

### **Intelligent Grid Research at BCIT**

Sept 23, 2008

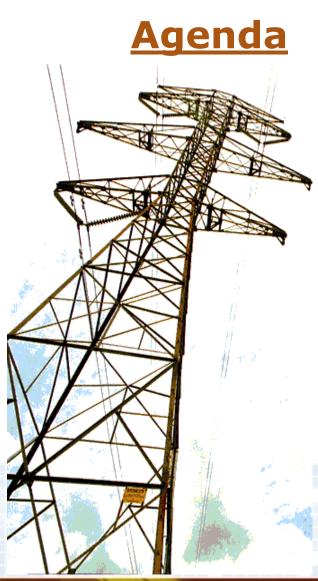
#### Dr. Hassan Farhangi (PhD, PEng, SM-IEEE) Director GAIT, TC, BCIT





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# **Problem Definition**

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# **Problem Definition**

### **Problems facing the Power Industry today:**

- **1.** Rising cost of energy
- 2. Aging infrastructure
- 3. Mass Electrification
- 4. Climate Change

### **Solutions pursued by Utility companies:**

- **1.** Optimize use of expensive assets
- 2. Manage end-user demand
- 3. Facilitate Co-Generation
- 4. Use alternative/renewable sources of energy

#### However, such solutions can not be implemented within the constraints of the existing old electromechanical Electricity Grid!





#### **Existing Grid**

- Electromechanical
- One-Way communication
- Centralized Generation
- Hierarchical
- Few Sensors
- Blind
- Manual Restoration
- Failures & Blackouts
- Manual Check/Test
   Limited Control
   Few customer choices

**Required Grid** Digital **Two-Way communication Distributed Generation** Network Sensors throughout Self-monitoring **Self-Healing Adaptive & Islanding Remote Check/Test Pervasive Control** Many customer choices

Source : The Emerging Smart Grid GEF/CFSE October 2005



# **Drivers**

- **1.** Aging Infrastructure (70% of assets are over 25 yrs old)
- 2. Reliability & Security (Blackouts, prone to attacks)
- 3. Market Dynamics (Choice & Competition)
- 4. Rates & Pricing (Multi-Tariffs, Time of Use, Smart Metering)
- 5. Distributed Generation (Co-Gen, New Sources of Energy)
- 6. Efficiency & Optimization (Demand Response, Peak Control)
- 7. Affordable Technologies (IT, Telecom, Computing)
- 8. **Rising cost of Energy** (Rising Oil Prices, Security of Supply)
- 9. Need for Conservation (Limited Energy Sources)
- **10. Mass Electrification** (Electricity as the main driver)
- 11. Renewable Energy (Unpredictability, Unavailability)
- 12. Green Energy (Reduced emissions from the power sector)





### **Business Barriers:**

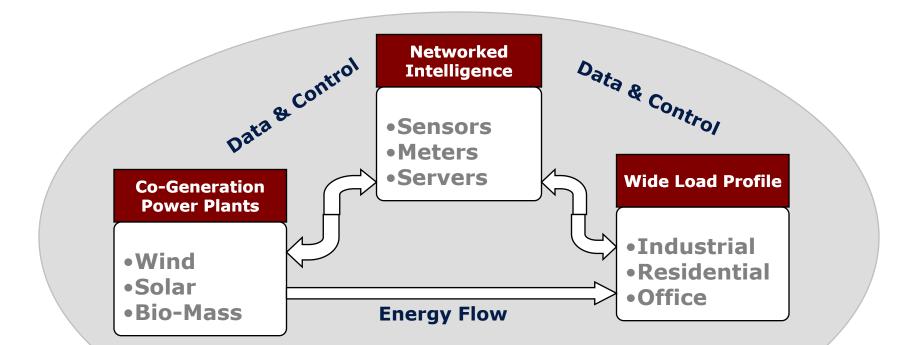
- Regulatory & Economics
- > Capital & Funding Constraints
- Absence of Industry Standards

# **Technical Barriers:**

Proprietary end-to-end solutions Absence of intelligent building blocks



# **Micro-Grid Topology**



#### **Required Micro-Grid Components**



# **BCIT's Value Proposition**

BCIT's Intelligent Micro-Grid addresses the technical barriers that hampers the roll out of Intelligent Grid initiatives through:

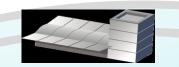
- 1. Development of Intelligent Agents as building blocks of Smart Grid under an open architecture, allowing integration of various technology components into technically viable and commercially deployable solutions for utility companies' critical services.
- 2. Providing configurable topologies of real power systems, enabling utility companies to test and verify new services and solutions (e.g. renewable energies, clean energies, etc) in real settings and applications.



