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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congressman Watt Visits SEL Employees in Charlotte, NC

PULLMAN, WA—August 14, 2012—Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL) today announced that Congressman Mel Watt (D-NC) visited the company's branch office in Charlotte, North Carolina. The stop was part of his annual "Trading Places" event, during which the Congressman works alongside constituents throughout the 12th Congressional District in order to hear their concerns and opinions on the impact of recent legislation.

While at SEL, Congressman Watt toured the office and learned more about SEL and the products and services it provides for power systems around the world. In addition to speaking with employees, the Congressman observed a power system modeling and testing demonstration. SEL provides model power system testing services and has one of the world's largest installations of Real Time Digital Simulator (RTDS[®]) technology dedicated to engineering services for improving the electric power grid. Additionally, the Congressman learned about smart grid technology while interacting with equipment used to rapidly detect power outages and restore power to residential customers.

After having an opportunity to learn about SEL and its solutions for the electric power industry, Congressman Watt spoke with SEL employees about workforce development, the importance of education, and the company's ESOP structure. The Congressman recognized an attractive recruiting tool for SEL is that it is 100 percent employee-owned. "People respond to the idea that this is your company," said Lee Underwood, R&D manager.

SEL Charlotte, located at Whitehall Park, North Carolina, was opened in 1993 with one engineer. Today, the office has growing research and development and engineering services teams, employing more than 80 people, and has eight career openings.

SEL Charlotte serves regional customers, providing engineering services, sales and customer service, and project management. They also provide field services for panels, enclosures, and control buildings provided to the global market.

Headquartered in Pullman, Washington, SEL is 100 percent employee-owned and has nearly 200 positions open worldwide. In January, SEL was recognized as one of FORTUNE[®] Magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For.



Congressman Mel Watt (left) learns about SEL's distribution automation solutions from SEL Automation Engineer David Leonard (right).

SEL serves the power industry worldwide through the design, manufacture, supply, and support of products and services for power system protection, monitoring, control, automation, and metering. SEL offers unmatched local technical support, a worldwide, ten-year product warranty, and a commitment to making electric power safer, more reliable, and more economical.

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