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Energy Sector
Power Distribution Division

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Making grids even smarter: Siemens acquires software that warns of possible blackouts

Siemens Energy has acquired Quickstab from SCS Info Tech in New York, a software package used to prevent blackouts in power supply grids, thus expanding its portfolio by a further key component for setting up smart grids. This software is already in use among utilities in Asia and Europe, Latin America and the USA. Quickstab can not only be used to enhance the stability of grids, but also provides for permanent monitoring, warning the control center when a power failure seems imminent on account of changes to grid utilization and flow of power within the grid.

Operating power supply grids without being familiar with their defined stability limits is always a risky matter. These limits shift continuously during operation, brought about by the changing load on the grid. The first step in avoiding blackouts is to render the grid operator capable of rapidly determining at any time how far the power supply grid actually is from a state of voltage instability or disconnection of power plant generators from the grid. The Spectrum Power grid control system, which Siemens has been providing for some time now with the blackout prevention software from SCS Info Tech, supports the grid operator in this endeavor.

"Our experience with Quickstab and that of our customers was so positive all along the line that we decided to acquire this software instead of continuing to integrate it into our system as a third-party product. This adds a further vital component to our existing, extensive smart grid portfolio," said Ralf Christian, CEO of the Power Distribution Division within Siemens Energy.

Acquisition of this blackout prevention software from SCS now allows Siemens to offer utilities a complete package of real-time and off-line grid analysis and stability applications. Siemens will also be responsible, starting immediately, for worldwide sales and further development of the software.

Energy-efficient, eco-friendly solutions for setting up smart grids are part of Siemens' Environmental Portfolio. In fiscal 2009, revenue from the Portfolio totaled about EUR23 billion, making Siemens the world's largest supplier of eco-friendly technologies. In the same period, the company's products and solutions enabled customers to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 210 million tons. This amount equals the combined annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of New York, Tokyo, London and Berlin.

The **Siemens Energy Sector** is the world's leading supplier of a complete spectrum of products, services and solutions for the generation, transmission and distribution of power and for the extraction, conversion and transport of oil and gas. In fiscal 2009 (ended September 30), the Energy Sector had revenues of approximately EUR25.8 billion and received new orders totaling approximately EUR30 billion and posted a profit of EUR3.3 billion. On September 30, 2009, the Energy Sector had a work force of more than 85,100. Further information is available at: <a href="https://www.siemens.com/energy">www.siemens.com/energy</a>.