

### Legacy Device Interoperability in the Smart Grid

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🕒 #GridInterop

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### Digi Overview

- Headquartered in Minnesota
  - Founded in 1985 as DigiBoard
  - \$204M in revenue in 2011
  - Profitable for 34 quarters straight
  - Strong balance sheet, no debt
  - Traded on NASDAQ since 1989 as DGII
  - World-wide presence with over 600+ employees
- Leader in M2M device connectivity
  - Products known for ease-of-use, quality, reliability
  - Commercial Grade, Enterprise-class products designed for harsh environments
- Technical expertise in
  - Ethernet, Serial, USB & Wireless- Cellular, WiFi, ZigBee/Mesh



- Over 50 utilities in test, pilot, or production with Digi X-Grid offerings
- Reseller and partnership agreements with a broad range of leading providers to the utility market
  - Itron, Comverge, Cooper Power, Calico Energy, PowerDash, E2 America, Incenergy, Ecofactor, and More
- Over 45,000 Energy gateways deployed to date
- Nearly 150,000 Energy Gateway commitments
- Over 200 utilities have purchased Digi products
- Strong partnerships with Carriers (AT&T, Verizon, Sprint)

#### **Digi Energy Distribution/Automation Solutions Ecosystem**





## APPLICATIONS AND SERVICES DRIVE TECHNOLOGY DECISIONS

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## Technology Moves Quickly

- Six Generations of iPods in a drawer at the Mayne household
- My latest (from 04/2011) is a generation behind
- All devices still work – and can access my media content



2002 Through 2009

### New Versions Every 12-18 months

# Utility equipment is typically operational for 15+ years....

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## A Platform for Legacy Support





## SMART GRID COMMUNICATIONS



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### Smart Grid Communications



Ideally, the selected technology should allow all of these questions to be answered with YES

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- The SG will not be built using only one network technology or topology
  - Latency, Bandwidth, and other requirements will vary with the application
  - Two-way communication to devices will be required
- The SG will require "software agility"
  - Software services will evolve as consumers and businesses become more engaged in energy decisions
- The SG will require "device agility"
  - The Energy industry will be connecting to more devices than ever before
- Surgical Deployment
  - Desired technology at the Right location with Field Programmability and Remote Management



In a nutshell

- Smart Grid
  - Communication and control to an increasing number of devices
- Smart Metering (AMI or AMR *Plus*)
  - Two-way communication and control to metering points
  - Two-way communication and control to devices inside a building
  - Determine when energy is consumed
- Communications, Control, and Data Integration
  - Ultimate Goal: New Services, Analytics, and Automation
  - Utility Facing and Customer Facing services
- Flexibility is key!



#### The Smart Grid – An Integrated Network





- The Smart Grid requires software/systems integration and communication to a broad range of devices
- The Smart Grid requires two way communications
- The Smart Grid is **NOT** requiring utilities to replace all meters, capacitor banks, commercial metering solutions or other systems immediately
- View the Smart Grid solution from the applications out – not the device in
- Develop standards to ensure application interoperability and support for legacy systems... why we are here!

Network independent **Device Management Solutions ARE** allowing utilities to automate and leverage existing assets today!





## An Example.....

- AMI = "AMR" plus "Interval Data" plus "HAN" plus "Disconnect Relay"
  - Interval Data: Dynamic Pricing
  - HAN: Demand Side Services and Consumer Engagement
  - Disconnect: Reduction of truck rolls (i.e. Carbon Footprint)
- "AMR" plus "Broadband Gateway" = AMI minus "Disconnect Relay"

## Digi AMR-Plus HAN solution

- Leverage a broadband gateway for consumer engagement and near real-time access to energy device data
- Surgically deployable HAN solutions



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## Using the ERT Gateway

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- 103 Degrees in Minneapolis
- Broadband Gateway provided M&V for a Demand Response Event, and recorded temperature rise
- I have access to more information than my utility!



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