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Smart grid: Perfect Power at IIT completes phase I construction

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Chicago, February 23, 2010 — Illinois Institute of Technology, Galvin Electricity Initiative, S&C Electric Company, and Intelligent Power Solutions, LLC said the first phase of Perfect Power at IIT is now complete.

The system consists of smart microgrids featuring a High-Reliability Distribution System loop design and redundant electricity and will allow IIT to eliminate costly outages, minimize power disturbances, moderate an ever-growing demand and curb greenhouse gas emissions.

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Part of a five-year project, the completion of phase one means that the first high-reliability distribution loop, serving Hermann Hall, Alumni Hall, Perlstein Hall, Wishnick Hall and Siegel Hall on IIT's Main Campus, is in operation, as is the automation of the university's north substation.

The buildings included in the first phase now have automatic fault detection and distribution information that will allow for greatly improved electricity reliability.

The automation of the south substation, and the installation of the high reliability distribution loops that serve other campus buildings, will be completed in the next four years of the project. Sponsored by

Distribution systems, such as the HRDS, are critical in enabling many of the goals of the Perfect Power project and policymakers in general, such as reduction in greenhouse gases through integration of <u>renewable energy</u> sources and increased reliability.

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The Nation's first Perfect Power System, Perfect Power at IIT, is an example of how government, utilities, businesses and municipalities can collaborate in the development and implementation of advanced power systems that are required to meet rising 21st century power demands.

The project, developed by IIT, is the result of an uncommon partnership among the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), local utility Exelon/ComEd, the entrepreneurial electricity distribution developer Intelligent Power Solutions, the Chicagobased global provider of electric power delivery solutions for the intelligent grid, S&C Electric Company, and the Galvin Electricity Initiative.

The Perfect Power System is based on a smart microgrid — a small, local, modernized version of the electricity grid that carries bulk power across the country.

These microgrids focus on rapidly bringing the economic and environmental benefits of modern grid technology to consumers. They engage entrepreneurial innovators and investors to install the smart digital technology that allows the instantaneous, two-way flow of electricity and real-time pricing and demand information between utilities and consumers.

Projections indicate that the Perfect Power model at IIT will pay for itself within five years following its completion.

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