
SP AUSNET CHOOSES ERICSSON'S SOLUTION FOR SMART METER COMMUNICATIONS

- Ericsson to provide an innovative 3G smart meter communications solution in Victoria, Australia
- This solution communicates direct to a smart meter over an existing Australian public mobile network
- The standards-based approach adopted by Ericsson allows this solution to be replicated on 3G networks globally

Australian energy distribution company SP AusNet has selected Ericsson (NASDAQ: ERIC) to develop and implement a 3G network-enabled communications solution to support its electricity smart meter program.

SP AusNet is extending its existing smart meter footprint with an Ericsson solution that uses public 3G mobile networks and will reach a further 108,000 meters in outer urban and rural areas.

SP AusNet's Director of Market Services Simon Hastings says: "Our partnership with Ericsson to develop a 3G solution provides a cost-effective means for customers in low-density, regional areas to access the benefits of smart meters.

Head of Ericsson Australia and New Zealand Håkan Eriksson says: "This Australian smart grid solution is a first in combining an existing 3G network, a 3G-enabled smart meter module, a purpose-built meter management system and the systems integration required to pull it all together.

"The utilization of secure public wireless networks to support smart grids is significant as it allows utilities to focus on delivering energy to homes and businesses by minimizing the task of managing a complex communications network."

The solution designed by Ericsson is fast to deploy and a very cost-effective way to roll out wireless-enabled smart meters.

Ericsson's team of Australia-based, experienced service professionals have been engaged from inception to completion in this systems integration and rollout project. The 3G smart meter modules have been designed, developed and manufactured to fit into smart meters chosen by SP AusNet. The design is able to be modified to work with other vendors' metering solutions.

"By leveraging 3G and LTE 3GPP standards-based technology, utilities developing smart grids can access the benefits from the ecosystem and economies of scale enabled by the global telecom sector," Eriksson says.

This agreement further demonstrates Ericsson's ability to work with partners to deliver a complete solution in the utility space.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

[Ericsson Smart Grid Communications](#)

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Our offering comprises services, software and infrastructure within Information and Communications Technology for telecom operators and other industries. Today 40 percent of the world's mobile traffic goes through Ericsson networks and we support customers' networks servicing more than 2.5 billion subscriptions.

We are more than 110,000 people working with customers in more than 180 countries. Founded in 1876, Ericsson is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden. In 2012 the company's net sales were SEK 227.8 billion (USD 33.8 billion). Ericsson is listed on NASDAQ OMX, Stockholm and NASDAQ, New York stock exchanges.

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