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October 20, 2010

Smart Energy | Two New Products by Digi International Set to Boost Energy Management Services



By [Rahul Arora](#)

[TMCnet Contributor](#)

Digi International ([News](#) - [Alert](#)), a renowned company providing solutions to manage local or remote electronic devices over the network or via the web, has introduced two new products - ERT/Ethernet Gateway ([News](#) - [Alert](#)) and ERT/Smart Energy - in the market to offer a range of energy management services. Unveiled recently at the Itron Users' Conference in Orlando, Fla., the products would enable easy online access to gas, water and electronic metering data by connecting Itron ERT meters to Digi X- Grid. The data collected, thereby, could be used with the help of Digi X-Grid solution for energy management. The solution engages the customers and provides them information through real-time, IP-based monitoring and energy controlling devices that exist beyond the electric meter, thus, arming them with a mechanism to keep track of the meter readings and increase transparency levels.

Story continues below ↓

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"These products leverage a utility's investment in ERT deployments by enabling ERT meters to play a vital role toward a smarter grid," said Larry Kraft, senior vice president of global sales and marketing, Digi International. "Utilities can now offer ERT metering customers a greater range of services that drive reliability, efficiency and energy savings. We look forward to partnering with Itron to empower ERT metering customers with greater access to energy usage information."

"Digi, a leader in smart energy networking solutions, offers the complimentary products our customers are looking for," said Larry Eggleston, Director, Product Marketing, Itron. "These solutions provide our ChoiceConnect customers with a variety of options to easily access up-to-date energy usage data, enabling them to become more energy efficient. This is a terrific example of Itron's ability to persistently deliver value and choices to our customers while providing the ability to leverage existing assets to meet expanding market needs."

The utilities empowered by Digi ERT products that can function with or without Smart Meter (AMI) network, offer a wide array of demand-side management services. The products extend the grid into the homes of Itron's customers, which support a full-range of Smart Energy thermostats, appliances and Smart Energy home area network (HAN) devices. Owing good quality and seamless functionality, Itron has accredited Digi ERT products with ERT certification besides supporting all ERT "bubble-up" utility meters.

The Digi X-Grid solutions can be provided by any application provider through a web based interface. Several of the existing Digi X-Grid application providers will help collect and bring forth ERT metering information. The solution, therefore, can allow other utility companies to add new software as per the requirements. Several other lines of Smart Energy gateways such as XBee ZigBee modules and iDigi platform offered by Digi International help the new Digi X-Grid solutions to enable direct connection to home energy devices.

*Rahul Arora is a TMCnet contributor. He has worked as an editor and freelance writer for several reputed organizations in India. To read more of his articles, please visit his [columnist page](#).*

Edited by [Chris DiMarco](#)



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