



tomorrow's forecast: **clouds**
2011 **technology** conference



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Cloud computing is on the radar of many cooperatives today, but what potential does it actually hold for your cooperative? From the basics of cloud computing to advancements like security, privacy and access, we'll help you navigate through the cloud. Plus network with a topnotch group of vendors to explore the latest technologies in the co-op IT world.



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2011 Technology Conference, August 10-12, 2011

Clear your calendar and register now for the 2011 Technology Conference, August 10-12, 2011 at Kingston Plantation in beautiful North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Save these dates for an information-packed conference that will bring you the latest on technology solutions for every area of your cooperative.

Hot Topics:

- Impact of cloud computing on your cooperative
- NRECA's efforts toward telecommunications
- Microsoft's Enterprise software roadmap

Breakout Sessions offer valuable information for co-op managers, supervisors, technical staff, and others. Sessions cover emerging issues, communication, technology and strategy.

Enjoy our optional "Early Bird Sessions" on Wednesday morning that cover "Cloud Computing 101"

and a presentation on business uses of the iPad.

Join your peers and a diverse group of vendors for networking opportunities. You will come away with practical and current information on technology solutions you can use at your co-op.

There's something for everyone. See you at Kingston Plantation.



Find us on Facebook



Register here



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Sponsoring Vendors

Aclara
Alcatel-Lucent
AT&T
ATS
Business Information Systems
CenturyLink
Efacec Advanced Control Systems
Gaston Security, Inc.

Infoblox
Milsoft Utility Solutions
Netscout Systems
NISC
NRTC
NWN Corporation
Open Systems International (OSI)
Partner Software

SAS
Siemens Energy, Inc.
SEDC
Summit Business Associates
Team IA, Inc.
Time Warner Cable Business Class

Other Vendors

ABB
Accent Business Services
AFL Telecommunications
APOGEE Interactive Inc.
Bellweather Management Solutions
Cisco
Citrix
Clevert Solutions, Inc.
Comsquared Systems
Cooper Power Systems
Data Image
Davey Resource Group
Dell SecureWorks
DoubleRadius, Inc.
Encore Networks

Fluke Networks
Futura Systems
GarrettCom, Inc.
GE Digital Energy
HP TippingPoint
IC Logic Incorporated
ID Solutions, Inc.
Incident Communications Solutions, LLC
Lee Electrical Construction
Lekson Associates
Live Wall Media
National Transformer Sales
NWN Corporation
Online Utililty Exchange

Osmose Utilities Services, Inc.
PLANIT Technology Group
Proxim Wireless
Sensus
SimpliCTI Software Solutions, Inc.
TC Technology
TSE Services
UDig
Utility Lines, Inc.
Vanguard Systems, Inc.
Verdeeco
Wesco/CSC
Wireless Communications



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Wednesday, August 10 **MORNING**

8:00 – 9:30

Paperless Board Meetings

Ajaz Sadiq, Vice President, TSE Services

Sherry Vaughan, Executive Services Administrator, NCEMC

The corporate world is increasingly moving towards paperless board meetings, and the iPad is at the forefront of that movement. NCEMC, the statewide organization for the North Carolina Electric Cooperatives recently completed the process of selecting a vendor to implement a paperless board meeting solution. Hear about the process that led to the selection of BoardVantage and see a demonstration of the BoardVantage product. IT personnel at Cooperatives who will be supporting Board Members using BoardVantage will want to attend this session.

9:45 – 11:15

Cloud Computing 101

Jeff Huegel, Executive Director, AT&T

**Rich Swakla, Business Development Manager,
Virtual Data Center**

Ask your marketing department what cloud computing means and they will tell you what it meant yesterday. What does it mean today? Join us as we examine the origins of cloud computing as well as the impact it has on business today. Along the way you'll receive insights on where and when cloud computing fits best in your organization.



