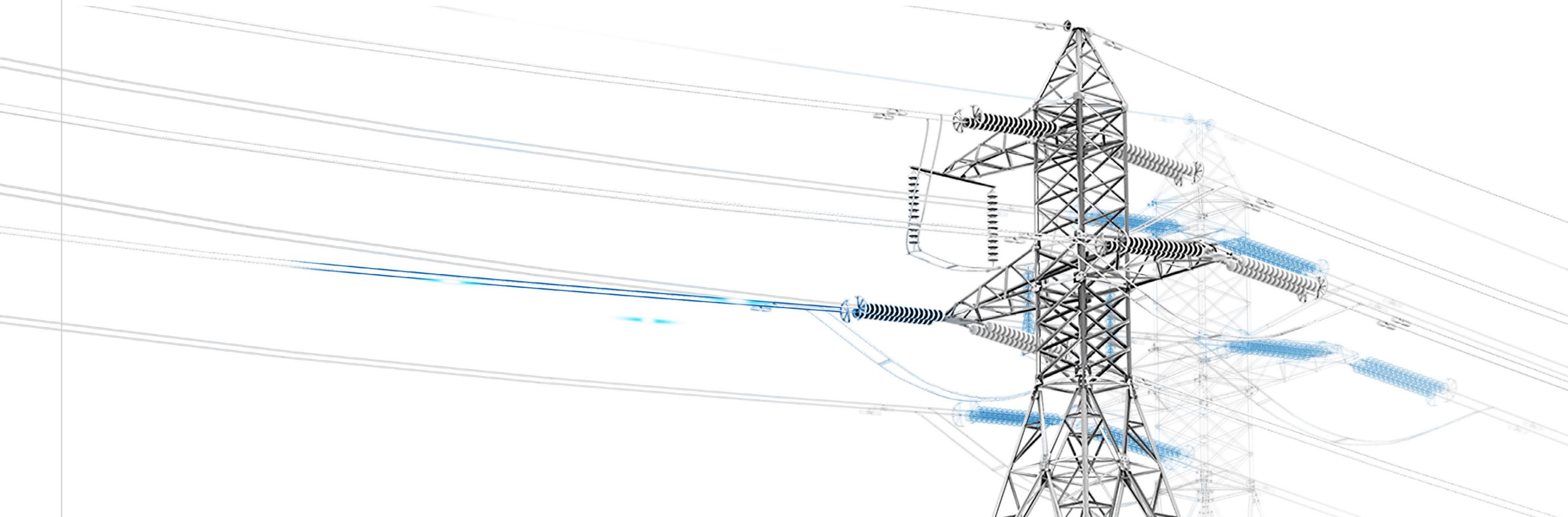




Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative Designed for Success



Covering 6,500 square miles, Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative serves about 45,000 customers over 6,500 square miles of Southeast Arizona. A diverse residential, commercial, industrial/military, agricultural, and tourism area, the utility must manage to suit both the progressive urbanites and the retired rural residents. The SCADA system provides the monitoring and control necessary for the diverse needs of the staff and customers. The primary purposes have been demand control and system data collection, but SSVEC is moving into additional system control functions, causing it to select the features of iPower to add to its iFIX system.

Sulphur's SCADA system has five SCADA computers. Three are in the main control room, and two are at remote operations offices, limited normally to view-only system monitoring. Engineers access the terminal server node through their desktop computers to obtain data for operations and design planning. SSVEC serves a rapidly growing load—130 MW at present—requiring 21 substations and an industrial/agricultural peak shaving generator site. Existing PLCs are MODICON E984 units using modbus protocols.

“SSVEC installed [GE Digital's] iFIX SCADA in 1999. The capabilities and flexibilities of this software are well known and widely accepted. However, iFIX is so flexible that more electric power-focused software [as an add-on] offers many advantages to electric utilities with smaller automation staffs. As SSVEC moved more into full system control functions, iPower offered the full range of desired control and information tagging features utilities required for safe and efficient operations and record keeping. Catapult Software also offered real expertise with iFIX and provides an additional source of related utility automation and [GE Digital] experience to draw upon. The additional features of the iPower List Manager provided extra data management to enhance the value of SSVEC's SCADA system, making rapid tracking of computer and electric system events very much easier than our original implementation.”

**Gerald Barney & Philip Asbury,
SCADA Engineers Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Arizona**



SCADA integration

The original iFIX software features are not limited, but the resources for programming and implementation available to SSVEC have been limited. Catapult's approach to upgrading SSVEC's system to iPower greatly advanced the utility's SCADA system capabilities. Using existing PIC files, the implementation was very much improved through proper error trapping techniques. Security was significantly improved by adding confirmation routines to important control functions. Specific additional power utility functions were greatly needed and readily available through iPower. SSVEC feels it now has the full functionality required to advance to full utility control operations, both in secure control operations and in efficient event/log data handling.

Gerald Barney & Philip Asbury are the engineers responsible for SSVEC's SCADA.

iPower

iPower for iFIX is developed specifically for electric utility SCADA operations. The approach of starting with the industry-generic platform is unique in the electric utility SCADA market. So is the result: iPower delivers the most modern, sophisticated, and "evergreen" SCADA software in the electric utility market. It also delivers all the safety, performance, and reliability management needs to efficiently operate an electric network. For the first time, modern and effective SCADA is available and affordable to utilities like Sulphur Springs.

Catapult Software has been developing SCADA software products and installing SCADA systems for the electricity industry since formation of the company in 1991.





About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) is the world's Digital Industrial Company, transforming industry with software-defined machines and solutions that are connected, responsive, and predictive. GE is organized around a global exchange of knowledge, the "GE Store," through which each business shares and accesses the same technology, markets, structure, and intellect. Each invention further fuels innovation and application across our industrial sectors. With people, services, technology, and scale, GE delivers better outcomes for customers by speaking the language of industry.

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