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Power Grid Corporation Calls SEL Synchrophasor System an “MRI of Our Power System”

DELHI, INDIA — September 2, 2010 — Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. (SEL) announced that Power Grid Corporation of India Limited’s (POWERGRID) comprehensive synchrophasor system has resulted in both expected and unexpected reliability, visualization, and benefits to the POWERGRID system and the customers it serves.

POWERGRID also discovered that the system, designed to enable grid operators to act proactively in the event of power system imbalance and to carry out system-wide analysis and diagnosis, provided additional information that the SCADA system missed.

“Synchrophasors enabled us to view the inside behavior of our power system, which was never visible before,” said Mr. P. K. Agarwal, POWERGRID Deputy General Manager. “Part of this is the variation in df/dt observed during a disturbance. In fact, synchrophasors gave us an MRI of our power system.”

“POWERGRID observed that with the information available from the SCADA system, which takes a few seconds to update, it is not possible to study system behavior during disturbances,” reported SEL Regional Marketing and Sales Manager Neeraj Goel. “It was a revelation for POWERGRID to see streaming data of angle difference and df/dt updating in milliseconds—parameters which they earlier could only calculate and estimate. SEL synchrophasors have brought about a ‘paradigm-shift’ for utilities in India.”

Based on this event as well as other transmission system insights gained from the successful operation of the synchrophasor system, POWERGRID hosted a seminar with SEL on August 2, 2010 in New Delhi. Various constituents of the Northern Region Load Dispatch Center (NRLDC), power regulatory organizations, and other Indian utilities attended and, POWERGRID shared the application, benefits, and plans they have for using synchrophasors in the future.

The system, awarded to SEL in January 2010 and commissioned by May, includes SEL-451 Protection, Automation, and Control Systems and SEL-2404 Satellite-Synchronized Clocks installed in four 400 kV substations. Additionally, an SEL-3378 Synchrophasor Vector Processor with SEL-5078 SYNCHROWAVE® Console Software was installed in the utility’s NRLDC in New Delhi.

One of the largest transmission utilities in the world, POWERGRID operates 120 substations and over 71,000 circuit kilometers of transmission lines throughout India. The company recently received three national awards for meritorious performance in the transmission sector for system availability and early project completion.

SEL first offered synchrophasor systems in 2001 and now produces over 20 solutions utilizing the technology, including the SEL-3378. For information on these solutions, visit www.selinc.com/p120.

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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