



# NEWS LINK

Dec. 1, 2011

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Utilities are changing the way they think about their customers' data.



## The Pros and Cons of Public and Private Wireless Networks

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Utility professionals interested in private and public wireless networks need to understand the specific advantages and disadvantages of these communications networks. They also need to understand the reasons for the movement toward a comprehensive system utilizing both types of networks.

This article highlights the Autovation Communications Technology panel discussion Sept 27. The discussion was moderated by Jeff Buxton, Enspira Solutions. Panelists included Victor Sitton, Elster Solutions; Tammy Zucco, Tantalus; Campbell McCool, SmartSynch; Frank Folz, Airspan Networks; and Al King, CalAmp. [MORE](#)

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## Why I Belong to Utilimetrics



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"Utilimetrics is the leading association in the SMART grid/meter technology space for the utility industry. Its utility membership comprises some of the most innovative leaders across the electric, water and gas industries, and its vendor membership is a who's who across all SMART technology platforms.

My Utilimetrics membership has provided me with an unparalleled network of peers, consultants and providers to help guide my operational decisions as we prepare for tomorrow's technology investment decisions while leveraging what we already have implemented. In the end, this membership has proven well worth the time and investment we made."

A member of the Utilimetrics board since 2007, Charlie Kiely is the assistant general manager consumer services for DC Water. Kiely received the first Utilimetrics Consumer Outreach Award in 2011.

Take advantage of what Utilimetrics membership has to offer and join today. For more information or to apply, [click here](#).

## Thanks for Renewing

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Thanks to the following members who renewed for 2012 in the past week. Your support of Utilimetrics is sincerely appreciated.

[Aclara](#) (22-year member)

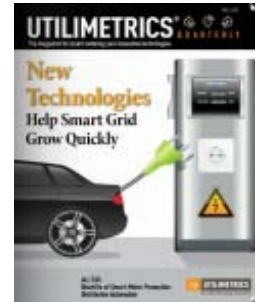
[Central Vermont Public Service](#) (12-year member)

[Chelan County Public Utility District](#) (13-year member)

[DC Water](#) (8-year member)

[GE Energy](#) (2-year member)

[Home Automation Inc.](#) (3-year member)



[Autovation 2012](#),  
Long Beach, Calif.  
Sept. 30-Oct. 3

[Autovation 2013](#),  
New Orleans, La.  
Sept. 8-11

[Autovation 2014](#),  
Orlando, Fla.  
Sept. 28-Oct. 1

[KEMA](#) (7-year member)

[Mad Dash Inc.](#) (1-year member)

[Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation](#) (6-year member)

[Omaha Public Power District](#) (7-year member)

[Region of Peel](#) (8-year member)

[San Diego Gas & Electric](#) (4-year member)

Utilimetrics relies on membership dues to meet the growing education, information and networking needs of our members. Without your support we cannot continue to provide the exceptional programs and services that members have been enjoying for 25 years. If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2012, please contact [Donna Stevens](#).

## Discuss Data Analytics, Outage Management and More on LinkedIn

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The Utilimetrics LinkedIn Group provides networking opportunities to industry professionals to share best practices and lessons learned. In addition to the main LinkedIn Group, Utilimetrics offers subgroups for those who want to discuss data analytics and outage management. There is also a subgroup for water utilities, consultants and vendors. LinkedIn membership is free. [Join today](#) and begin networking with your peers from around the world.

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## Submit Your Autovation 2012 Abstract

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Utilimetrics is accepting original proposals for Autovation 2012: The Smart Utility Conference and Expo Sept. 30-Oct. 3 at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, Calif. Utility industry professionals are encouraged to submit proposals for education session paper presentations and panel discussions.

Deadline for submission is Jan. 13.

[Click here](#) for information and the submission form.

If you have questions, contact [Debby Scheck](#).

## Member News

### DTE Energy Introduces a New Android App to Get Outage Information

DTE Energy [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#)

DTE Energy has introduced a new interactive mobile Android app for customers to access a variety of up-to-the-minute information, including outage information from their smartphones. The DTE Energy Outage Center Google Android App is available free of charge from the Android Marketplace.

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### Erich Gunther, Named IEEE Fellow

Business Wire via MarketWatch [Share](#) [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#)

Erich W. Gunther, EnerNex chairman and chief technology officer, from Knoxville, Tenn., has been named an IEEE Fellow. He is being recognized for contributions to the development and standardization of techniques for electric power quality. The IEEE Grade of Fellow is conferred by the IEEE board of directors upon a person with an outstanding

record of accomplishments in any of the IEEE fields of interest. [MORE](#)

## Industry News

### Smart Grid Will Raise Ceiling for Use of Renewables

RenewableEnergyWorld.com Share    

The EU wants electricity distribution systems that can utilize more solar and wind energy — and 16 European partners from 10 countries are now playing a key role in preparing for them. The tools at hand are a smart power grid and a range of financial "carrots." [MORE](#)

### BrightSource Strikes World's Biggest Solar Energy Storage Deal

Forbes Share    

BrightSource Energy recently said that it has struck a deal to add energy storage systems to three massive solar thermal power plants it will build to supply electricity to utility Southern California Edison. Energy storage will allow the plants to operate into the night, meaning that BrightSource can now forgo building one 200-megawatt solar station that previously was needed to meet its obligation to generate 4 million megawatt-hours of electricity annually for the utility. [MORE](#)

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