Press Release

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Japan-U.S. Cooperation for Smart Grid International Standardization

The Japan Smart Community Alliance (JSCA), for which the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) serves as secretariat, is scheduled to sign a letter of intent (LOI) with the U.S. Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP*) to accelerate mutual cooperation and information sharing for international standardization in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, on March 20, 2012.

JSCA and SGIP will promote the exchange of information on demonstration projects carried out in both countries, share use cases related to smart grid technologies required for international standardization, and conduct preliminary studies for international standards proposals in collaboration with the U.S. to establish smart grid international standardization through close mutual relations.

SGIP will hold a Spring Face-to-Face Meeting 2012 in Charlotte from March 20-22. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), private enterprises and other organizations in the United States will participate in the conference, which aims to share best practices and new strategies to improve and accelerate smart grid standardization. Individuals from organizations and companies in Japan, including the Japan Technical Regulations, Standards and Conformity Assessment Policy Division of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), NEDO and JSCA member companies, will also participate in the conference.

The LOI will be signed by Mr. Hiroshi Watanabe, JSCA Secretary General and NEDO Executive Director, and Mr. John D. McDonald, SGIP Governing Board Chair, on the opening day of the conference.

*SGIP: SGIP is a study group that was established in November 2009 to provide technical support to the NIST as it coordinates standards for evolving smart grids, and is comprised of more than 750 members from related institutions and companies. The present Governing Board Chair is Mr. John D. McDonald (Director, GE Energy).

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1. About SGIP

SGIP is a study group that was established in November 2009, to provide technical support to the NIST as it coordinates standards for evolving smart grids, and is comprised of more than 750 members from related institutions and companies.

SGIP has three primary functions:

- Oversee the performance of activities intended to expedite the development of interoperability and cybersecurity specifications by standards development organizations in the U.S.,
- Provide technical guidance to facilitate development of standards for secure, interoperable smart grids, and
- Specify testing and certification requirements necessary to assess interoperability smart grid-related equipment, software and services.

2. SGIP Members

As of March, 2012, SGIP has 758 members, including the following organizations and companies:

- ABB, Inc.
- Accenture
- AT&T, Inc.
- BMW Group
- Cisco Systems, Inc.
- Edison Electric Institute
- Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. (EPRI)
- General Electric
- General Motors Company
- Google
- IBM Corporation
- IEC
- IEEE Standards Association
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- ITU-T
- Microsoft Corporation
- OASIS
- ZigBee Alliance

URL: http://collaborate.nist.gov/twiki-sggrid/bin/view/SmartGrid/SGIPMembersList