



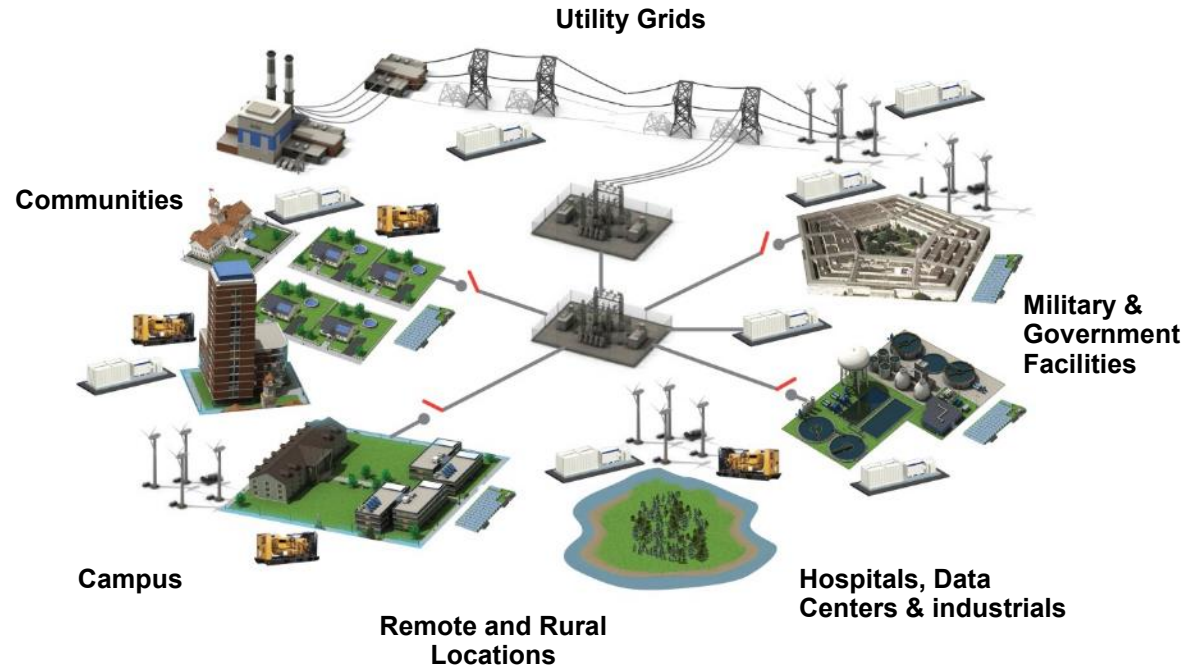
Microgrid Control Integration

To Maximize Performance and Value

Bruce Campbell, P.E.
Principal Engineer



What is a microgrid



A group of generating assets and loads that can operate connected or disconnected from the utility grid

Distributed Energy Resources

- Traditional generators
- Natural gas generators
- Combined Heat and Power (CHP)
- Solar
- Wind
- Fuel cells
- Energy storage (batteries, other)

Local “Grid Within a Grid”

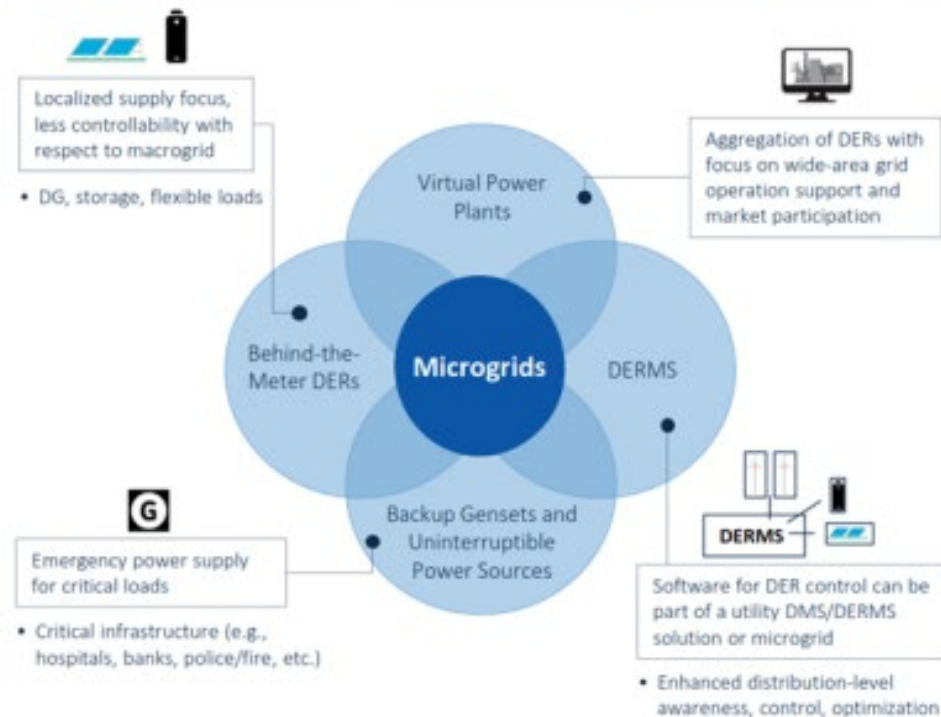
- Resiliency, reliability and uptime
- Revenue from participation in energy markets

