# Metering 101



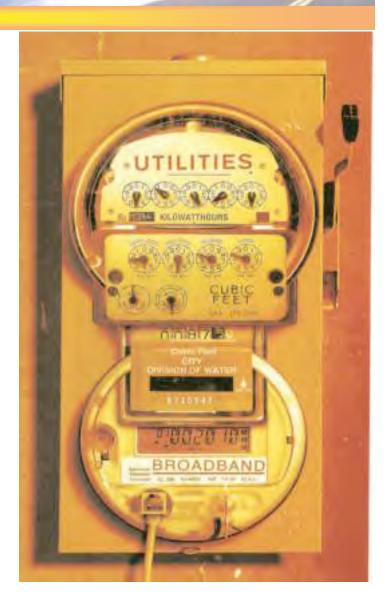
Sain Engineering Associates, Inc.



# What?



- Definitions
- Technologies
- Communications
- Data
- Economics
- Facility Prioritization
- Funding
- DoE Guidelines





### Definitions



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

### **Standard Meters:**

Electro-mechanical or solid state meters that cumulatively measure, record, and store aggregate kWh data.

### Advanced Meters:

Solid state meters that have the capability to measure and record interval data (at least hourly for electricity), and communicate the data to a remote location (at least daily) in a format that can be easily integrated into an advanced metering system.



### Definitions



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

### Advanced Metering System:

A system that collects time-differentiated energy usage from advanced meters via a fixed network system either on an on-request or defined schedule basis.

The system need be capable of providing usage information on at least a daily basis and can support desired features related to energy-use management, system operation, and utility procurement.

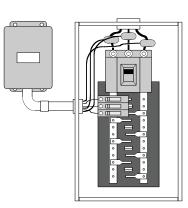


# **Technologies**



- Electro-mechanical socket meters
- Electronic (solid state) socket/nonsocket meters
- Advanced electronic "smart" meters









### **Electro-Mech Socket Meters**



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

#### Utility grade, industry standard, mature technology

#### Advantages:

- Low cost
- Accurate
- Widely used/available

- Manually read most read infrequently
- No data storage
- No time-based recording
- Limited use for readings



### Electronic (solid state) Socket/Non-Socket Meters

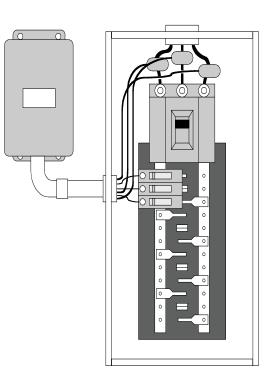


Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

#### Advantages:

- Moderate cost
- Accurate
- Widely available
- Typically have data storage and time-stamp capabilities
- Greater uses for data

- More expensive as options and features increase
- More complicated
- Need ancillary systems for data collection and analysis





### Advanced Electronic "Smart" Meters



Advantages:

- Accurate
- Widely available
  - Data storage and time-stamp capabilities
  - Can accommodate other inputs
  - Greater uses for data
  - Multiple output/diagnostic capabilities
    - 3-phase diagnostics, voltage imbalance, power quality, reactive diagnostics, max/min readings, etc.
  - Two-way communication
  - Control/alarm features
  - Flexible data intervals and uses





### Advanced Electronic "Smart" Meters



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

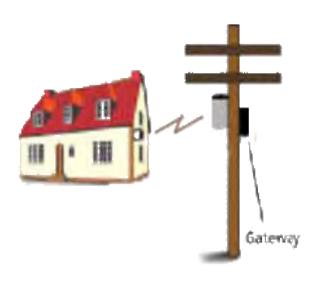
- Moderate/high cost
  - More expensive as options and features increase
- More complicated/more data/staff training suggested
- Need ancillary systems for data collection and analysis

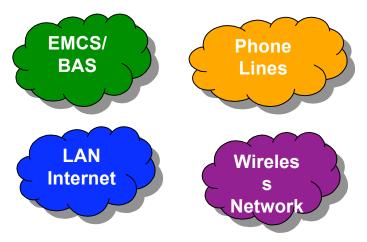




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- Increasing options, lower cost, and more flexible
- Search for the path of least resistance
- Make sure decisions keep the future "open"
- Considerations/questions:
  - EMCS/BAS existing infrastructure
  - Ethernet/LAN existing infrastructure
    - MODBUS/RS 485
  - Phone lines (dedicated wired, cell, etc.)
  - Wireless

