

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 5, 2010

Contact: Anne O'Connell
Director of Communications

aoconnell@utilimetrics.org

+1 -847-227-0478

Utilimetrics To Offer Expanded Educational Services in New Year

CHICAGO - [Utilimetrics](http://utilimetrics.org), the world's leading trade association for utilities and their providers, has expanded educational services lined up for 2010.

"Already a provider of robust education at [Autovation](http://autovation.com)[®], the industry's premier utility conference and exposition, Utilimetrics is committed to provide an enhanced slate of educational products," Utilimetrics CEO Joel Hoiland said. These will include:

- 10 to 12 webinars
- 18 newly created podcasts
- Three regional events as niche conferences or learning programs
- Downloadable job aids
- One full track of four-to-five courses of online learning

Learning goals center on Department of Energy's definition of smart-grid goals expanded to include methods and processes appropriate for all sectors of the utility industry, Hoiland added. Primary objectives include best practices for:

- Enabling informed participation by consumers in retail and wholesale electricity markets
- Accommodating all types of central and distributed electric and storage options
- Enabling new products, services, and markets for the electric, gas, and water industries
- Providing power and water quality for a range of needs by all types of consumers
- Optimizing asset utilization and operating efficiency of water, gas and electric systems
- Anticipating and responding to system disturbances
- Operating resiliently to attacks and natural disasters

Utilimetrics Education and Research Director Kelley Chrouser, Ph.D., explained, “Goals of the learning curriculum will be to provide just-in-time, practical business and technological solutions. An ideal outcome is to have participants be able to implement what they learned immediately, which benefits their professional development and their employer’s bottom line.”

The Education Committee will strategically guide the development of new learning opportunities and is charged with developing a core curriculum using multiple learning platforms and approaches.

“In an industry marked by dynamism, flux, and rapid change – all utilities are evolving into organizations marked by an urgent need to acquire information and education on a just-in-time basis,” Chrouser added. “Utilimetrics’ Education Committee and strong base of industry leaders are poised to assist the industry in meeting that need.”

Utilimetrics brings together diverse stakeholders of electricity, water and gas distribution utilities to promote and share best practices for smart grid/smart metering, communications, utility automation and data management. Utilimetrics believes that utilities and consumers must be closely linked to compel efficient and responsible energy and water management.