Microgrids intersect with other smart grid technologies

Microgrid technologies include:

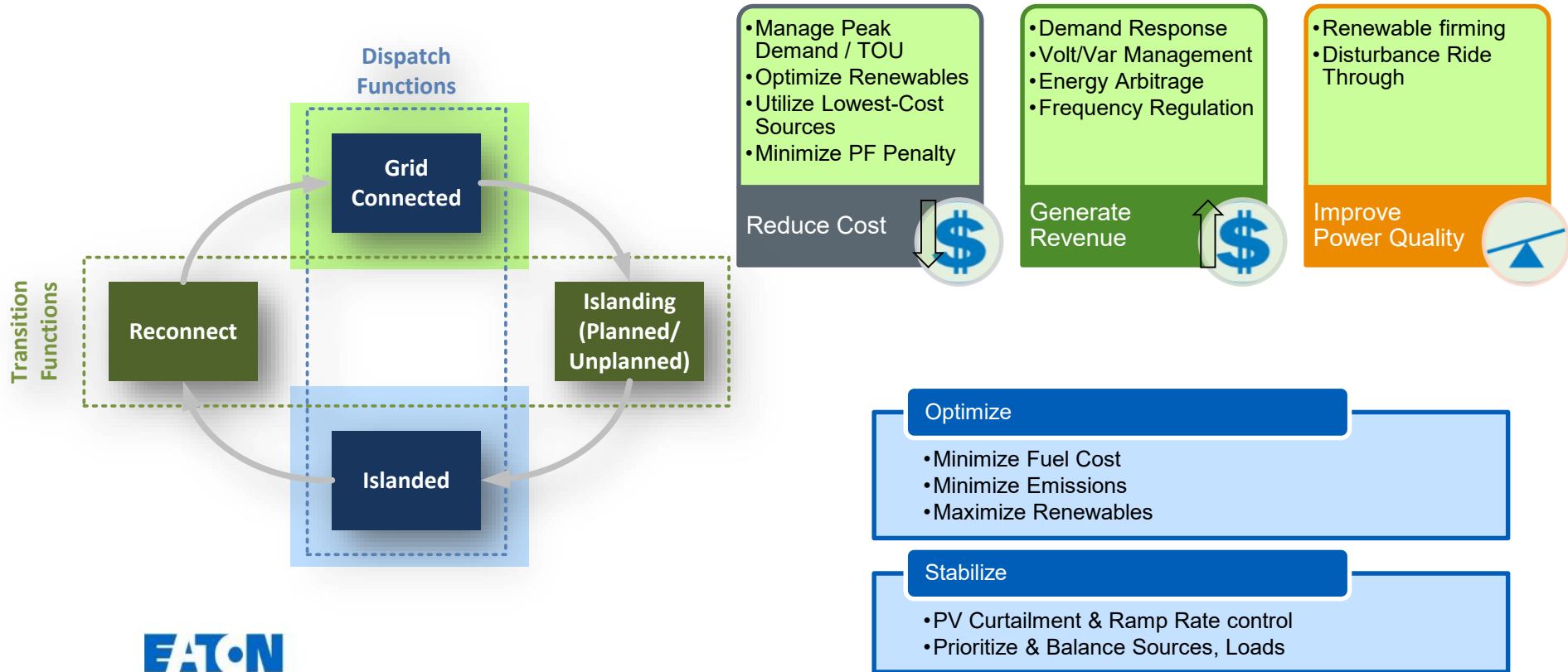
- Switching and Distribution Equipment
- Protection Equipment
- Power Conversion Equipment
- Microgrid Control System
- High-Speed Communication Networks
- DER Analytics, DERMS
- Energy Management Systems at the Building, Community and Microgrid Levels (μ EMS)

