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A Report on IEEE Virtual Speaker Program on "Grid Modernization: Technological Advancements Beyond Smart Grid"

Organized by

Department of EEE and MITS IEEE Student Chapter 17.10.2024



Chief Convener: Dr. AV Pavan Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of EEE, MITS.

Convener: 1. Dr. Nehru Kandasamy, Professor, ECE

- 2. Dr. V. B. Thurai Raaj, Assistant Professor, EEE
- 3. Dr. Vineet Kumar, Assistant Professor, EEE
- 4. Mr. N. Sridhar, Assistant Professor, EEE

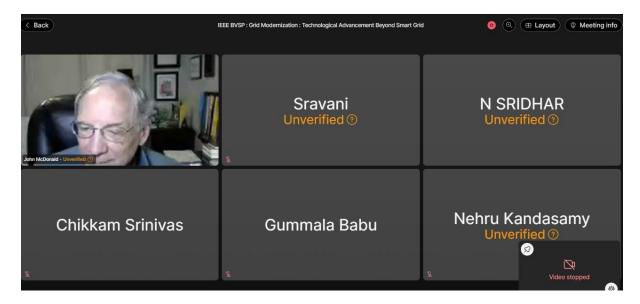
Resource Person/Speaker: John D. McDonald, P.E., IEEE Life Fellow, Member of National Academy of Engineering, CIGRE Honorary Member. Attendees: 34 members Venue: Seminar Hall Time: 4:00 PM

Background

On 17th October 2024, the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering in association with the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society Student Branch Chapter at MITS Madanapalle successfully conducted an IEEE Virtual Speaker Program on the topic "Grid Modernization: Technological Advancements Beyond Smart Grid". The session was attended by both undergraduate students and faculty members from the EEE department, as well as IEEE members, providing a deep understanding of the technological advancements shaping the modern grid system.



The distinguished speaker for the event was John D. McDonald, P.E., a renowned expert with over 50 years of experience in electric power system automation. He has served in various leadership positions, including IEEE PES President, and is recognized for his contributions to the field of smart grid technologies and grid modernization.





Speaker details

Name: John D. McDonald, P.E.

Designation: Founder & CEO, JDM Associates, LLC

Key Qualifications:

BSEE (1973), MSEE (Power Engineering) (1974) – Purdue University
MBA (Finance) (1978) – University of California, Berkeley
Over 50 years of experience in electric power system automation
Published over 150 papers and co-authored five books
IEEE Life Fellow, Member of National Academy of Engineering
Extensive involvement in smart grid deployments and modern grid standards development
Expertise: Grid Modernization, Smart Grid Automation, Integration of Microgrids and Distributed Generation, Energy Management Systems.

Detailed Summary of the Event

The event began with a warm welcome address delivered by Dr. Nehru Kandasamy, Professor, ECE, and Head of the EEE Department. He greeted the audience and highlighted the importance of grid modernization in addressing the challenges of the evolving energy landscape.

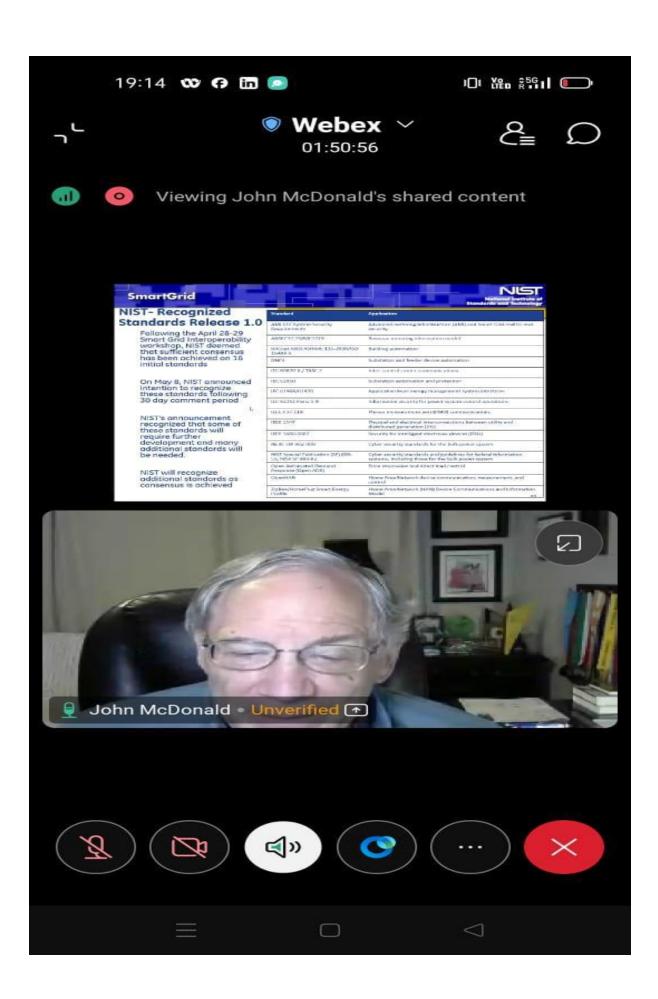
Following the welcome, Dr. Nehru Kandasamy introduced the distinguished speaker, John D. McDonald, emphasizing his contributions to smart grid technologies and his long-standing association with IEEE.

John D. McDonald commenced his lecture by providing a brief background of the key industry and societal trends that are driving the modernization of the electrical grid. He discussed the transition from traditional grid systems to holistic solutions that incorporate advanced technologies such as big data analytics, cloud computing, and smart meters.

