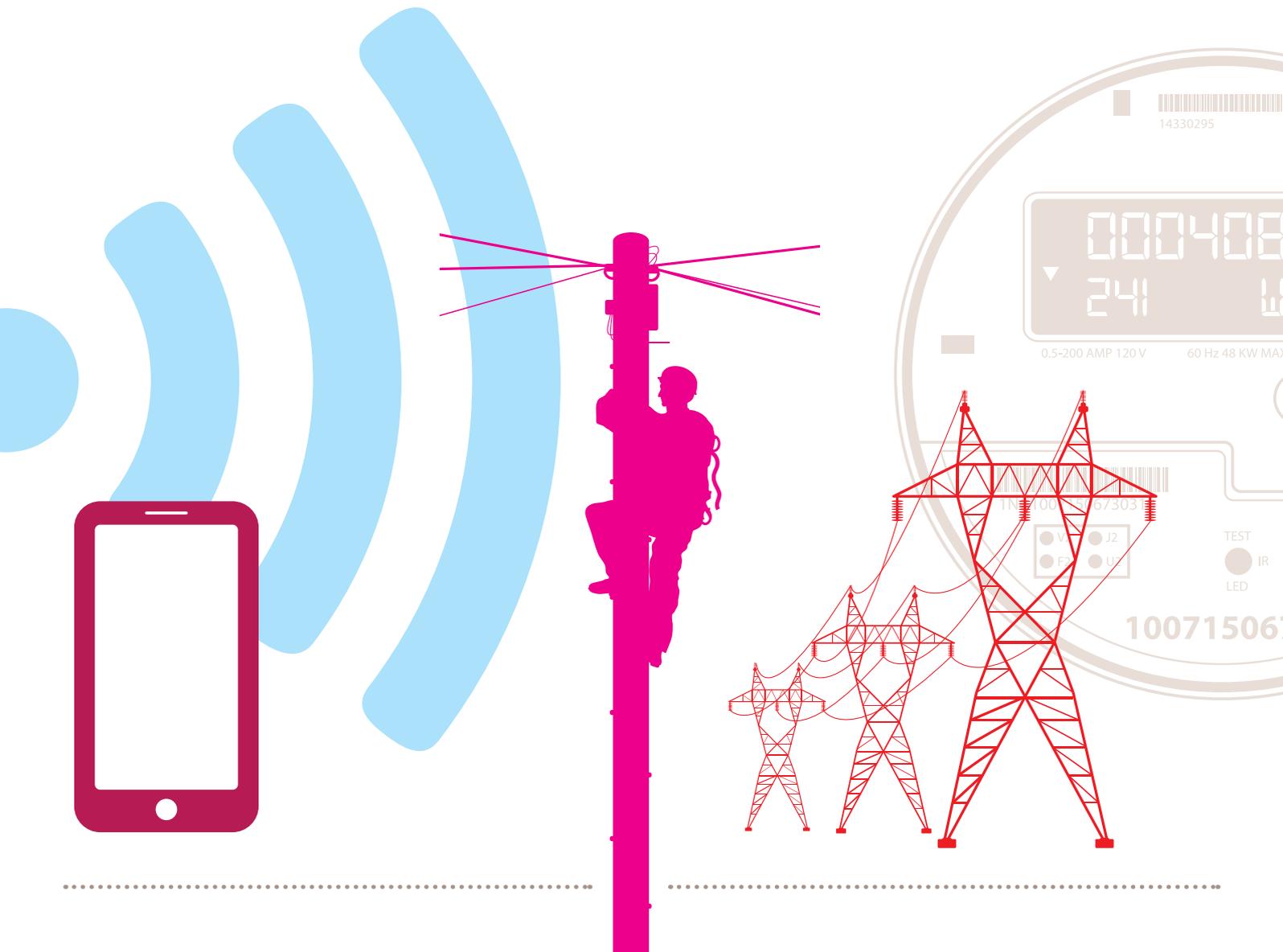# EUROPEAN UTILITIES TELECOM COUNCIL

EUROPEAN UTILITIES TELECOM COUNCIL

The European Utilities Telecom Council (EUTC) is a professional association for telecommunications, technology, and cybersecurity specialists working within utility, energy and critical national infrastructure companies. It brings industry experts together from across Europe, enabling them to share knowledge and stay up to date in this rapidly changing field. The EUTC works in partnership with EU institutions that actively seek its opinions on important issues such as spectrum allocation and development of the future energy grid. By joining the EUTC, you will have access to the latest information on key telecoms and technology issues affecting the utilities, energy and critical infrastructure sectors.