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Wednesday, August 10 AFTERNOON

- 11:30 – 12:00** **Box Lunches for Early Bird Registrants**
- 12:30** **Golf Tournament, Arcadian Shores**
- 6:00** **Welcome & Awards Reception**
(light hors d'oeuvres), Palmettos Pavilion

Thursday, August 11 MORNING

- 7:00 – 9:00** **Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors**
- 8:15 – 8:30** **Opening Remarks**
- 8:15 – 9:30** **General Session 1**

Impact of the Cloud on your Cooperative

**Steve Collier, VP of Business Development,
Milsoft Utility Solutions**

Learn how Cloud computing and other industry trends are shaping the Electric Industry as we know it. Thomas Edison would be surprised to see that the electric grid has not changed much over the years. Are these changes over due? Listen as Steve Collier takes an interesting looking into trends shaping our industry—from the grid to the cloud.

- 9:30 – 10:15** **Break with Exhibitors**

10:15 – 11:15

Breakout Session 1 (Choose 1 of 4)

The Tornado's Path

Angela Hare, Manager of IT, Central EMC

Eddie Oldham, Field Engineer, Central EMC

In April of 2011 a rare EF3 tornado struck Sanford NC, leaving a path of destruction in its wake. The tornado left Central EMC reeling with communication outages, impassable roads, distraught employees, and a near miss at the main office. Angela Hare, Director of Information Technology, was directly affected by the tornados. She will give her personal story and tell how the CEMC contingency plan worked. Eddie Oldham, Field Engineer, will give his perspective on the emergency steps that CEMC took in the immediate aftermath of the storm.

Cloud Computing Security

Jeff Huegel, Exective Director, AT&T

**Rich Swakla, Business Development Manager,
Virtual Data Center**

As Cloud Services grow in popularity, Cooperatives need to be cognizant of the balance between risks and rewards in the cloud delivery model. The right security model can allow an enterprise to mitigate risk and realize the benefits of Cloud Services. We will explore what kinds of Cloud Services are available today, what risk areas exist for your Cooperative, and what you can do to protect your organization while reaping the benefits of "Cloud" services.

10:15 – 11:15

Breakout Session 1 (Choose 1 of 4)

Continued

Integrating GIS Data into Garmin Maps

Greg Wolven, Director of Engineering, WIN Energy

GIS data presents a wealth of information for those who are able to tap into its finer points. Explore what your cooperative can do with detailed GIS information using an off the shelf Garmin GPS. Find out how to better meet employee needs and save your cooperative time and money using low cost GIS and GPS technology.

Maximizing Social Media while Reducing Legal Threats

**Rick Feathers, North Carolina Electric Cooperatives and
Chris Koon, Vice President and General Counsel
Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina**

Have you ever thought about tweeting outage updates or registering members on Facebook for your annual meeting? Today's social media outlets are broadening a co-op's ability to interact with its members in order to keep them informed. But what are the liability threats? Get fresh insight from the legal departments of two statewide co-ops on the liabilities of social media and the policies and procedures you can implement in order to protect your co-op in today's tech-savvy world.

11:15 – 11:30

Break

11:30 – 12:30

Breakout Session 2 (Choose 1 of 4)

Going Mobile with your Disaster Recovery Solution

Chris Boyd, Incident Communication Solutions

When disaster strikes, access to reliable communications is crucial to the efforts of relief operations. For those times when terrestrial communications infrastructure is unavailable, damaged or overloaded, satellite communications can provide a lifeline for those workers on the front lines. Chris Boyd from Incident Communication Solutions will discuss the latest technology regarding mobile disaster recovery solutions and how they can benefit your cooperative.

Substation Security

Greg Burns, Gaston Security

Kyle Branson, Brunswick EMC

Jeff Jackson, Lumbee River EMC

Eddie Oldham, Central EMC

Substation security has never been a more important topic. The US department of Energy estimates that copper theft costs US businesses over \$1 billion per year, and potential outages from other threats are ever increasing. Explore multiple concepts for perimeter substation protection with a panel of security experts. Get an overview of substation alarm monitoring and video verification systems from Gaston Security and hear three cooperatives' perspectives on their substation security efforts.

SmartGrid Stimulus Projects Update

Craig Miller, CRN

Working with 24 co-ops in 12 states, NRECA is conducting a \$68 million smart grid demonstration grant under the DOE stimulus program. We are deploying 250,000 smart grid components in 12 different categories ranging from in-home displays to SCADA. In time we will accumulate enough data to provide valid proof of the value of the technology in different contexts and applications but even the early stages we are learning about some things that work and some things that are not ready for prime-time. This session will present some of these early findings and challenges and the scope and expectation of the longer term research.