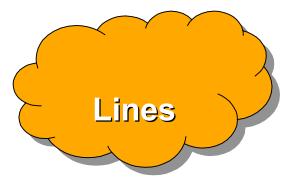






Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

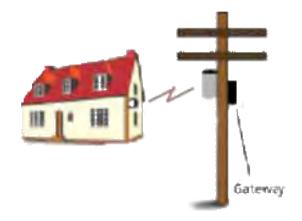
- Meters (with modem) connected to existing phone network (wired or cell)
- Communication initiated at the meter or at the collection point



#### Advantages:

- Usually available
- Proven technology

- Can be expensive
- Wired installation except cellular
- Difficult to view real time data





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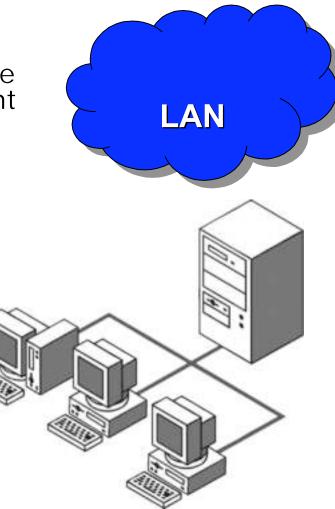
Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

- Meters direct-connect to area network
- Communication initiated at the meter or at the collection point

#### Advantages:

- Usually available
- Proven technology
- Fast communication
- Always connected
- Data sharing

- Network/IT concerns
- Wired installation





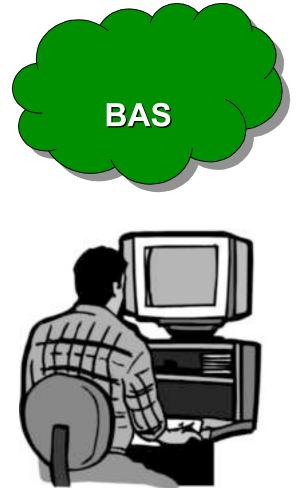
Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

- Meters direct-connect to existing BAS
- Communication initiated at the meter or at the collection point

#### Advantages:

- Usually available
- Fast communication
- Always connected

- Potential system compatibility issues
- Potential data availability issues





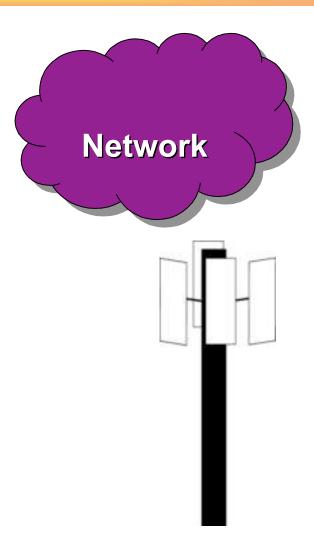
Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

- Meters wirelessly communicate
- Communication initiated at the meter or at the collection point

#### Advantages:

- No wiring
- Fast communication
- Always connected

- System cost
- Perceived RF interference issues
- New system/infrastructure



### 2006 Energy

# Communications



### Others...

- Sneaker-net (manual read)
- Windshield-net (*drive-by read*)
- Power Line Carrier