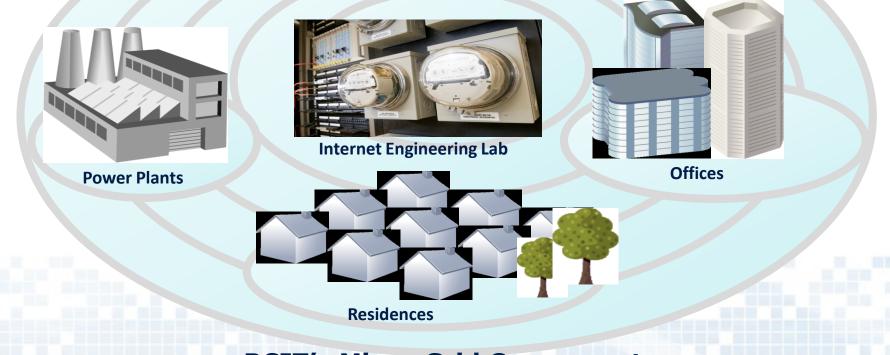


#### **BCIT's Burnaby Campus**





**Classrooms & Workshops** 



#### **BCIT's Micro-Grid Components**





#### **BCIT's Photovoltaic Tower**





#### **BCIT's Wind Power Deflector**





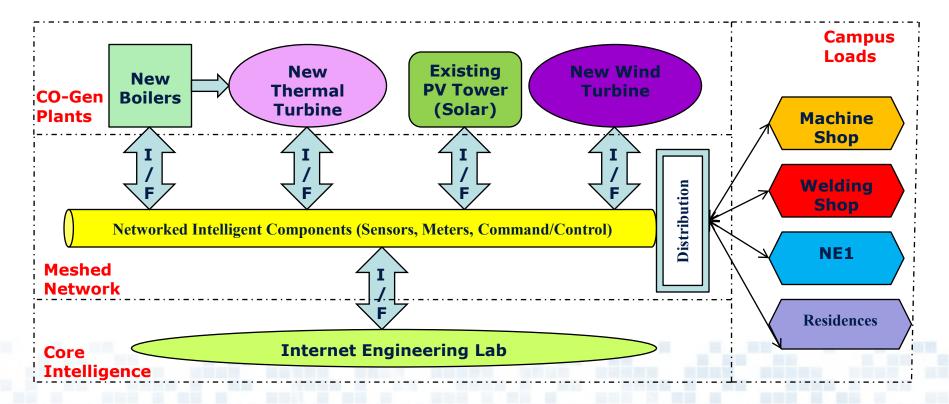
#### **BCIT's Network Engineering Lab**





#### **Smart Metering Farm**





#### **Micro Grid Network Diagram**



# **BCIT's Applied Research objectives**

#### Development of Intelligent Agents for Smart Grid to enable:

- Provisioning Methods for Smart Termination Points (Meters, Data Aggregators, Appliances, Sensors, Controls, etc)
- Integration Solutions for Alternative Sources of Energy (Co-Generation thru Wind, Solar, Thermal, Bio-Mass, etc)
- Innovative Network Architecture and Topology for Smart Grid
- Operational Analysis and Qualification of Grid's:
  - Resilience, Reliability, Security and Scalability
  - Data Collection, Command & Control algorithms
  - Forward/backward compatibility with up & coming technologies

#### • Development of Interface Protocols & Models to ensure:

- Interface with Utility Back-office tools (Billing, Load Management, Service Provisioning, Outage Restoration, etc)
- Seamless end-to-end deployment, operation & maintenance
- Easy & Intuitive human interface for operators & customers



# **BCIT's Intelligent Agents**

- IA for visualization and integrity of time-sensitive data collected from across the termination points
- IA for event forecasting & real-time responses
- IA for distributed control to prevent cascading failures or for the graceful degradation of user service based on priorities
- IA for Real-time wide-area control to manage power generation and prevent over-provisioning
- IA for context-dependent control of components to achieve robustness, fault-tolerance, or graceful performance degradation
- IA for end-to-end integration of front-end and back-end tools
- IA for integration and carbon-footprint control of alternative energy generation systems and co-generation



### **BCIT's RD&D Plan**

**Functionality** 

Development of the required interface protocols and functional models

**Evaluation** 

Operational Analysis and Qualification of Topologies, Architectures and Configurations

