

Welcome to the September 2009 e-newsletter from Langford & Associates, providing you with product updates and the latest news from Ontario's electricity sector.

---

## September 2009: In this issue..

[Ontario News](#)  
[Product Spotlight](#)  
[Schneider Electric](#)  
[Basler](#)  
[Did You Know...](#)

**Sub-Metering, Nafta and Patrols**  
**New Product Line!**  
**IONE 6.0 and Real Time OS**  
**Co-ordination**  
**Cost of Obsolescence**

## What's On

The 3rd Annual User's Conference for PowerLogic and ION meter and software users will be held on October 23, 2009 at the Toronto Congress Centre. Topics will cover ION and PowerLogic digital metering and energy management. For registration visit [www.langford-assoc.com](http://www.langford-assoc.com)

Basler's 44th Annual Power Control and Protection Conference will be held October 5-8 in Fairview Heights, IL. The conference provides an overview and an in-depth look at specific aspects of controlling and protecting electrical generating power systems. For more information see [www.basler.com](http://www.basler.com)

The Corona Inspection Training Institute is offering corona inspection classes in Baltimore MD, October 27- 29, 2009. Full training is provided for the new Daytime Corona cameras that Langford now represents. Camera ownership is not a pre-requisite. For further details see [product spotlight](#) and [www.oilsystems.com](http://www.oilsystems.com)

## Ontario News

**Smart Sub-Metering** - On August 13, the OEB issued a Decision and Order authorizing Exempt Distributors (e.g., landlords) to conduct discretionary metering activities (install smart sub-metering systems for individual units). The use of the smart sub-metering systems to bill tenants is only permissible with the express written consent of the tenants. The Decision and Order provides landlords with clear direction on the conditions necessary for using smart sub-metering systems to bill tenants. For full news release see [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca)

**Nafta Carbon** - The United States has agreed to work with Canada and Mexico to develop a North American carbon market that would allow Canadian emitters to meet some portion of their targets through purchasing credits in the vast NAFTA marketplace. The agreement by leaders from the three countries could help keep down compliance costs for Canadian emitters, while expanding the market for renewable energy companies and others that create carbon credits with projects in Canada. Both Canada and the United States are vowing to implement national caps that would force industries to either cut emissions or purchase allowances. For Globe and Mail article see [electricityforum](http://electricityforum)

**Power Move** The New York Power Authority (NYPA) is reportedly negotiating an energy project with Hydro Quebec and other Canadian entities that could allow the state-owned power organization to import up to 2,000 MW of power from multiple sources, including hydropower, from Canada. NYPA President and CEO Richard Kessel told the Plattsburgh Press-Republican Editorial Board recently that the energy project could be the "biggest ... in the state since the St. Lawrence/Robert Moses power project 50 year ago." According to the Watertown Times Daily, NYPA officials have tried to tap into Canada's hydropower since the late 1970s, but negotiations failed mainly because of environmental and tribal concerns—as well as confusion over international permitting procedures. For full story see [www.powermag.com](http://www.powermag.com)

**Permanent Patrols** - Toronto Hydro revealed that its stray voltage scare last winter cost it \$14.3-million, and said two trucks have begun patrolling the city's streets each night as the utility shifts its attitude to its ageing infrastructure. Mobile detection units, which began as a temporary measure after stray voltage killed a west-end dog in November of 2008, have been made permanent. After a child was shocked in Regent Park at the end of January, Toronto Hydro escalated its detection efforts to include more rigorous physical inspections of every one of the city's 13,000 handwells, dwarfing the initial estimated \$6-million cost of the inspection project. For full details see national post article at [electricityforum](http://electricityforum)**Electric Power** - There's no disputing the bad optics of having Premier Dalton McGuinty announce the new \$10,000 electric vehicle incentives at a GM Chevrolet dealership, with Chevy's new Volt electric car in tow. But the Volt is just one of several cars that will qualify for the incentives in coming years, and it won't necessarily

be the first to hit the market. Ford, Chrysler, Nissan, Mitsubishi, Hyundai and Toyota all plan to have plug-in hybrids or electric cars in commercial production between 2010 and 2012. Tesla Motors is already selling in Ontario, though the price tag is prohibitive for most. For full Toronto Star article see [www.electricityforum.com](http://www.electricityforum.com)

**Wind Forecast** - The IESO announced in August that it will launch a centralized wind forecasting service on behalf of wind generators, expected to start in 2010. The centralized wind forecasting is expected to improve forecast accuracy and consistency to further enhance system reliability, support the expansion of wind generation within distribution service areas, and reduce the administrative burden on wind generators. For full press release see [www.ieso.ca](http://www.ieso.ca)