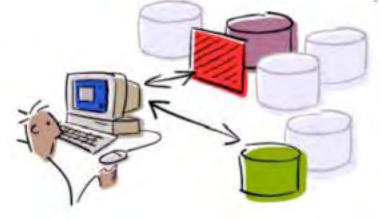




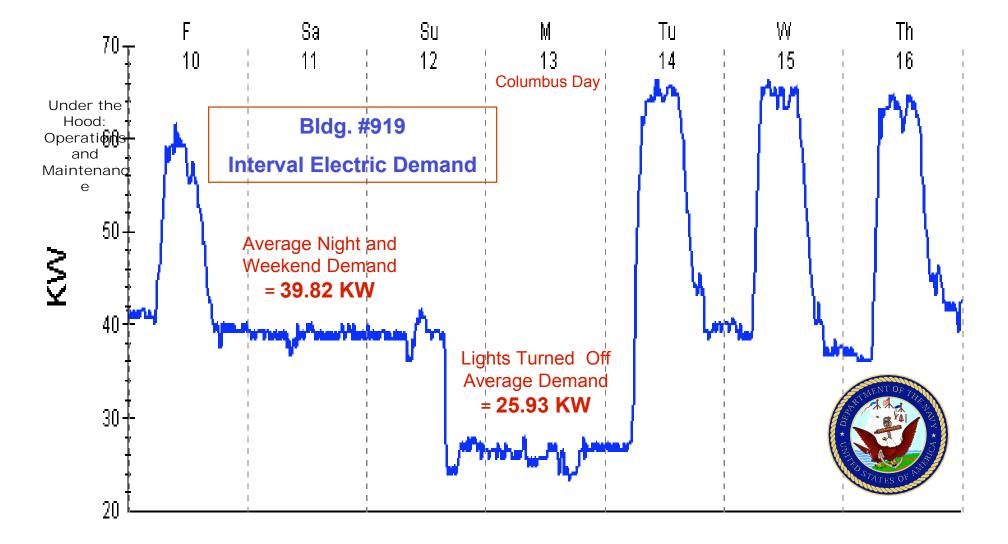
# Data, Data, Data ...

