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SEL Awarded Three Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure Projects

PULLMAN, WA —September 20, 2013— Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL) today announced that the U.S. Department of Energy has accepted three SEL project proposals for the agency's Innovation for Increasing Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems (CEDS) program. This brings the total number of projects SEL has worked on through the program to eight.

The CEDS program was created to assist energy sector asset owners by “developing cybersecurity solutions for energy delivery systems through integrated planning and a focused research and development effort.” SEL will partner with utilities, universities, and national laboratories from across the country to identify, design, and test new solutions for protecting critical infrastructure from cyber attacks. SEL employees in Pullman, Washington, will then manufacture the products which will be installed in systems around the globe.

The first project will develop an integrated cyber-physical access control system that simplifies the process of managing access to energy delivery facilities. Partners include Tennessee Valley Authority and Sandia National Laboratories.

The second project will develop the world's first control system-focused, software-defined networking flow controller, which will allow utilities to centrally manage their local area networks more securely, providing real-time awareness of cyber activity and rerouting network traffic in response to cyber intrusions. Partners include Ameren, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL).

The third project will develop a software-defined data radio integrating existing SEL cybersecurity features for more secure "last mile" wireless communications used with remote energy delivery infrastructure, such as distribution substations. Partners include San Diego Gas & Electric and PNNL.

From the beginning, SEL has stressed the importance of building security into our products. We recognize the need for security in integrated systems and do our best every day to ensure that we're playing our part in keeping the grid safe in the event of a cyber attack.

SEL serves the electric power industry worldwide through the design, manufacture, supply, and support of products and services for power system protection, monitoring, control, automation, and metering. SEL's security solutions reduce electronic vulnerabilities in critical communications systems, including serial, Ethernet, SCADA, and engineering access. 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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