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February 01, 2011

Digi International Launches 'Smart Grid Now' Bundles

By [Rahul Arora](#)[TMCnet Contributor](#)

[Digi International](#) has [launched](#) "Smart Grid Now" bundles that offer a broad range of new energy efficiency services to their customers. Including necessary technology and infrastructure, "Smart Grid Now" bundles can conduct [smart grid](#) pilot program in areas with Advanced Meter Reading (AMR) or Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) networks in place. Bundles for 25 users start at \$2,500, including [iDigi](#) cloud-based services.

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"Utilities are faced with numerous regulatory and internal business issues when running a Smart Grid pilot program," said Larry Kraft, senior vice president of global sales and marketing, Digi International, in a [press release](#). "We have tens of thousands of residential energy gateways deployed in real-world Smart Grid applications. Our cost-effective Smart Grid Now bundles make it easy for utilities to take the next step in [smart grid](#) deployment and engage consumers in real-time energy decisions."

Allowing utilities to offer a broad range of demand-side management services with or without Smart Meter deployments, "Smart Grid Now" bundles include two configurations including the Smart Energy (SE) bundle for AMI networks and the AMR Plus bundle. Both bundles include 25 ConnectPort Smart Energy Gateways, iDigi cloud service and iPhone and Android applications. Having an additional 25 ERT/Ethernet Bridges, AMR Plus bundle makes real-time AMR/ERT metering data available to an energy service provider via broadband.

With "Smart Grid Now" bundles, customers can also create an extended grid, which then becomes the starting point for a Home Area Network (HAN) that can be joined by Smart Energy thermostats, load controllers, appliances, in-home displays and other devices. Moreover, the users will also have an access to energy usage information via Google PowerMeter as well as Digi's iPhone and Android Energy Day Trader applications. Customer can also remotely control smart thermostats via the same iPhone and Android applications.

Another feature of this cutting-edge technology is its ability to allow utilities to connect their customers to a broad range of Digi X-Grid partner solutions and support ZigBee Smart Energy certified thermostats from Carrier, Energate, Computime and Radio Thermostat Company of America.

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