

KCP&L WINS INDUSTRY AWARD FOR DISTRIBUTION AUTOMATION PROJECT

Pioneering efforts
saving electric utilities
time, money

Kansas City Power & Light's advances in the transmission and distribution automation technology field have garnered the Company a national award that recognizes electric utility industry leadership. And it's the second time KCP&L has won the award in the last four years the award has been presented.

KCP&L once again received *Utility Automation & Engineering T&D* magazine's "T&D Automation Project of the Year" award, honoring the Company as 2003's most innovative electric utility in transmission and distribution automation technology

implementation. KCP&L partnered with Telemetric, an Idaho-based industry leader in low-cost wireless solutions, in winning the prize. The award was presented January 20 during the 2004 DistribuTECH Conference and Exhibition,

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—STEVE BROWN
DistribuTECH conference chair

a national conference focusing on utility automation, engineering and information technology.

"This KCP&L/Telemetric project has opened economic automation options for utilities that previously could not justify the high capital costs of a communication infrastructure for deploying larger numbers of automated



Philip Cosey III, left, and Carl Goeckeler, distribution automation engineers, led KCP&L's project team honored by *Utility Automation & Engineering T&D Magazine*. The two devices on the pole are integral components of the team's new award-winning concept.

devices. The solution is creative, economical, scalable, and ideal for control, alarming and receiving analog and digital values," said **Bill Herdegen**, vice president, Distribution Operations.

KCP&L and Telemetric co-developed cost-effective field devices, a radio interface, web-based Graphic User Interface (GUI) applications and the creation of a connection to the KCP&L dispatch center.

Equipment evolution

"KCP&L was chosen for this award because the project is recognized as having made the greatest positive contribution to utilities and the electric utility industry in support of distribution and transmission automation," said Steve Brown, conference chair. More than 40 utilities now use the KCP&L/Telemetric solution, and the list is growing rapidly.

As part of this project, KCP&L teamed with Telemetric to design and manufacture a low-cost device with a self-contained radio. This device allows monitoring and remote control of capacitor banks and sells for a fraction

of the cost of most controls or radios alone. KCP&L provided engineering feedback to improve the electrical and mechanical integrity of the device that alarms for blown fuses, loss of power, and low or high voltage.

KCP&L's Engineering and Asset Management, Relay technicians, System Protection and Relay, F&M Laboratory, Purchasing, Distribution C&M crews, Transmission Construction & Maintenance, Substation Engineering, Energy Management System group, IT Network Services and Information Security all worked on the project led by **Carl R. Goeckeler** and **Philip H. Cosey III**, distribution automation engineers.

In 1997, DistribuTECH presented KCP&L with the same award, recognizing the Company's capacitor automation project that partnered KCP&L and S&C Electric Co. In addition to the previously mentioned honors, KCP&L won a DistribuTECH award for the Company's automated meter project in 1998.

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