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## **SEL Accepts Renewable Energy World's Paper of the Year Award**

PULLMAN, WA — December 5, 2013 — Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL) today announced the company was honored to receive the 2013 Paper of the Year Award in the wind power category at the Renewable Energy World Conference and Expo North America in Orlando, Florida.

The award-winning paper *Wind Farm Volt/VAR Control Using a Real-Time Automation Controller* was authored by SEL employees Michael Thompson, Engineering Services principal engineer; Tony Martini, Engineering Services automation engineer; and Nicholas Seeley, R&D lead power engineer.

This paper introduces a powerful, centralized, and integrated control system for wind farms. Power generated from wind farms is not constant; therefore, wind farms require reactive power support to ensure the grid remains stable. The integrated control solution discussed in this paper helps address the challenges of generation systems that are dependent on whether or not the wind is blowing. The system aids in controlling its integration into the overall power grid and is a practical and useful solution for securing the stability of interconnected wind farms across the country.

“When my coauthors and I were given the opportunity to develop algorithms that could stabilize wind farms, we jumped at it. We needed to figure out how to simultaneously optimize power factor and voltage using capacitor and reactor banks. Once we did that and wrote the paper, we were confident that people would see this as a useful reference,” said Thompson.

To read the award-winning technical paper, visit [www.selinc.com/p179](http://www.selinc.com/p179).

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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