Microgrid Commonalities Shared With Other Grid Edge Technologies

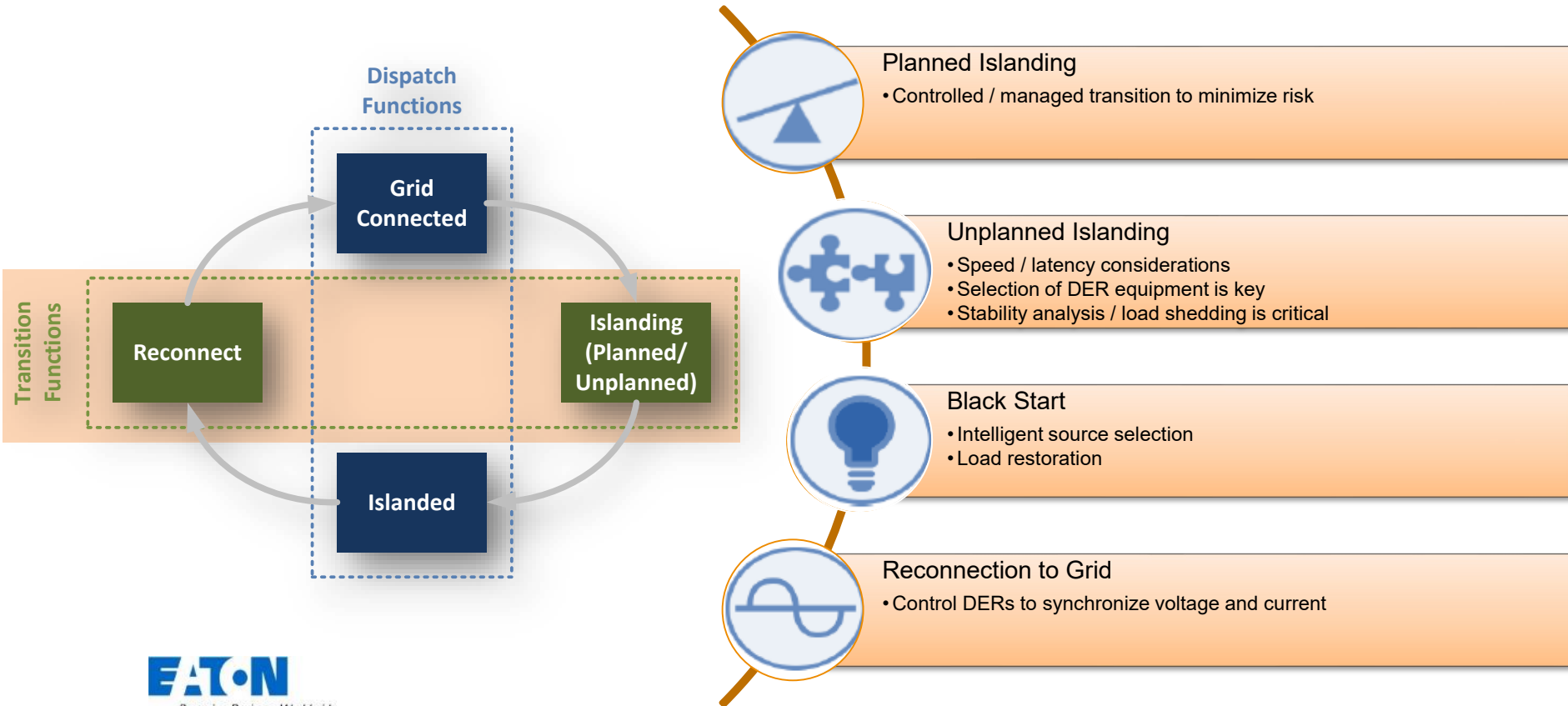


Source: GTM Research

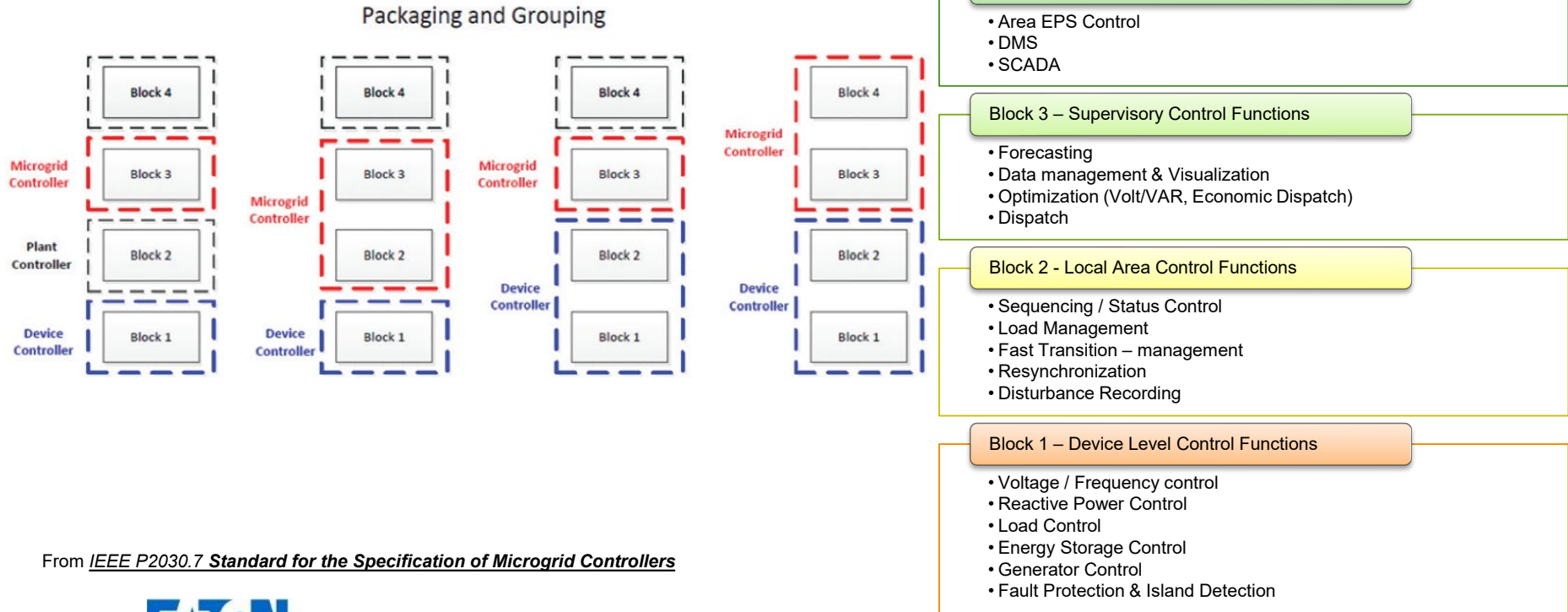
Microgrid control adds value and optimizes performance