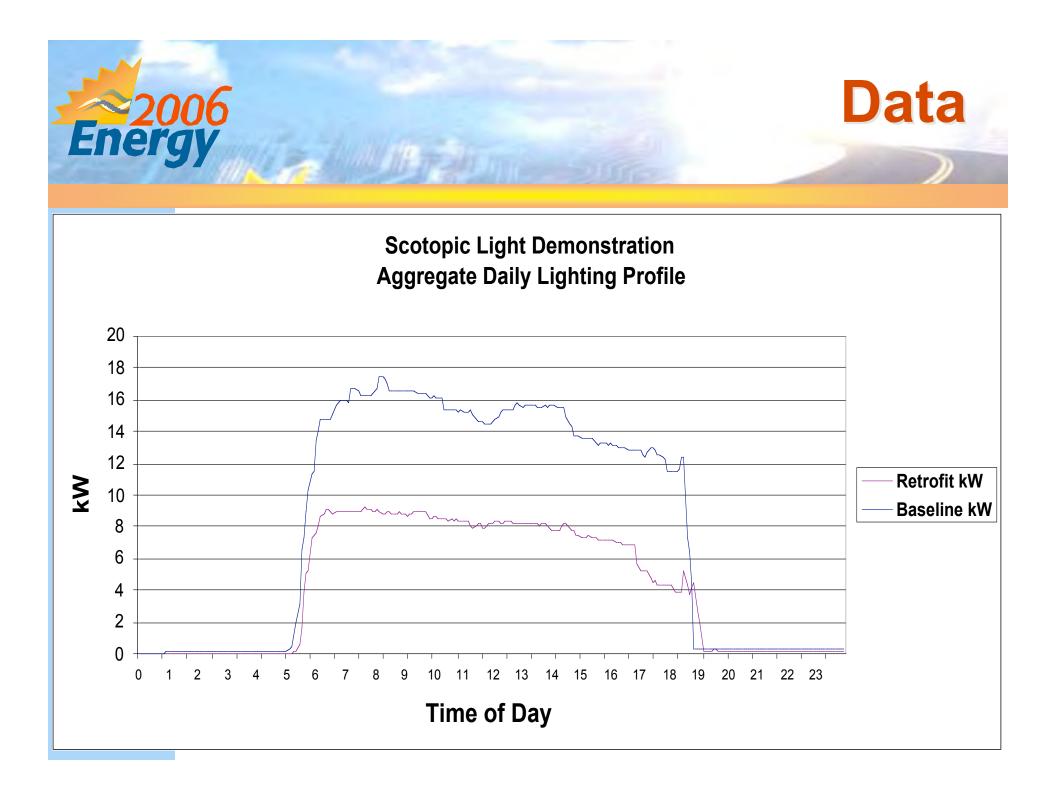


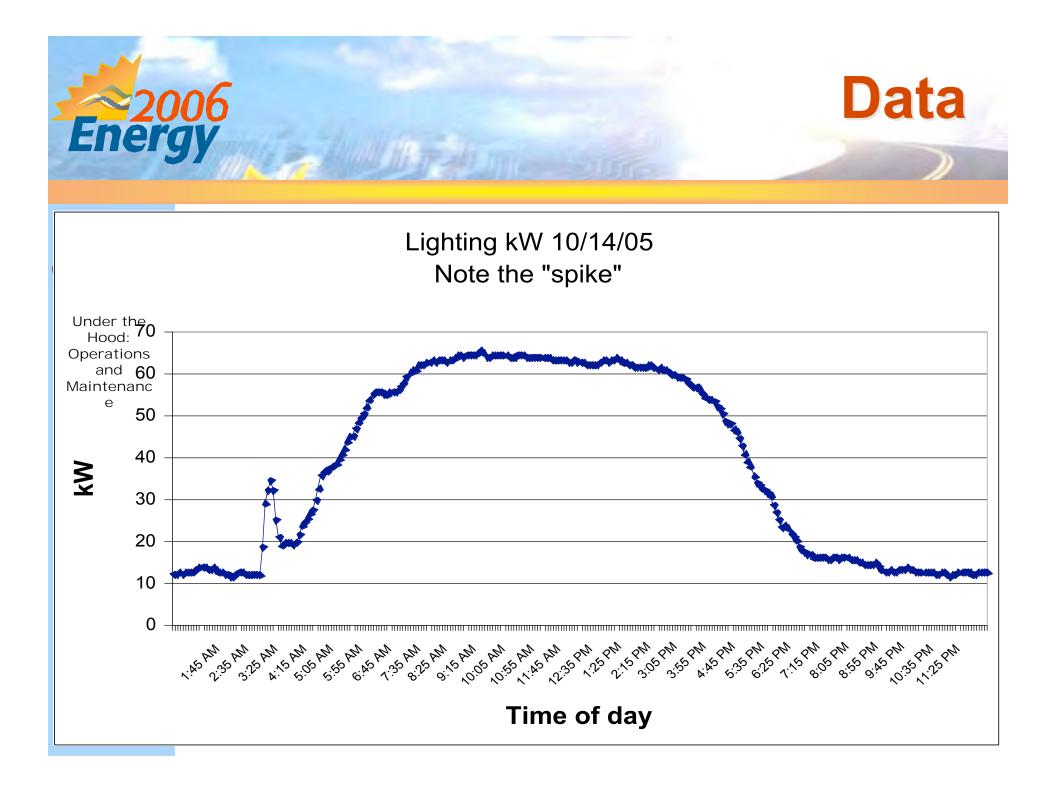
- Reimbursable Billing
- Identify Conservation Opportunities
- Identify Peak Shaving Opportunities (demand response)
- Identify Night-Time Shutdown (verify control strategies)
- Measurement & Verification
- Energy Use Diagnostics
- Benchmarking
- Energy Awareness
- Utility interaction (time-of-use metering/real-time pricing/load aggregation)
- Planning & Reporting













### **Economics**



#### Ask not what a meter costs...





... But what it costs <u>NOT</u> to meter!



### **Economics**



Actual costs depend on technology, communications, and scope

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- Average meter cost:
- Installation:
- Communications:
- Back-office/reporting:
- O&M:

\$500 - \$3,000 \$500 - \$2,000 \$500 - \$2,000

\$50/month \$5/month



Average cost range:

Best Estimate:

<u>\$2,000 - \$7,000/meter</u>

\$4,000 - \$6,000/meter



### **Economics** - Anni Arabani - Sunte

	<u>Action</u>	Observed Savings
Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e	Installation of meters	0-2% (the "Hawthorne Effect")
	Bill allocation only	2 _ to 5% (improved awareness)
	Building tune-up	5 to 15% (improved awareness, and identification of simple O&M improvement)
	Continuous Commissioning	15 to 45% (improved awareness, ID simple O&M improvements, project accomplishment, and continuing mgmt. attention)



