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**GridWise™ Architecture Council installs Gunther as new chairman**

RICHLAND, Wash. – The [GridWise Architecture Council](https://www.gridwisenow.com), or GWAC, has a new chairman. Erich Gunther will assume leadership of the organization for the next two years.

Gunther will champion the GWAC mission of articulating the guiding principles that constitute the architecture of an intelligent and collaborative energy system.

"With the same determination of my predecessors, I will strive to move the Council forward," said Gunther.

"In this new year, I am confident our team of industry leaders will continue in our mission to provide industry guidance to advance implementation of an interoperable Smart Grid by working even more closely with the Department of Energy, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel and other key industry stakeholders," he said.

Gunther is the chairman, chief technology officer and co-founder of EnerNex® Corporation of Knoxville, Tenn., and was first appointed to GWAC in 2004. He also serves on the board of directors for ReNomics, Smart Grid Labs and the Utility Communications Architecture International Users group, and on the Governing Board of the IEEE Power & Energy Society. He is a registered professional engineer in the state of Tennessee and has more than 25 years of experience.

Gunther’s chairmanship was confirmed at a council meeting on Wednesday. Gunther takes over his post from Ron Ambrosio of IBM.

**About the GridWise Architecture Council**

The GridWise Architecture Council was convened in 2004 by the Department of Energy with support from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. As a volunteer council, the GWAC includes practitioners and leaders with broad-based knowledge and expertise in power, information technology, telecommunications, financial systems and other fields who are working together toward a coordinated GridWise vision—the transformation of the nation's energy system into a rich, collaborative network filled with decision-making information exchange and market-based opportunities.

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