DistribuTECH 2009 TechWatch Report
With contributions from Ilya Glinsky (SCE), Larry Clark (Alabama Power) and Francis Zavoda (Hydro Quebec)

TechWatch Plan for DistribuTECH 2009

The Tech Watch section created on the Distribution Automation web site will be updated with new information obtained during the February 2009 DistribuTECH conference. Focus of this year's TechWatch effort is standard information models (CIM, MultiSpeak, etc.) TechWatch results will be posted on the website. Larry Clark is leading this year's effort, assisted by Ilya Glinsky and Francis Zavoda.

TechWatch 2009 Report

Most vendors with whom the team asked about standard information models (CIM, MultiSpeak) were not, at this time, aware of any specific initiative in their immediate groups to work towards this concept, but that interest was certainly there to support it. Many vendors eagerly pointed out that they currently support standard existing protocols (modbus/DNP3 etc) and were open to new initiatives. That is not to say that they are not already working on standard information models, only that the individual with whom the team spoke while at DistribuTECH was giving their personal information with respect to the inquiry.

> Triangle Microworks. Jim Coats. Working out how CIM (IEC 61970-301 & IEC 61968 'MultiSpeak') integrates into IEC 61850. WG 19 working on Comprehensive industry communication protocol support. DNP3, IEC 60870-5, IEC 61850, ICCP/TASE.2, IEC 61400-25, Modbus http://www.TriangleMicroWorks.com/

Following other vendors were asked about the CIM, but each reported no unique initiatives underway.
  Globalstar-Satellite company.
  New Lec Industries.
  Horton Automation.
  Beckwith.
  Wescon PLC.
  SEL.
  Optisense Network Inc.
  Powersense.
  Arcadian.
  KEEMA.
  GE.

While some did acknowledge the CIM, most vendors did not report having any current initiatives underway to implement the CIM or any part of the CIM, but indicated a readiness to do so when requested by the customer. For example, ICX DAQ Electronics advised that they will deliver IEC 61850 when requested by a customer. But, IEC 61850 is not currently included in ICX DAQ Electronics' suite protocol emulations. To the contrary, remsdaq was demonstrating an RTU that is IEC 61850 compliant including interoperability testing.