CONNECTED GLOBALLY

The EUTC is the European arm of a global organisation, the Utilities Technology Council (UTC), which was established in the USA in 1948. It acts with a uniquely European focus, while benefiting from administrative and practical support from the UTC, and well as collaboration from utilities facing similar challenges across the globe. EUTC is an independent international unit of UTC, which also includes Africa UTC (AUTC) and UTC América Latina (UTCAL). This affiliation provides EUTC and its members with the global reach of UTC.

Mission statement

"The European Utilities Telecom Council (EUTC) is a non-profit organization delivering education, collaboration, best practices and thought leadership in telecommunication technology to utilities, other critical infrastructure providers and regulators, ensuring efficient, secure, sustainable and affordable smart infrastructure solutions."

Vision statement:

"The European Utilities Telecom Council (EUTC) is the trusted advisor, source and resource of information and knowledge for its members and relevant policy makers regarding telecommunication technologies required by utilities and other critical infrastructure providers."

"By joining the EUTC, you will have access to the latest information on key telecoms and technology issues affecting the utilities, energy and critical national infrastructure sector."
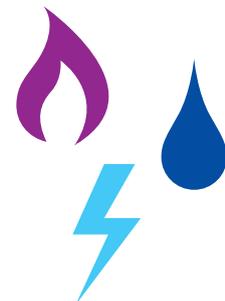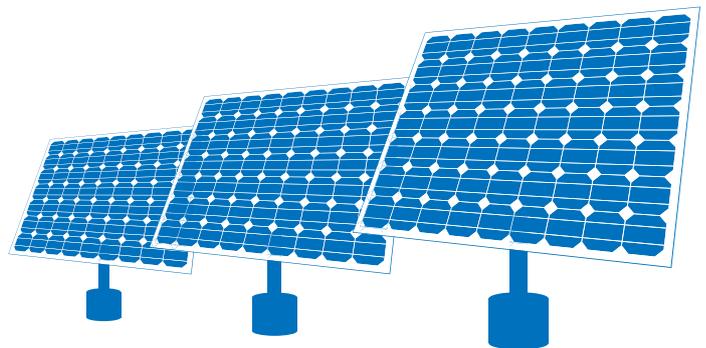
RADIO SPECTRUM ALLOCATION

The EUTC plays a key role in the debate on radio spectrum allocation for utility and critical infrastructure companies operating across Europe.

Harmonised spectrum allocation has many potential benefits for the successful roll-out of the future energy grid, as well as the continued reliable operation of the grid as this transition is occurring. In the future, many more elements of the grid will be underpinned by wireless communication services, but many already have significant dependence on such service in the present. Allocating spectrum across Europe would enable networks to be built using standardised communication protocols, and would allow a wider range of equipment to be used.

The EUTC's spectrum group meets regularly, enabling council members to connect with other utility companies and discuss wireless solutions in a broad, pan-European context. EUTC members also engage directly with DG CONNECT (the European Commission Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology) on future trends and requirements for radio spectrum and other relevant applications such as cybersecurity, commercial telecommunications cooperation, infrastructure sharing, etc.

EUTC also supports global UTC on its ongoing engagement with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Study Group 5 (SG5) on Terrestrial Services. In addition, EUTC is helping to prepare for the next ITU World Radio Conference in 2019 (WRC19) (see picture opposite from WRC15).