The key focus of the lecture was on the integration of microgrids and distributed generation. Mr. McDonald explained how modern grid systems enable two-way power flows, optimize renewable energy integration, and improve grid flexibility and resilience. He further elaborated on the need for interoperability standards, which are essential for the seamless integration of new technologies with existing infrastructure.

The presentation also covered crucial aspects of Advanced Distribution Management Systems (ADMS), microgrid controllers, and the increasing convergence of IT and OT (Operational Technology) in smart grid systems. He emphasized the role of automation in improving reliability, reducing carbon emissions, and enhancing energy efficiency.

The lecture concluded with a discussion of lessons learned from global smart grid deployments, where Mr. McDonald shared his experiences and insights from various projects, highlighting the importance of testing, integration, and change management in the successful deployment of grid modernization technologies.



The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Nehru Kandasamy, who expressed his gratitude to John D. McDonald for delivering an insightful lecture Dr. Nehru also appreciated the efforts of the MITS IEEE coordinator, Dr. Kumar C., and all faculty members and students for their participation and enthusiasm, which contributed to the event's success.



Dr. Nehru expressed gratitude to the *Head of the Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department, Dr. A.V. Pavan Kumar*, for his continuous guidance and support in organizing such academic events. Furthermore, appreciation was extended to *Dr. Kumar C, the MITS IEEE coordinator*, for his efforts in coordinating the event under the banner of the IEEE student chapter. Special thanks were extended to the *Principal Sir, Dr. C. Yuvaraj* and the MITS management for their unwavering support and encouragement in organizing this event, which made it possible to enrich the academic experience of our students.

Finally, thanks were given to all the faculty members, students, and participants for their active involvement and enthusiasm, which contributed to making the event a great success.



Outcome of the Event

The event was highly successful in providing a comprehensive overview of grid modernization and its key challenges. The following outcomes were observed:

Enhanced Understanding of Grid Modernization: The participants gained a solid understanding of the key trends and technologies shaping the future of the power grid, including distributed energy resources, microgrids, and smart grid deployments.

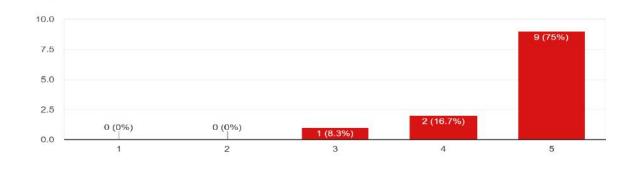
Introduction to Advanced Technologies: The audience was introduced to cutting-edge solutions such as ADMS, smart meters, and microgrid controllers, and how these technologies contribute to modern grid systems.

Insights into Real-world Deployments: The case studies and examples provided by the speaker offered participants a real-world perspective on the challenges and opportunities involved in grid modernization.

Inspiration for Future Research and Development: The session sparked interest in research areas such as distributed generation, renewable energy integration, and data management for grid optimization.

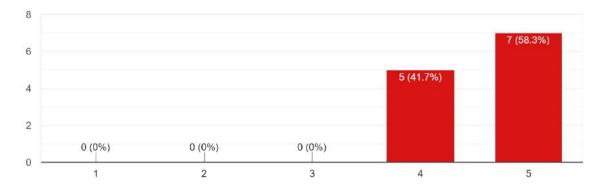
Feedback

12 responses

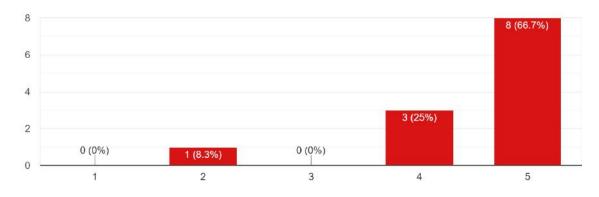


2. The interaction was useful and resource person explanation. 12 responses

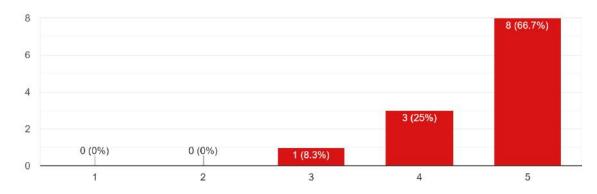
1. The interactive session was scheduled at a suitable time



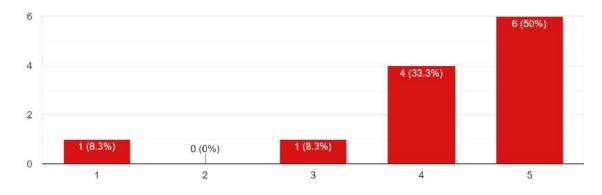
3. The information in the interaction was presented in a clear and organized manner. 12 responses



4. The presenter responded to questions an informative, appropriate and satisfactory manner. 12 responses

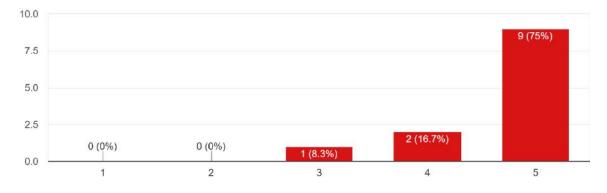


5. your impression of facilities provided by the institute for interaction. 12 responses

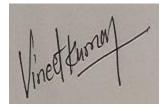


6. Overall, the session was informative and valuable.





With regards,



Dr. Vineet Kumar Assistant Professor, Department of EEE & Department IEEE/ISTE coordinator, MITS, Madanapalle.