USEF: What's in it for… the product supplier

Smart devices and appliances are the cornerstone of smart grids and provide exciting opportunities for product suppliers and equipment manufacturers to add value to the energy system and hence to their products. Rapid development of this market is essential and requires scaling up these initiatives to commercialize and commoditize the market for smart energy products. To achieve this, the energy sector, product suppliers manufactures need to join forces and co-create the smart energy system of the future. USEF provides the common language and specifications to do so!

One of key characteristics of smart energy systems, often seen as a spearhead of the "Internet of Things", is that devices that use or produce energy respond to an event in the energy system, like a washing machine that reacts to the output of solar panels on the roof or heat pump with a heat buffer responding to an incentive from a grid operator. To realize this vision and accelerate the creation of new and sustainable business based on exciting new smart energy services and products, a generic and extensible framework is required that provides non-discriminatory access to smart energy systems for all active stakeholders at acceptable cost-to-connect and cost-to-serve levels.

USEF is this framework.

As an equipment manufacturer or product supplier for smart energy systems, you can benefit from making USEF compliant devices and products in three distinct ways. Firstly, it allows you to increase your market share due to a superior customer value proposition. Your products will offer lower operating costs as a result of maximizing the value of the flexibility they offer using USEF its market-based control mechanism, effectively making them more energy efficient, thereby contributing to a more sustainable future. Secondly, you can increase the revenue per sold product by offering add-on services that exploit the extra performance and usage data made available through USEF. Examples of such services include smart maintenance services for end-users and flexibility services for ESCOs. Finally, the aforementioned product performance and usage data can be used for future product development and innovation efforts, securing a bright future in smart energy systems.

The Energy Framework