



# LANGFORD & associates incorporated

Manufacturer's Representatives for Ontario's Power Industry

Welcome to the February 2010 e-newsletter providing you with product updates and the latest news from Ontario's electricity sector.

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## What's On

Basler's 9th Annual Distributed Generation School will be held March 23-25 in Fairview Heights, Illinois. A 10% Early Bird Discount is offered for registrations made before February 15, 2009. Register early, class size is limited and has sold out in the past. For further details see [www.basler.com](http://www.basler.com)

An ION Regional Training course will be held April 27-30, 2010. Training is scheduled as two 2-day courses and participants can opt whether to attend a single session or both. The course is designed for technicians, system engineers or system integrators and starts with a focus on how to use the ION Enterprise System with the second half concentrating on using Designer software to modify and customize ION meters for specific applications such as over current/demand alarming or capturing motor in-rush current data upon a motor starting. The course will be held at Schneider's Rexwood office; please [contact us](#) for registration or more information.

## Ontario News

**Incentives Doubled**- BOMA has doubled the incentives for non-lighting energy conservation programs offered on behalf of the OPA for office, retail, and hospitality properties in the 416 telephone exchange area that are 25,000 square feet or greater. The Conservation and Demand Management incentives are for peak demand, electricity consumption or cooling ton reduction at a rate of \$800 per kilowatt, \$0.10 per kilowatt-hour up to a maximum of 40 percent of eligible project costs. Installations of power meters, energy monitoring and energy management equipment qualify for the program. The Conservation and Demand Management program is open to property owners, operators, tenants and channel partners until December 31, 2010. For full details see [bomacdm.com](http://bomacdm.com)

**Refusal to Install** - The OEB issued a Decision and Order finding that Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited has failed to connect smart meters to two condominiums in the City of Toronto contrary to section 28 of the Electricity Act, 1998 and various sections of the Distribution System Code. The Board found that Toronto Hydro's refusal to provide a bulk meter connection, and its requirement that each resident of a condominium become a direct customer of Toronto Hydro, did not comply with the Electricity Act. Stated in the proceedings "Toronto Hydro is not refusing to connect the two buildings, Avonshire and Metrogate, on any terms; it is refusing to connect at a bulk meter. Compliance Counsel argues that the refusal to connect at the bulk meter frustrates the legislative and regulatory scheme under which the developer of a condominium or a condominium corporation may opt to use a licensed smart sub-meter provider." For full proceedings see [oeb.gov.on.ca](http://oeb.gov.on.ca)

**Overflow at Darlington**- On Dec. 21, Darlington Nuclear had an event that resulted in a storage tank being over-filled with lake water. The tank already contained purified (demineralized) water. This resulted in an overflow of about 210,000 litres of water to the environment. The water release occurred over a matter of a

few minutes and was quickly identified and stopped. An immediate site clean up and investigation began to confirm the extent of the impact. While the water released to the environment contained low levels of tritium and hydrazine, it had no measurable impact on local drinking water. For full letter from Senior VP of Darlington Nuclear see [opg.com](http://opg.com)

**Cyber Concerns-** Canada's electricity industry is concerned unilateral U.S. action to protect the North American power grid from an imminent cyber threat could upset the power supply in Canada. Four cyber-security bills before Congress contain either weak or no provisions requiring U.S. authorities to consult Canada before taking action to confront an imminent cyber threat to the continental network. As it stands, where international consultation on an imminent cyber emergency is addressed at all in the draft bills, the language is qualified. For full article see [canada.com](http://canada.com)

**Changing Responsibility-** In late 2009, the OEB revised the assignment of cost responsibilities between distributors and generators for distribution-connected renewable energy generation facilities. The new rules apply to all investments associated with renewable generation projects for which an application to connect was made on, or after October 21, 2009. The new cost responsibility rules apply to a range of work - from upgrading the existing lines to your property to handle the increased flow of electricity, to upgrades at the transformer station, to replacing major pieces of equipment. The Hydro One website provides a summary of the code amendments and examples of how these may affect a given project. For details see [hydroone.com](http://hydroone.com)

**Reaping the Benefits-** GE Energy Financial Services, a unit of GE unveiled a study estimating that renewing a federal financial incentive that has now allocated virtually all of its funding for wind energy projects would more than pay for itself through tax revenues from the projects' income, vendors' profits and individual workers' wages. The study estimated that injecting an additional \$1.5 billion into Canada's ecoENERGY for Renewable Power program could spawn 5.2 gigawatts of new wind projects and carry a net present value benefit to the government of \$287 million CDN. For full press release see [canwea.ca](http://canwea.ca)