Microgrid control manages state transitions for resiliency



Control functions distributed in layers and devices



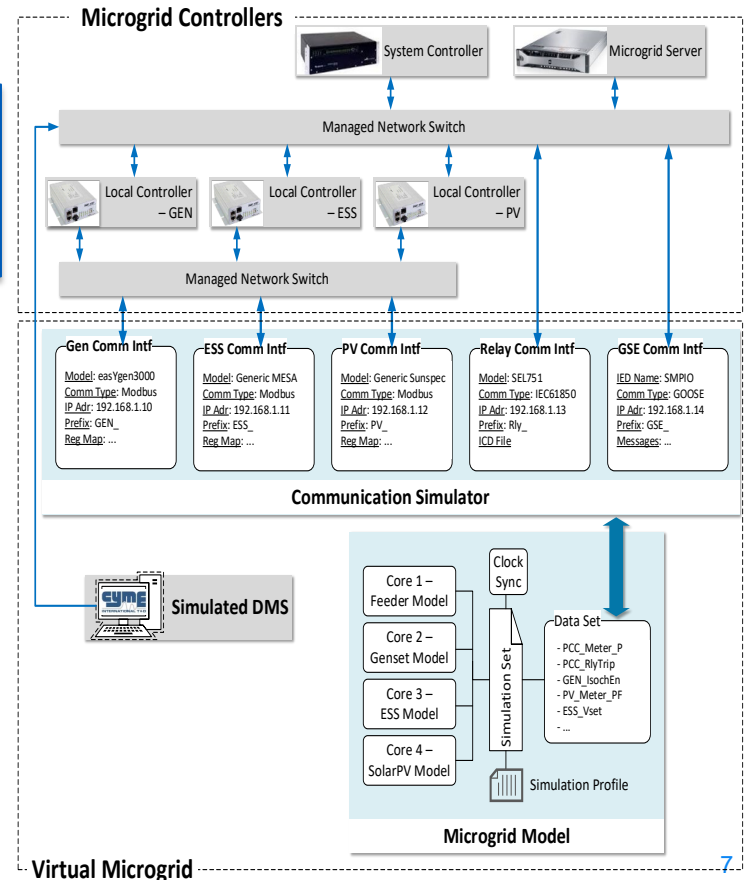
From IEEE P2030.7 Standard for the Specification of Microgrid Controllers