Equipping your Mobile Workforce: Finding the Right Tools for the Job

Todd Eisenhauer, VP of Engineering and Operations, NISC

Today's mobile workforce has a multitude of ways to receive and send information with the office. From small GPS devices for routing of issues, to full blown laptops with specialized applications- not every tool fits every problem. This session will cover what needs to be considered when selecting the appropriate solution for field and mobile needs.

12:30 – 1:45

Lunch with Exhibitors



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Thursday, August 11 **AFTERNOON**

12:30 – 1:45

Lunch with Exhibitors

1:45 – 2:45

Breakout Session 3 (Choose 1 of 4)

Telecommunications Strategies for the Future

Rick Schmidt, Power Systems Engineering Group

Telecommunications is the glue that will make all of the Smart Grid components functional, yet there are so many variables and methodologies to choose in the early implementation process. Some of the many questions that require answers early include: Wired or wireless? Broadband or narrowband? Licensed or unlicensed spectrum? Public or private networks? Rick Schmidt has worked with many cooperatives around the country with their technology deployments, and in this session he will share his experiences with these difficult decisions with an up-to-date overview of Smart Grid communications.

Breakout Session 3 (Choose 1 of 4)

Continued

Network Security 201

Kevin Fiscus, NWN Corporation

Network security is a topic that cuts across all lines of business. Despite the complicated and fragmented nature of security, there are certain controls that can be implemented by virtually any organization that play an important role in reducing overall security risks. Conversely, the lack of these controls represent some of the biggest security mistakes that can be made by any organization. Kevin Fiscus from NWN Corporation will discuss these key controls and how they can be implemented to dramatically increase overall security while increasing operational efficiency and mitigating risk.

**Tying it all Together-
Tying Data from Various Sources Together**

Doug Lambert, San Bernard Electric Cooperative

With rising fuel prices and strained economic times, Electric Cooperatives are always looking to be smart with how we can best utilize our existing resources and stretch our member's dollar to do more. In those efforts, this is the story of how one cooperative implemented a Mobile Workforce Management System by writing SQL code to leverage existing software to do what it was not originally designed to do. Using this system, they are eliminating paper, reducing fuel and equipment costs, and improving customer service to their members by presenting tasks or work to field crews in a near-real time environment.

Make the most of your MDM

**Andrew Horstman, Manager of Load Response,
Wabash Valley Power**

**Amy Watson, Director of Distribution Design and Technology,
Hendricks Electric Cooperative
Palmetto EMC**

Meter Data Management or MDM is the latest buzz word in the Electric Industry. Is now the time for your cooperative to enter the world of MDM? Listen and ask questions of our panel that has expertise in using the latest MDM software packages.

2:45 – 3:30

Break with Exhibitors

3:30 – 4:45

General Session 2

NRECA Efforts towards Telecommunications

Martin Lowery, EVP NRECA

NRECA works with cooperatives in 47 states. Those cooperatives range in size from a few hundred meters to over 200,000 meters- yet they still support all of the cooperative initiatives from a single platform from a national perspective. Martin Lowery has been instrumental in guiding national research and development for cooperatives in the realm of Smart Grid and telecommunications, and helps tie together the efforts of all national cooperative organizations. During this session, Martin will discuss the evolution of the “rural” Smart Grid and will give up-to-date information of the efforts of NRECA and CRN as they support our businesses’ technology transformations.



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Friday, August 12 **MORNING**

7:15 – 9:00

Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors

8:00 – 10:00

General Session 3

Learn how cloud computing is changing IT

Jim Haigh, Microsoft

What is cloud computing? Everybody's talking about cloud computing, but what does it mean for IT? Discover how the cloud is changing the way IT works today, what's in store for the future and what Microsoft's strategy is to enable their customers to take advantage of it.



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**Hotel
Information**

Kingston Plantation Embassy Suites,
9800 Queensway Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

Directions

<http://www.kingstonplantation.com/myrtle-beach-area-information/directions/>

Reservation

http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/MYRESES-TEC-20100712/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

**Airport
Information**

Myrtle Beach Airport (MYR) <http://www.flymyrtlebeach.com/>
Wilmington International Airport (ILM) <http://flyilm.com/>



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