**Growing Wind** - Wind generation in Ontario rose by more than 60 per cent over the previous year, the IESO reports from its 2009 data. Wind output from Ontario's commercial wind farms was 2.3 TWh in 2009. At the same time, output from Ontario's coal-fired plants dropped to 9.8 TWh, down from 23.2 TWh in 2008, and the lowest output in 45 years. For full report see [ieso.ca](http://ieso.ca)

**Campaign Gimmick?** - At a time when Toronto is facing an annual budget shortfall of about half a billion dollars, with little hope of a bailout from the strapped federal and provincial governments, the mayor that emerges after October's election will have to look at everything the city does and everything it owns with an eye to saving money and maximizing value. Mayoral candidate Mr. Rocco Rossi has already proposed to sell city-owned Toronto Hydro which he guesses would bring in up to \$2-billion, nearly enough to retire the city's debt of roughly \$2.4-billion. Deployed another way, it could help pay the multibillion-dollar bill for transit expansion and other long-term strategic investments. For full Gobe and Mail article see [electricityforum.com](http://electricityforum.com)

### Product Spotlight!... - Critical Sites

A critical site is considered to be anything where failure would result in a significant loss of money or human life, including hospitals, data centres, corporate computer rooms and network closets. When considering the needs of these sites it's important to take a centralized real-time view of the site to determine what is acceptable, what is approaching a problem and what is in alarm including notification and logging. A statistical analysis of what could go wrong determines the severity of the event and the steps necessary to mitigate the risk and potential for failure. The failure of an air conditioning unit might be considered relatively minor until the full implications to the building system and temperature set points are determined. This type of application is where ION Energy Enterprise Management thrives. It takes the guesswork out of managing a system. For full presentation from the ION PowerLogic Conference see [langford-assoc.com](http://langford-assoc.com)

### Schneider Electric- LEED Platinum at Public School

The Greater Essex County District School Board has awarded Schneider Electric and its partner H&E Comfort Controls a contract to provide building automation, power monitoring and lighting control systems for the school board's Windsor-based Dr. David Suzuki Public School. Currently under construction, the Dr. David Suzuki Public School will showcase innovative and proven environmental and energy efficient technologies – such as recycled grey water, green roofing, solar and geothermal heating, demonstrating a

new world of possibilities in educational facility design. Its goal is to become Canada's first LEED Platinum educational institution. For full press release see [schneider-electric.ca](http://schneider-electric.ca)

### **Ofil Systems - Fault Detection with Corona Camera**

Corona is a luminous discharge due to air ionization surrounding an insulator in which exists a critical voltage gradient. Corona causes insulation deterioration; therefore, failure of components becomes more probable as the component degrades. Since reliability of power systems is related to corona discharge, all power system components should be tested through corona testing to verify that this parameter is minimized. Corona discharge emits radiation in the ultraviolet spectral range which is invisible to the human eye. To be able to see corona in the daytime, Ofil's camera systems use two imaging channels: UV and invisible. The images are overlaid making fault location easy and accurate. For full details see [ofilsystems.com](http://ofilsystems.com)

### **Did you know...**

**Decision Stands** - The Supreme Court last week refused to review a February 2009 ruling by a federal court that blocked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from asserting its power to override transmission decisions made by states.

At the heart of the matter was the authority granted by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which allowed the commission to approve interstate power lines after the affected state had "withheld approval for more than a year." But, in an issuance of a final November 2006 rule, FERC substantively interpreted the phrase, "withheld approval for more than 1 year" to include a state's denial of a permit within the one-year statutory timeframe. The federal court rejected FERC's interpretation, ruling that FERC's interpretation was contrary to the plain meaning of the statute. "Simply put, the statute does not give FERC permitting authority when a state has affirmatively denied a permit application within a one-year deadline," Judge Blane Michael had written last year.

The petition for review by the Supreme Court was filed by a broad coalition of the energy industry, including the Edison Electric Institute, the American Public Power Association, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. The petition was also supported by amicus briefs by the four previous chairmen of FERC and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This monthly e-newsletter offers company news, application notes and product launches from Langford & Associates.

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