



Greetings!

The SunSpec Alliance recently completed a decade of developing information standards for Distributed Energy and establishing a community of global leaders to adopt them. As the next decade begins, our focus has shifted toward driving adoption and realizing the industry-wide benefits--lower costs, greater innovation, expanding markets--of having done so.

An important catalyst for adoption is regulatory change, and at least three changes are occurring between now and midsummer 2020.

National Electrical Code (NEC) 2017 requirements for PV module-level rapid shutdown are now effective. This means that the 23 U.S. states that subscribe to this edition of the NEC must adopt rapid shutdown technology immediately. The states that previously subscribed to NEC 2014 (e.g. California) must now migrate to NEC 2017 requirements. SunSpec has a great open solution for the Rapid Shutdown challenge and we encourage you to check it out.

On March 22, California Rule 21 Phase 2 communication requirements will at long last become effective. Distributed Energy Resource (DER) and inverter manufacturers that want to sell in California must comply. This means supporting the IEEE 2030.5 communication protocol and having products certified by SunSpec. If you are interested in certification, we encourage you to contact us as soon as possible.

In the middle of 2020, IEEE 1547.1 will be published. On that date, all DER and inverter manufacturers operating in the U.S. must adopt a standard communication interface (i.e SunSpec Modbus, IEEE 2030.5 or IEEE 1815) in order to remain compliant with U.S. requirements. Please contact us if you need assistance in this area.

While communication technology is becoming mainstream, knowledge gaps related to networking and cybersecurity are apparent across the supply chain. To fill these gaps, SunSpec has partnered with the U.S. Department of Energy, the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP), Kitu Systems, and the University of California San Diego to develop nine educational courses and train military veteran job seekers (and your current employees) for new DER industry jobs. You can help us fine tune this program by participating in our Employer's Survey.

A natural role for DER is incorporation into microgrids. With climate change and the need for energy resilience upon us, 2020 marks the beginning of the microgrid revolution. Look for standard communication technology and SunSpec to take leading roles in the development of this important energy sector.

Finally, all of these trends are global trends. To illustrate this point, Poland recently joined Denmark and the United States in mandating SunSpec Modbus in DER, and we're working with folks in Australia to update their grid code. This is an exciting time for the industry and we're very pleased that we have great partners like you to help make the SunSpec vision of smart distributed energy a reality.

With kind regards,



Tom Tansy
Chairman
SunSpec Alliance



Introducing SunSpec Modbus Support for IEEE™ 1547 DER

Thursday, January 30th, 11am Pacific

Join SunSpec and STEM, Inc. for the first SunSpec webinar of the year when we will introduce SunSpec Modbus support for IEEE 1547. This webinar takes place on Thursday, January 30th at 11am Pacific and will cover the basics of SunSpec Modbus, new SunSpec information models supporting IEEE 1547 for DER, the SunSpec Modbus roadmap, and a sneak peek at the new SunSpec RESTful API for SunSpec Models. We hope you can join us.

[Learn More and Register](#)

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome New SunSpec Members

Welcome new members of the SunSpec Alliance!



Clearway Energy

Clearway is one of the largest developers and operators of clean energy in the United States with over 4.1 gigawatts of wind and solar in operation, including assets owned through our affiliate company, Clearway Energy, Inc.

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PG&E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, incorporated in California in 1905, is one of the largest combined natural gas and electric energy companies in the United States. Based in San Francisco, the company is a subsidiary of [PG&E Corporation](#)

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Stilaso Energy

Stilo Energy is a turnkey prepared intelligent solution in which the photovoltaic set is a production component.

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SOFARSOLAR

SOFARSOLAR (est 2012) is one of the subsidiaries of SOFAR Group in China and specializes in R&D, production, sales and service of grid-tied inverters ranging from 1kW to 7.5kW (residential), 10kW to 70kW (commercial) and other related renewable products.

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Sol-Ark

Owned and run by local Engineers with over 25 years of experience. We're here to help you save on electric bills while staying energy independent.

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New SunSpec Certified Products

SUNSPEC 2030.5 CSIP CERTIFIED PRODUCTS

Certificate Number: CS-000007

Manufacturer: Chilicon Power, LLC

Profile: Aggregator

Products: Chilicon Power Cloud Aggregator

[Visit Website](#)



Certificate Number: CS-000006

Manufacturer: Congruitive Inc.

Profile: Aggregator

Products: Congruence.IQ

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Certificate Number: CS-000003

Manufacturer: Delta Electronics Inc.

Profile: Client

Products: Monitor Communication Card

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Certificate Number: CS-000002

Manufacturer: Generac Power Systems, Inc.

Profile: Client

Products: PWRcell Inverter 11400W, PWRcell Inverter 11400W,
PWRcell Inverter 7600W, REbus Beacon

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Certificate Number: CS-000004

Manufacturer: Schneider Electric Solar Inc.

Profile: Client

Products: Conext Gateway

[Visit Website](#)



S4x20 Conference

January 21, 2020
Miami, Florida

Just this week, SunSpec's Tom Tansy appeared on stage at the power industry's premier cybersecurity conference, S4x20, where he described the national and state cybersecurity implications associated with IEEE 1547 networking and California Rule 21. We hope to be able to post the video of this presentation in the SunSpec Member's Portal soon. Stay tuned.



SunSpec Solar and Energy Storage Employer Needs Survey

We need your help. SunSpec and the U.S. Department of Energy are developing an online training program to enable military veterans to enter the solar and energy industry. Once we train these capable folks in advanced technologies – networking, cybersecurity, and software solutions – our objective is to place them in jobs around the country.

To that end, we are asking for ten minutes of your time to let us know what skills you are looking for in prospective job candidates. Can you help us?

In return for participating, we will be happy to share the results and give you the opportunity to learn more about the program and the qualified job applicants this program is generating in your area.

[Take the SunSpec Employer Survey](#)

Upcoming SunSpec Work Groups

SunSpec Members: kick off the new year by joining a SunSpec Work Group!
Upcoming Work Group Meetings include:

- Orange Button Work Group Tuesday, January 28th
- Blockchain Work Group Tuesday, January 28th
- SunSpec Modbus Work Group Thursday, February 6th
- IEEE 2030.5 Conformance Profiles Work Group Wednesday, February 12th

We are also running a special marketing workgroup for SunSpec Rapid Shutdown. If you are interested in participating, contact membership@sunspec.org.

[Learn More About Work Groups](#)

If you are not a SunSpec Alliance member, [consider joining](#) and help us shape interoperability specifications for the DER industry!



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