"EUTC has several Working Groups that discuss and share best practices and generate content to share with external players like telcos, regulators, policymakers and other trade associations."
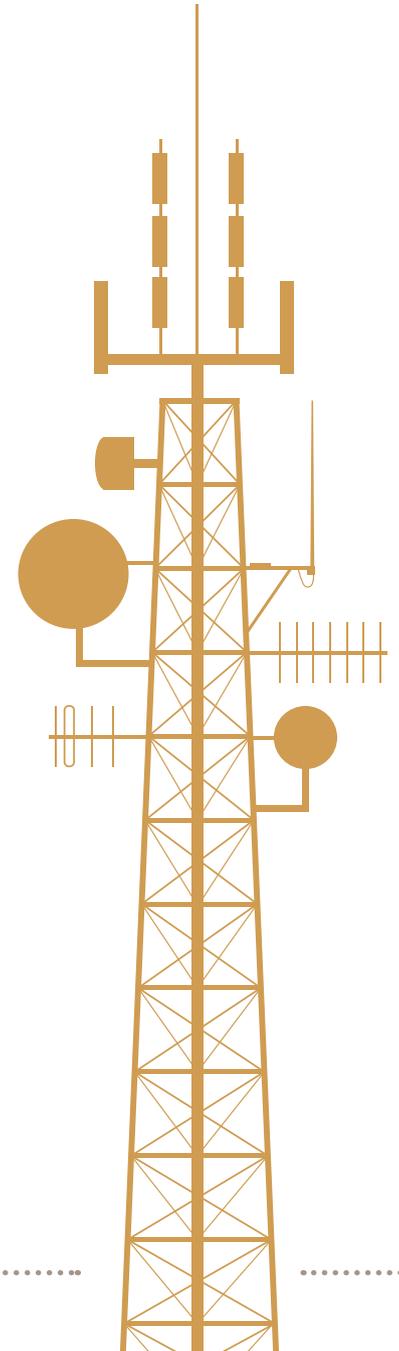
COLLABORATION BETWEEN TELECOMS AND UTILITIES

It is important for EUTC to enhance and facilitate the collaboration between telcos and utilities and thus to explain the mutual benefit for this collaboration. An important issue to address will be the specific 5G requirements on the supporting communication solutions, going beyond what is currently provided.

CYBERSECURITY

Cybersecurity is a growing area of concern for utilities, but there is an uneven degree of awareness and maturity of cybersecurity programs among European utility companies. The ever increasing "digitisation" of the grid with the attendant sophistication and complexity throughout Europe, underscores the importance of addressing the risk of cybersecurity breaches and cyber-caused blackouts. This is the risk of the digital technology deployment being sought by utility customers and regulators – and it must be managed into the future.

THE IMPACT OF BIG DATA ON UTILITIES' TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORKS

The goal of this Working Group is to prepare output based on the following questions:

- What does big data (analytics) mean for utilities in Europe?
- Which are the areas of application for utilities with regards to big data and what is their potential?
- Should utilities operate alone or in cooperation with telcos?
- What would utilities need to change in the European framework to address big data?
- What does a public-private-partnership mean for utilities and how to organize the IT solutions?
- What role can EUTC play vis-à-vis the European Commission?

NEW BUSINESS MODELS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPLOYMENT

EUTC's work on New Business Models is to explore and summarize different models for organizing telecommunications activities within utilities. EUTC's goal is to provide external players with a better understanding where they can provide assistance and/or input (Telcos) or why a utility has chosen a certain set-up (regulators, governments). This is especially relevant in the light of the growing importance of telecommunications for utilities and as they try to find new, alternative and more suitable ways of collaborating and obtaining the telecommunications products they need.

SMART GRID REQUIREMENTS

Electricity networks across Europe are aging and a good part of them will need to be modernized or replaced in the decades to come. To overcome this challenge, the European Commission considers smart grids as the backbones of future decarbonised energy power systems and for reaching all the fundamental objectives of EU energy policy (sustainability, security and competitiveness) as well as the creation of the single energy market.

