

Deep East Texas Electric Coop Selects Tantalus for Smart Grid Communications Upgrade

The installation will mark Tantalus' fourth deployment in the Lone Star State

Raleigh, NC – August 24, 2011 – [Tantalus](#), a leading provider of real-time Smart Grid communications, announced today that Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative (DETEC) has selected Tantalus to provide advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) functionality for the approximately 40,000 meters on their system. The new infrastructure will replace an aging, one-way automated meter reading (AMR) system. The Tantalus system is expected to be fully operational within the next three years.

“After a thorough investigation of our system infrastructure requirements, desired AMI functionality and project cost we have selected the Tantalus system for implementation,” said Doug Turk, DETEC director of operations. “We’ve spoken with several of Tantalus’ clients across the nation and all of the feedback was positive. That’s not something that we found with the other available vendors. In the end, we anticipate a highly successful project that will greatly facilitate our future operations.”

The deployment will provide DETEC with an accurate and timely reading for every meter, incorporate remote disconnection of delinquent accounts and allow for accurate, small increment remote monitoring of voltage. The Tantalus system also introduces the capability to monitor outages, shave peaks through load management and provide advanced metering to accommodate a wide-range of future rate possibilities.

Tantalus is currently engaged in a strategic partnership with Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC), a state-wide association representing the interests of 65 electric distribution cooperatives and nine generation and transmission cooperatives across Texas. The alliance with Tantalus enables TEC to offer its member cooperatives — as well as municipal utilities — support for both wired and wireless platforms for implementing the energy-efficient and cost-saving attributes of smart grid technology. The DETEC installation marks the fourth Texas utility to select Tantalus for a smart grid communications system.

“Given DETEC’s rugged terrain and rural customer base, the cooperative has unique Smart Grid communications needs,” said Eric Murray, Tantalus president & CEO. “Tantalus delivers the strongest connectivity and most thorough communications coverage in the industry, and we look forward to putting our technology to work for DETEC.”

About Tantalus

Tantalus provides two-way, real-time data communications networks to monitor and control electric, gas and water utilities. TUNet® (the Tantalus Utility Network) is an end-to-end WAN/LAN/HAN communications system that operates with 220 MHz RF, 900 MHz, and IP-based networks including Fiber, WiMAX and GPRS/cellular, either individually or in combination. TUNet's patented and patents pending technologies are purpose built for the Smart Grid. The Tantalus network unites a utility's applications, making advanced metering, outage management, power quality monitoring, load control, and distribution automation cost-effective and practical throughout both urban and rural service areas. For more information, please visit www.tantalus.com.

About Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DETEC) is a transmission and distribution electric cooperative. It is headquartered in San Augustine, Texas and serves approximately 40,000 meters in eight counties of east Texas, including Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Panola, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine and Shelby. DETEC has 32 substations and approximately 7,000 miles of line. In addition to the farms and homes it was originally organized to serve, the Cooperative now furnishes electricity to many large commercial and industrial consumers and several municipalities within its service area. DETEC has over one hundred employees working together to supply its members with a dependable supply of electric power at the lowest possible price.

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