

Press Release

Schneider Electric Unveils Advanced Microgrid at Boston One Campus HQ

- Provides cost savings, increased reliability and sustainable energy production
- Deployed through innovative Microgrid as a Service business model with no upfront CapEx investment
- Serves as a living laboratory to test new microgrid products and applications in real-world environment

ANDOVER, Mass. – April 6, 2017 – [Schneider Electric](#), the global specialist in energy management and automation, today unveiled an advanced microgrid at its Boston One Campus (BOC), the company's North American headquarters in Andover, Massachusetts. The microgrid was built by Schneider Electric and [REC Solar](#), a subsidiary of [Duke Energy Renewables](#) and national provider of commercial solar and energy solutions. The microgrid was funded through the innovative Microgrid as a Service (MaaS) business model, which adds resiliency and sustainability with no upfront costs. Duke Energy is the project's investor/owner.

Demand for energy is growing under the increased pressure of urbanization, digitization and industrialization. At the same time, energy users are placing a premium on resiliency from power disruptions while demanding more renewable energy. America's aging infrastructure is challenged to meet the country's demands.

Advanced distributed energy resource management and microgrids allow users to take control of their energy future. As power generation models change, smaller scale solar and energy storage installations are turning consumers into prosumers, producing energy closer to where it is used. The integration of an advanced microgrid at BOC helps Schneider Electric achieve new levels of demand side efficiency while also offering power resiliency in the event of a loss of power from the local utility.

"With the growth in the availability of affordable renewable energy and other distributed energy resources, energy consumers are more empowered than ever to use microgrids to generate and manage their consumption through active involvement in the market," said Mark Feasel, Vice President, Utility Segment, Smart Grid & Microgrid, Schneider Electric. "Schneider Electric used this model at BOC to build an advanced microgrid that reduces costs, incorporates more sustainable energy and takes control of its energy future. It will also be a living laboratory at our North American R&D hub, driving global innovation in energy storage and distributed energy resource management solutions."

By funding the project through Schneider Electric's innovative MaaS business model, the company was able to complete construction without any upfront capital expenditure costs. The microgrid will be

Media Contacts

Schneider Electric
Mark Elliott
Tel: (978) 975-9025
mark.elliott2@schneider-electric.com

Text100 for Schneider Electric
Robyn Douglass
Tel: (212) 871-4082
robyn.douglass@text100.com

Press Release

used to research and develop new microgrid technologies, solutions and applications in a real-world environment.

“Massachusetts is a national leader in renewable energy and energy efficiency in part because of the innovation of our clean energy industry,” said Department of Energy Resources Commissioner Judith Judson. “Emerging technologies like microgrids and energy storage hold the potential to revolutionize our electric grid and provide benefits for all of the Commonwealth’s ratepayers.”

The advanced microgrid includes 1,379 solar modules, as well as photovoltaic inverters that convert 448 kilowatts (kW) of direct current from solar to alternating current that powers the system. Additionally, the advanced microgrid uses a natural gas generator as an anchor resource, allowing the entire solar array to operate during grid outages—maintaining critical operations and offering employees a safe, shelter in place option. The system is expected to generate more than 520,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity per year. This equates to saving the equivalent greenhouse gas emissions from more than 2,400 passenger vehicles in a single year.

The company today also introduced Schneider Electric Energy Control Center, which connects the facility’s distributed energy resources (DER) to the BOC microgrid and provides advanced control. The BOC microgrid also features the company’s newly released EcoStruxure Microgrid Advisor, which leverages connected hardware, software and cloud-based analytics to help the campus procure, manage and consume energy more efficiently. The combination of advanced controls and demand side software allows the microgrid to leverage weather forecast data and other operational site data to optimize BOC’s energy performance across onsite solar, energy storage, electric vehicle charging, building HVAC and natural gas generation assets.

“As we continue to build a clean, affordable and resilient energy future for the Commonwealth, innovative companies like Schneider Electric are key to our shared success,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton. “The Baker-Polito Administration is committed to supporting the emerging technologies being produced by Massachusetts’ world-class businesses, talented workforce and universities.”

The advanced microgrid is supported by the Schneider Electric Services Team, managing and maintaining the controls, software and associated switchgear for the life of the system.

BOC serves as the company’s North American headquarters and is one of five global research and development centers worldwide. Made up of more than 240,000 square feet across two buildings, the campus is home to about 750 employees across all of Schneider Electric’s business units. Opened in 2014, BOC serves to advance the company’s mission to drive innovation, collaboration and efficiency across the company.

Media Contacts

Schneider Electric
Mark Elliott
Tel: (978) 975-9025
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robyn.douglass@text100.com

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For more information about Schneider Electric's advanced microgrid solutions, please visit www.schneider-electric.us/microgrid.

About Schneider Electric

Schneider Electric is the global specialist in energy management and automation. With revenues of \$26 billion US dollars (25 billion euros) in FY2016, our 160,000+ employees serve customers in over 100 countries, helping them to manage their energy and process in ways that are safe, reliable, efficient and sustainable. From the simplest of switches to complex operational systems, our technology, software and services improve the way our customers manage and automate their operations. Our connected technologies reshape industries, transform cities and enrich lives. At Schneider Electric, we call this **Life Is On**.

www.schneider-electric.us

About Duke Energy Renewables

[Duke Energy Renewables](#) is a leader in developing innovative wind and solar energy generation projects for customers throughout the United States. The company's growing portfolio of commercial renewable assets includes 20 wind projects and 55 solar facilities in operation in more than a dozen states, totaling about 2,900 megawatts in electric-generating capacity. Follow Duke Energy on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

About REC Solar

REC Solar is a nationwide leader providing complete commercial, public sector and utility-scale solar solutions. Incorporating experience from more than 580 successful solar installations over 20 years, REC Solar tailors financing and technology solutions to immediately deliver bottom line savings. REC Solar makes solar simple, working seamlessly with customer operations to deliver clean energy for decades. For more information, visit RECSolar.com or call 844-REC-SOLAR (844-732-7652).

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