JOINING THE EUTC

All European utilities, energy companies, and other critical infrastructure organizations are invited and encouraged to join the EUTC. Membership is offered at an organisational level, meaning that most of the benefits of membership are available across your whole company in return for a single membership fee.
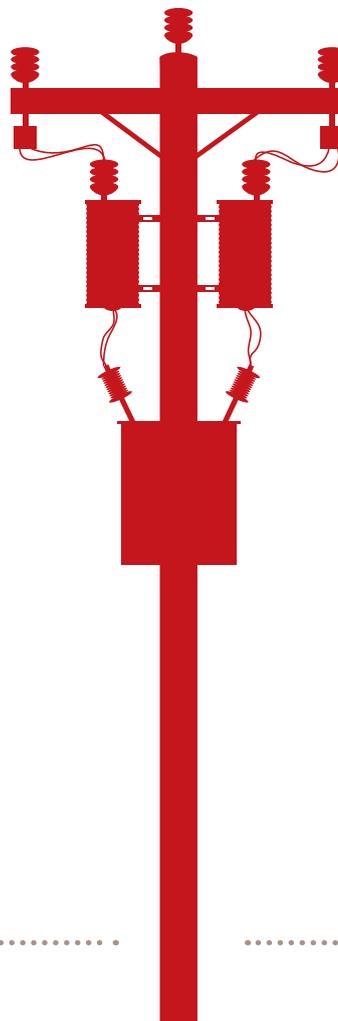
EUTC has voting and non-voting members. There are two categories of voting members.

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Any corporation eligible to be a voting member and headquartered in Europe may become a EUTC Corporate Member. Such Members shall designate an employee to be the Voting Representative on the EUTC Board of Advisors.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Any association that is eligible to be a Voting Member and based in Europe may become a EUTC Association Member. Such Association Members shall designate an employee or member representative to be the Voting Representative on the EUTC Board of Advisors. The non-voting members are the associate members.
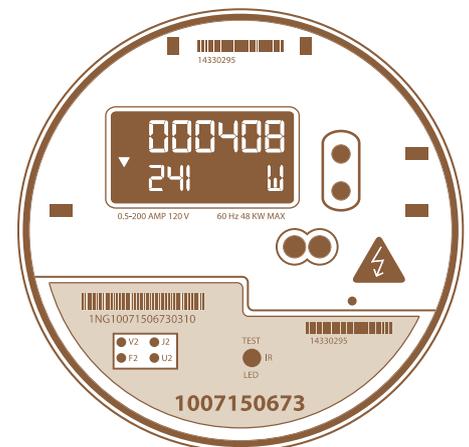
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

This type of membership includes the commercial organizations (vendors) as well as any other international organizations interested in access to EUTC. They have no voting rights and are not part of the Board of Advisors, but can be invited to attend EUTC Board of Advisor meetings or member meetings as guests.

Members receive benefits that include:

- Participation in the EUTC Working Groups
  - ⬦ The goals of the Working Groups are to generate more content that will stimulate the engagement of existing members, attract new ones, and strengthen the profile of EUTC as a thought leader among stakeholders and regulators.
  - ⬦ For more information about the current Working Groups, please contact the EUTC secretariat: eutc@eutc.org
- Participation in UTC/EUTC joint calls on common technical matters (IT/OT; Security, Risk and Compliance; Technical Division; Telecoms, …)
- Receive the EUTC bi-monthly newsletter and publish your case studies/news in the EUTC newsletter
- Company logo and link to company website from EUTC website
- Subscription to the quarterly UTC Journal that has content from around the globe
- Access to Members-Only information on NetWorks, EUTC's electronic networking and sharing platform

For more detailed benefits for each of the different membership categories, please contact the EUTC secretariat: eutc@eutc.org

"Members play an active leadership role in shaping the EUTC's positions in pan-European expert groups."

Electricity, gas, water and other utilities rely on sophisticated communication networks that they manage and run to ensure they can provide uninterrupted services and manage their transmission and distribution networks effectively. Energy companies and other critical infrastructure organisations also need robust telecommunications to operate safely and effectively. The EUTC provides telecoms and technology professionals working within utility and critical infrastructure companies with the knowledge and networks they need to maximise the benefits of telecoms within their organisations. Its members benefit by sharing their experiences with trusted peers, enabling them to gain expertise and address shared challenges together.

European Utilities Telecom Council
Avenue de Tervueren 188a, Postbox 4
1150 Brussels, Belgium
tel +32 2 761 16 59
www.eutc.org

FSC
logo