

# Information Technology Update

Standards Oversight and Technology Committee Meeting  
Marvin Santerfeit, Director of Information Technology and Services  
February 8, 2012

**RELIABILITY | ACCOUNTABILITY**



## NERC Technology Update

- Key Accomplishments
  - Princeton to Atlanta Data Center
  - Washington DC office
  - Public-facing website
- NERC Information Technology Architecture Study
  - Key findings
  - Recommendations
- ERO Project Management Office Update
  - Accomplishments to date
  - Next steps

- Princeton to Atlanta Data Center move 95% complete
- Washington DC new office completed on December 16, 2011
- Help Desk single point of contact (SPOC) established and implemented
- Implemented new Intranet site using SharePoint
- NERC public-facing website assessment completed
- Established NERC Information Technology Advisory Group (ITAG)
- Completed assessment of purchasing process for Microsoft licenses

- Deloitte & Touche completed an ITA study for NERC from November 11, 2011 through January 23, 2012
- Key findings:
  - NERC Information Technology infrastructure follow best practices for redundancy and stability
  - NERC application review suggested consolidation of applications and data
  - NERC Information Technology must work to align services with best practices
  - Several resource enhancements are required to build organizational structure aligned with ERO requirements
  - NERC and the ERO Regional organizations must work together to align strategic application needs in order to maximize effectiveness

- PMO staffed with three (3) resources
- Compliance Reporting and Tracking System (CRATS) identified as priority #1 by ERO EMG
- Business requirements effort underway to document CRATS Enforcement process steps
  - Next Steps - In collaboration with the ITSG develop agreed upon:
    - Vendor criteria
    - ERO processes for data submission, security, policies and reporting
    - ERO processes for application acceptance testing, deployment and enhancement
    - Extranet site for ERO visibility to project status

# NERC

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# Transition the Interchange Distribution Calculator (IDC) to the Industry Consortium

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# Transition the IDC to Industry

- NERC, Eastern RC entities, and OATI working transition
- Costs associated with the IDC collected as part of the NERC assessments from the Load Serving Entities (LSEs) in the Eastern Interconnection
- Present prospective members of consortium are the users of the IDC—not all of the Eastern Interconnection RC organizations



- Finalize and execute the consortium agreement (2Q2012)
- Establish Steering Committee and begin operations (3Q2012)
- File and obtain FERC approval of the billing arrangement (2012)
- Change reporting relationship of the IDC Working Group to the Steering Committee (4Q2012)
- Commencement of new IDC contract (May 2013)



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# Reliability Standards

Standards Oversight and Technology Committee Meeting  
Herb Schrayshuen, Vice President Standards and Training  
February 8, 2012

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- Request for discussion and possible policy guidance for the following projects:
  - Project 2010-07 Generator Requirements at the Transmission Interface
  - Project 2009-22 Interpretation of COM-002-2 for the ISO/RTO Council (IRC)

- GO/TO Ad Hoc Report
  - Recommended changes to requirements:
    - 32 requirements — add Generator Interconnection Facility to requirement
    - 12 requirements in FAC-003-1
    - 2 requirements — expand applicability to GO/GOP
    - 8 new requirements
  - Recommended changes to definitions

- Assigning TO/TOP such responsibilities to GOs and GOPs would:
  - Require significant training for tasks
  - Require substantially more data and modeling responsibilities
  - Detract from the entities' primary functions to operate in a reliable manner
- SDT approached the gap in reliability differently than the Ad Hoc Task Force
- SDT recommended changes to Standards:
  - FAC-001, FAC-003, PRC-004, and PRC-005 future work

- SDT concluded:
  - Certain requirements are covered by other standards
  - Certain requirements will be addressed by standards to be revised or made applicable in the future
  - Modifying certain standards is not in the scope of the SDT
  - Following changes sufficiently address issues in original scope:
    - Changes proposed for FAC-001 and PRC-004 are currently pending Board of Trustees approval
    - Future changes to FAC-003 and PRC-005 are planned
    - A Compliance Application Notice (CAN )for PRC-001-1

# Consideration of Standards

Standard	Ad Hoc Report	FERC Orders	NERC Draft Directive	SDT Opinion
EOP-003	X			Covered by PRC-001
EOP-005			X	Scope Expansion
FAC-001			X	Made applicable to GO
FAC-003	X	X	X	Made applicable to GO
FAC-014		X	X	Covered by FAC-008
IRO-005	X			Covered by PRC-001
PER-001	X			Covered by TOP-001
PER-002	X		X	Future Project
PER-003		X		Scope Expansion

# Consideration of Standards

Standard	Ad Hoc Report	FERC Orders	NERC Draft Directive	SDT Opinion
PRC-001		X	X	Future CAN to address
PRC-004		X	X	Clarified gen. interconnection Facility inclusion
PRC-005		X	X	Clarified gen. interconnection Facility inclusion
TOP-001	X	X	X	Covered by TOP-002/TOP-003
TOP-004	X	X	X	Covered by TOP-001/TOP-002
TOP-006		X	X	Covered by PRC-001/FAC-001
TOP-008	X			Covered by TOP-001



- Should NERC staff hold off filing when future work, that would complete the regulatory package more fully, is pending?
- How best to resolve the question of whether the response of the SDT is complete?

- October 1, 2009, clarification requested of Requirement R2 of COM-002-2 by the IRC
- Work on the interpretation initially delayed based on reprioritization of the total standards workload, and revision by the Standards Committee's process for addressing interpretations
- April 2011, the Standards Committee Interpretation Guidelines were approved
- Standards Committee initiated a plan to simultaneously address three part communication protocols through:
  - The interpretation of COM-002-2 as Project 2009-22
  - Project 2007-02 Operating Personnel Communications Protocols COM-003

- August 31, 2011-Standards Review Committee of the IRC submitted a Level 1 Appeal for Inaction related to Project 2009-22
  - Appeal of COM-002-2 Interpretation requested:
    - Project 2009-22 be given an “immediate/urgent” priority within 30 days of receiving the appeal
    - NERC to provide a formal explanation of the delays associated with the Project
    - In response to the time-frame required for an Appeal, the interpretation was moved forward separately from Project 2007-02

- Reliability concerns:
  - Interpretation, if enacted, will put Operators in the position of having to change communications approach during an emergency
  - The impact of miscommunication causing a mishap on the bulk power system does not differ whether it occurs during routine operations or during emergency operations
  - There have been events where the severity has been increased due to miscommunication
- Compliance concerns:
  - Creates an unnecessary level of confusion for registered entities and compliance auditors

- Purpose of COM-003:
  - Require that real-time system operators use standardized communication protocols during normal and emergency operations to improve situational awareness and shorten response time.
- Project Schedule:
  - Initial Ballot—Late April/Early May
  - Successive Ballot—Late August/Early September
  - Recirculation Ballot—Early November
  - Board of Trustees approval in November 2012/February 2013 is possible, if no successive ballot is needed