**The Winner is-** Kingston and Sioux Lookout took top honours in the "Count Me In! Community Challenge," an Ontario-wide energy conservation competition that included 83 municipalities and covered 56 percent of the population. The competition took place on August 14th between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. and coincided with the anniversary of the 2003 blackout. Kingston won for electricity consumption reduction (MWh), and Sioux Lookout for pledges per capita. For further details see [www.ieso.ca](http://www.ieso.ca)

### Product Spotlight... .. New Product Line!

Langford & Associates is pleased to add OFIL Systems' solar blind UV Bi-Spectral Imaging Systems to its product line. The DayCor Technology cameras, the original daytime corona cameras, detect, pinpoint and document corona, arcing, tracking and superficial partial discharge on high and medium voltage electrical lines, substations, generators, motors, and distribution. By detecting Corona Particle Discharge and Arcing on electric grid components the cameras provide early warnings of potential future failures, pinpoint and visualize the corona effect, and provide insight into the health of critical system components. Applications include predictive maintenance on over head transmission lines, over head distribution lines, substations, industry, and mines that must avoid abrupt unexpected shutdowns. Laboratories, research institutes, and testing laboratories also use Ofil's corona cameras for their QA and to study the partial discharge phenomena. For full details on this technology and its applications see [www.ofilsystems.com](http://www.ofilsystems.com)

Corona inspection classes will take place in Baltimore MD, October 27-29, 2009. See What's On

### Schneider Electric – IONE 6.0 and Real Time OS

As of August 21 the IONE 6.0, the next version of the PowerLogic ION operations-level power monitoring software, is available. IONE 5.6 will be available for purchase for 3 months after which time 5.6 will not be available. The Web Reporter component of ION Enterprise is the new reporting platform for the software and is accessed via a web interface, that uses Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services. For full details of new features see [global.powerlogic.com](http://global.powerlogic.com)

As part of Ontario Colleges' energy savings initiatives, Power Applications Group led the custom design of a real-time operating system, based on the ION EEM software, that when fully implemented across the province to all the colleges, will provide detailed historical and real-time data on all their energy use, including electricity, gas, water or steam. For full National Post article see [www.nationalpost.com](http://www.nationalpost.com)

### Basler – Co-ordination of Excitation Limiters and Unit Protection

Today's digital excitation systems play a significant role in providing fast and accurate voltage control to the power system. Yet, as noted in the past, undesirable consequences can occur if coordination of limiters and protection, internal and external to the excitation system, is not properly addressed. During extreme operation of the generator and excitation system, the reliability of the system can be jeopardized, resulting in an unscheduled machine trip. The importance of the coordination between the excitation limiters and unit protection becomes obvious; but also important are the proper settings needed to ensure reliable transfer to the redundant excitation controller. For new paper addressing the importance of coordinating the various settings of the excitation system as well as performance checking the voltage regulator and limiter to ensure reliable operation during disturbance events see [www.basler.com](http://www.basler.com)

### Did you know...

**Cost of Obsolescence** - Fatalities at the 6,400-MW Sayano Shushenskaya plant in southern Siberia rose to 71 at the end of last week after several bodies were recovered as water was drained from the turbine room that completely flooded following an explosion on Aug. 17 at the giant hydropower station in the Russian Federation.

The plant's owner, state-owned RusHydro, said in a statement that a "powerful shock" destroyed three of the plant's 10 generating units. The second turbine at the hydropower plant was completely destroyed, while the seventh and ninth turbines suffered extensive damage. The company stressed that there was no structural damage and no danger that the dam would burst.

RusHydro was set up in December 2004—when the country was reforming its electric power industry—to ensure reliable and safe operation of 15

federal hydropower plants, among them, the giant Sayano-Shushenskaya plant. Hydropower development in Russia had virtually stagnated in the 1990s, and existing plants were—and continue to be—in bad shape, RusHydro says on its website. “The equipment of most Russian hydro-plants is over 40% obsolete and for some [hydropower plants], this figure reaches 70%, this being connected with the system-wide problem of the entire hydropower industry of the last fifteen years—chronic underfinancing,” it says.

For more details see initial [article](#) and [follow-up](#).

This monthly e-newsletter offers company news, application notes and product launches from Langford & Associates.

[Send Feedback](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

All brand and product names are trademarks of their respective companies or organizations.  
Copyright 2009 Langford & Associates  
All Rights Reserved