**Basic Tests** 

Development & integration of Intelligent Agents

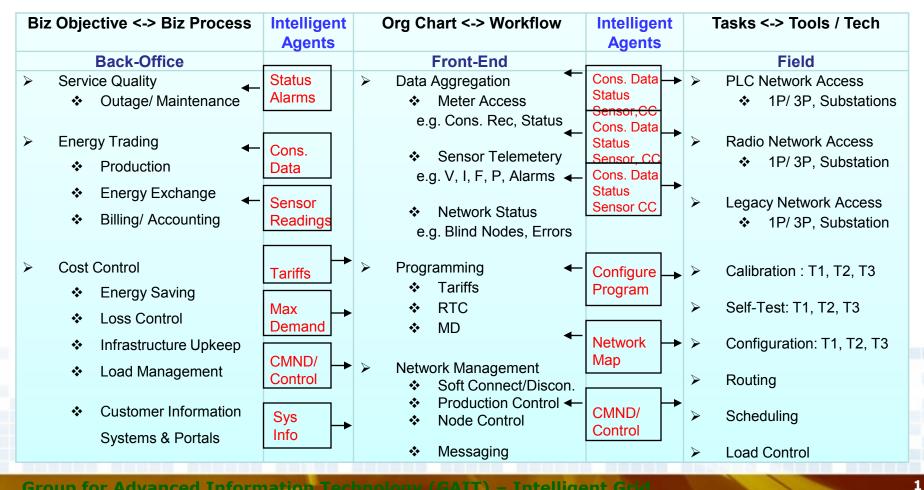
Roll out of the basic infrastructure

**Basic Setup** 

BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY A POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

**Development Effort** 

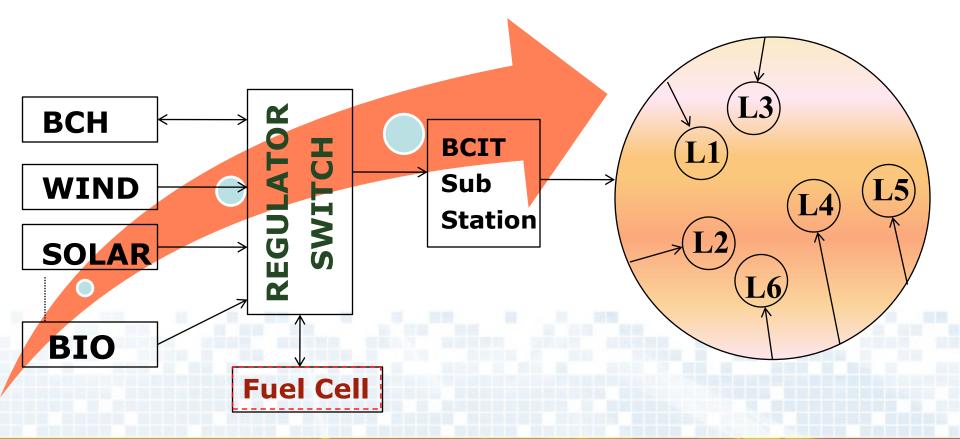
# **Overview of BCIT's Intelligent Agents**



Group for Advanced Information Technology (GAIT) - Intelligent Grid



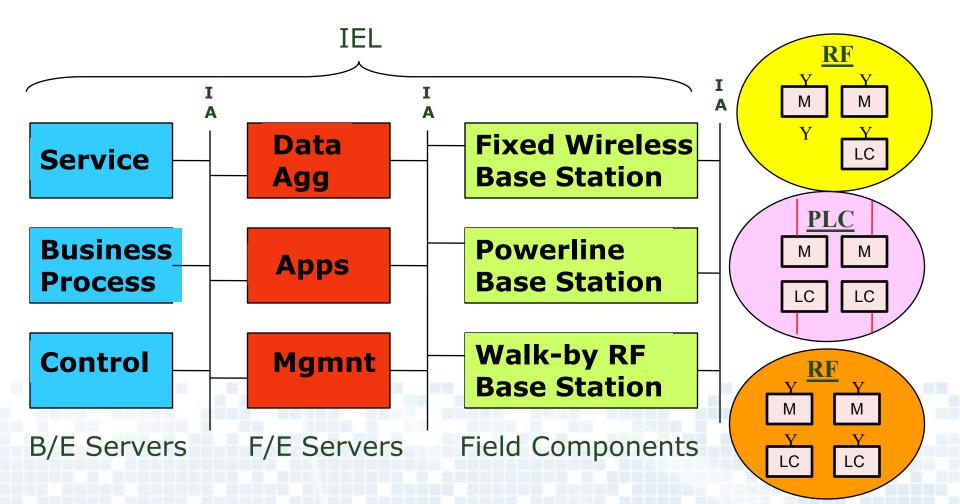
### **Grid Topology**



Group for Advanced Information Technology (GAIT) - Intelligent Grid



## **Core Intelligence Topology**



Group for Advanced Information Technology (GAIT) Intelligent Grid





Q&A Thank You

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