



European Utilities Telecom Council
287 avenue Louise, 4th floor
BE-1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel + 32 2 645 26 77
Fax + 32 2 645 26 71

Brussels, 11 January 2012

Register Now for EUTC/ESKOM 2012

Registration is now open for EUTC/ESKOM 2012. This event entitled "*ICT for Smart Grid in Africa*" will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa on 27-28 February 2012.

In many parts of the world utility companies are seeking to understand how they respond to a range of business drivers that impact the way they operate their infrastructure networks. Some regions are driven by environmental objectives, some by demand management challenges and all of the time more energy is being generated from renewable sources and there is the imminent prospect of mass deployment of electric vehicles. For electricity networks, these create major challenges in keeping networks operating reliably and safely.

A key enabler for practical solutions to these challenges is a vast increase in the amount of intelligence gathered from network assets in each utility company and the development of a new way of operating these networks, commonly known as the future smartgrid. The creation of the smartgrid (and smart metering) will only be possible through an increase in the use of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) systems and services capable of meeting the needs of utility businesses. Work is progressing on the development of ICT solutions in many parts of the world.

This conference will continue the discussion and debate taking place in Europe and the USA on the ICT issues facing utilities in those regions but will address them in the context of the challenge for African utility companies.

Speakers will be drawn from Southern Africa, Europe and the USA and will continue the theme promoted in 2010 in London, to explore the Evolution of ICT Services and Solutions which are capable of creating and supporting the Smart Networks required in the future.

Potential delegates are encouraged to register through the EUTC website (<http://eutc.org/>) before 25 January 2012 to take advantage of the early bird rate.

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About EUTC:

European Utilities Telecom Council or EUTC is the trade association for telecom and IT professionals at European utilities. EUTC understands that technology is rapidly changing the role of telecom in Europe's electric, gas and water utilities, energy companies and other critical infrastructure companies. As utilities use their vast experience in building and managing sophisticated telecommunications networks to enter Europe's new competitive telecoms markets, EUTC supports their efforts with education, networking, benchmarking and resources. For more information, visit www.eutc.org.

About ESKOM:

Eskom was established in South Africa in 1923 as the Electricity Supply Commission. In July 2002, it was converted into a public, limited liability company, wholly owned by government. Eskom is one of the top 20 utilities in the world by generation capacity (net maximum self-generated capacity: 41 194MW). Eskom generates approximately 95% of the electricity used in South Africa and approximately 45% of the electricity used in Africa. Eskom directly provides electricity to about 45% of all end-users in South Africa. The other 55% is resold by redistributors (including municipalities).

Eskom generates, transmits and distributes electricity to customers in the industrial, mining, commercial, agricultural and residential sectors, and to redistributors. Eskom sells electricity directly to about 3 000 industrial customers, 1 000 mining customers, 49 000 commercial customers, 84 000 agricultural customers and more than four million residential customers (of whom the majority are pre-paid customers).