Siemens PTI Participates in “CIM for System Development and Operations 2013” Interoperability Test with PSS®ODMS

During the second week of July 2013, representatives from Siemens Power Technologies International (Siemens PTI) attended an important event for the electrical power transmission industry. Held at ENTSO-E headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, this was the latest in a series of interoperability tests for CIM-based network model data exchange in the European region.

ENTSO-E, the official organization for transmission system operators (TSOs) in the European region, has sponsored these tests annually since 2009 to support continued development of an official CIM-based data exchange format. The Common Information Model (CIM) standard is officially endorsed by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and was selected by ENTSO-E to fulfill the EU mandate for common network operation tools to ensure coordinated network operation and planning activities. Interoperability testing with the various software vendors who implement the standard within their products is a practical and effective way to test the viability of the standard and identify areas for improvement and further development.

Siemens’ participating software, PSS®ODMS, is an established commercial product, which was designed based on the CIM (IEC 61970) standard and has been in production use by power companies throughout the world for well over the past decade. With its wide range of network modeling, analysis, visualization and data conversion functions, PSS®ODMS is used for power system simulation/analysis and “enterprise” network modeling, which unifies data and workflows across traditionally separated departments such as transmission planning and operations. Key benefits include increased situational awareness, improved modeling accuracy and efficiency, and reduced operational costs.

Total attendance at this interoperability test numbered more than 50, including industry software vendors, test witnesses from various European TSOs, and ENTSO-E officials. Representing Siemens PTI at the event were Sam Phillipson, Michael Ford and Charles DuBose, long-term contributors to development of both the PSS®ODMS product and the CIM standard itself. During the course of the week, PSS®ODMS was used to successfully run 18 tests involving CIM/XML data exchange with other vendors’ applications. These tests covered ENTSO-E’s Common Grid Model Exchange Standard (CGMES) v2.4, which is based on CIM version 16. In addition to numerous low-level changes in the CIM standard, an important new concept, the Steady State Hypothesis (SSH) profile was tested. This provides the ability to represent and exchange initial network condition values necessary to solve a “flat-start” power flow calculation.

Siemens PTI’s participation in CIM-based interoperability testing keeps us at the forefront of a rapidly changing technological landscape and enables us to provide our customers with the latest and most relevant and useful CIM-based technology, ensuring the continuation of PSS®ODMS as the premiere CIM-based product in the industry.

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