LUCELEC deployed a 200 meter pilot. The pilot proved a success with all meters communicating reliably on a regular basis to LUCELEC operations.

"LUCELEC's objectives with the AMI deployment are to reduce meter reading costs and increase operational efficiency. This includes reducing system losses and improving our customer service," said Gilroy Pultie, LUCELEC's manager of transmission and distribution. "Elster's proven technologies and impressive track record will be extremely beneficial as we pursue our goal to enhance operational efficiency and customer service by being more responsive and making more information available to our customers to help them conserve electricity. The EnergyAxis System is flexible and has proven to be reliable and easy to expand in our island's difficult terrain and it supports our modernization objectives and focus on the future."

"Utilities around the world continue to discover the value that the EnergyAxis System delivers," said Fabio Dominguez, Elster's vice president of Latin America and the Caribbean markets. "Elster is delighted that LUCELEC has selected its proven smart metering technology and is pleased to be a part of LUCELEC's goal to be a world-class energy utility and a catalyst and leader for social and economic development in St. Lucia."

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**About Elster**

Elster, a global leader in smart metering and smart grid solutions, has delivered over 2.4 million smart metering devices worldwide with systems located in North America, Europe, Central America, Australia, New Zealand and the Caribbean. Elster smart metering system solutions provide utilities with energy conservation capabilities via demand response programs, smart grid applications, and operational efficiencies resulting in significant value creation across the utility enterprise. Elster has over 7,500 staff and operates globally in North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Middle East, and Asia. [www.elster.com](http://www.elster.com)

**About LUCELEC**

St. Lucia Electricity Services Limited (LUCELEC) is a municipal utility in the capital city of Castries, located in the English Caribbean chain of the Windward Islands. LUCELEC services 56,000 customers. The utility is focused on providing excellent customer service and environmentally friendly energy, with a vision to provide world-class energy and be a catalyst and leader for social and economic development in St. Lucia and the Caribbean Island Chain. [www.lucelec.com](http://www.lucelec.com)