### **Economics**



#### assumptions:

- Simple metering and cost allocation/tracking can save 2% - 5% of annual energy bills
- Estimated building level metering cost: \$5K/building
- Plus: \$25 monthly cost per meter including maintenance, data collection, storage and analysis
- Desired simple payback: 10 years



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#### calculations:

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Investment: \$5,000/(2% x 10 years) = \$25,000

O&M: (\$25/mo. x 12 mos./year)/ 2% = \$15,000

Result:

Any building with an annual elect bill > \$40,000

# **Facility Prioritization**



- Prioritize buildings based on energy use/potential for savings
  - At some point metering is not cost effective
    - These buildings need be documented
- Chicken and egg conundrum...
  - Needed to know energy use to determine which to meter
  - Need a meter to know energy use



# **Facility Prioritization**



Non-metered building methodologies

- Square footage based estimate
  - Quick, simple, inaccurate
- Energy Use Intensity (EUI) based estimate
  - kWh/ft2/yr by facility type and climatic region
  - Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption survey (CBECS) data
    - Need fit building types/size, fuel types, prevalent equipment, climate zone, occupancy
  - Site-specific EUI data available?
  - Not-so-quick, not-so-simple, more accurate

# **Facility Prioritization**



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

#### Non-metered building methodologies

- Computer modeling
  - Facility Energy Decision System (FEDS) analysis
  - Other single building simulation (DOE 2, BLAST, Energy Plus, etc.)
- Short-term metering/data logging





# Funding

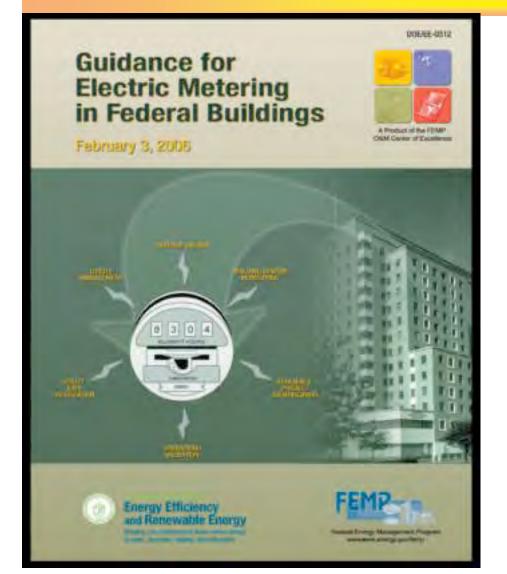


- Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e
- Appropriations
- ESPC
- UESC
- ECIP
- Specified with construction/renovation
- Sub-meter/reimbursable fees
- Leased opportunities
- O&M budgets





# **DoE Guidelines**



- "Advanced Metering" Definition
- Uses of Metered Data
- Metering Approaches and Technologies
- Metering Cost-Effectiveness
- Methods for Prioritizing Buildings
- Methods of Financing
- Template for an Agency Metering Plan
- Performance Measures
- Special Considerations
- Advanced Metering Terms & Definitions
- EPAct '05 Metering Text

http://www.eere.energy.gov/f emp/pdfs/adv\_metering.pdf





### **Questions?**



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

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#### Extras ....





Current:



- Amps measured with ammeter or current transformer (CT)
  - Current draw proportional to magnetic field developed
  - CT detects field and develops output in proportion to field/current
  - CTs need be sized/installed properly



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e



### Voltage:

- Volts measured with voltmeter as "potential" referenced to known voltage/ground
  - Voltage measured in parallel with circuit using potential transformer (PT)
  - Challenging part of installation –
    installed on "hot" line
  - PTs need be sized/installed properly





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### Power:

- Current x Voltage
  - Most power meters record "true" power measurements
  - Real and reactive power taken into account
    - kW is billed on peak
    - kvar is billed when have poor power factor





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### Time:

- Afford ability to track power over time
- Intervals selectable typically, 15 min or 1 hour.



### **Electro-Mech Socket Meters**



Under the Hood: Operations and Maintenanc e

#### Retrofit pulse initiator (optical encoder)

#### Advantages:

- Low/moderate cost
- Accurate
- Widely used/available
- Can be automated for data recall

- Typically a retrofit solution
  - Not long-term solution
- No time-based recording
- Added cost
- Limited use for data