Testing of complex integrated control reduces risk

Virtual microgrid hardware-in-the-loop modeling & testing

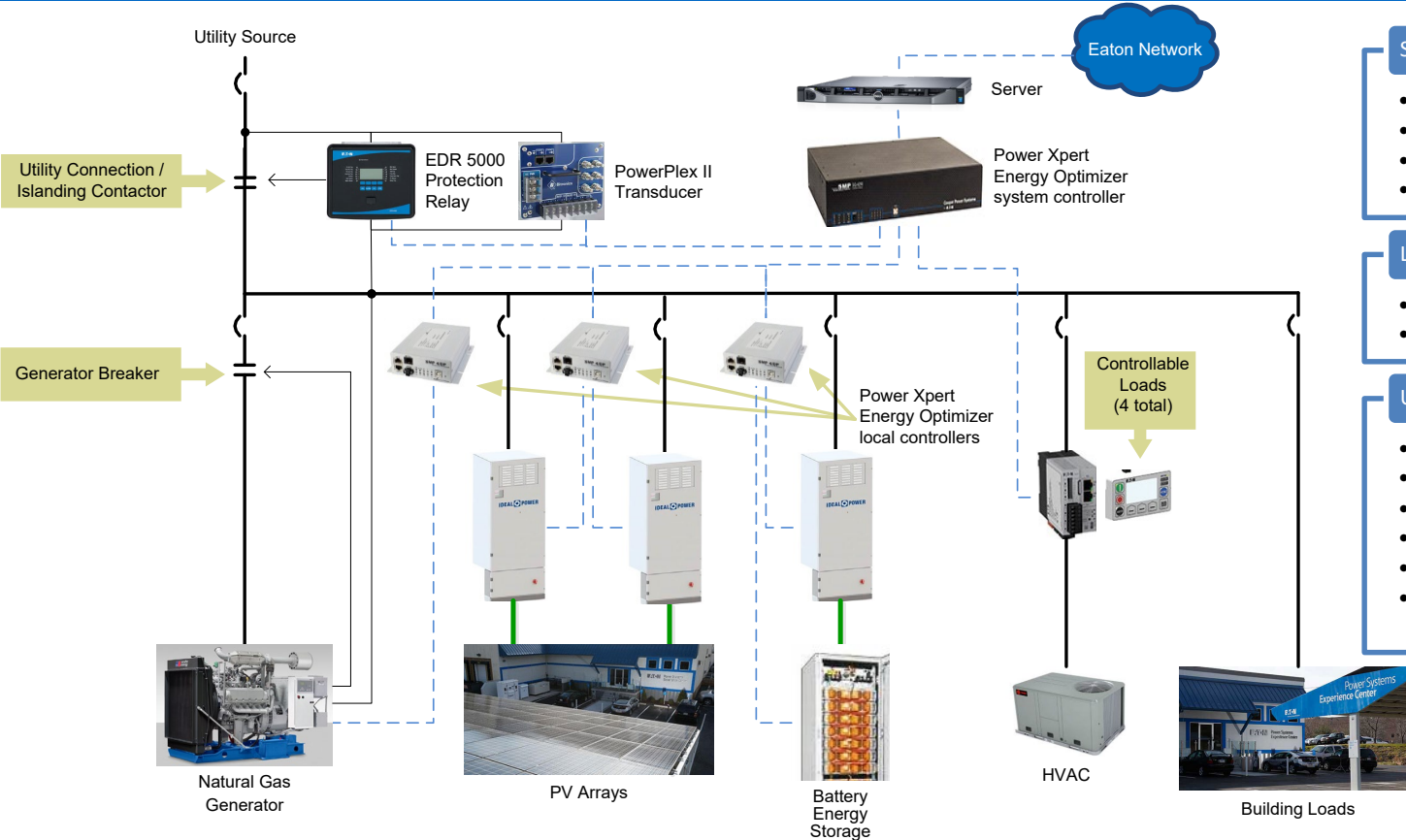
A “Digital Twin” to validate and optimize system performance BEFORE construction

- Reduce risk
 - Reduce start-up cost
- Increased understanding of the system dynamics and feasibility based on data from simulation
 - Imported site data used to develop system load profile and utility rate structures
 - Exported data used to measure and evaluate performance metrics prior breaking ground



Microgrid

Power System Experience Center, Warrendale, PA



Sources

- Utility
- 100 kW Generator
- 28 kW Photovoltaic
- 30 kW Battery Storage (30 kWh)

Loads

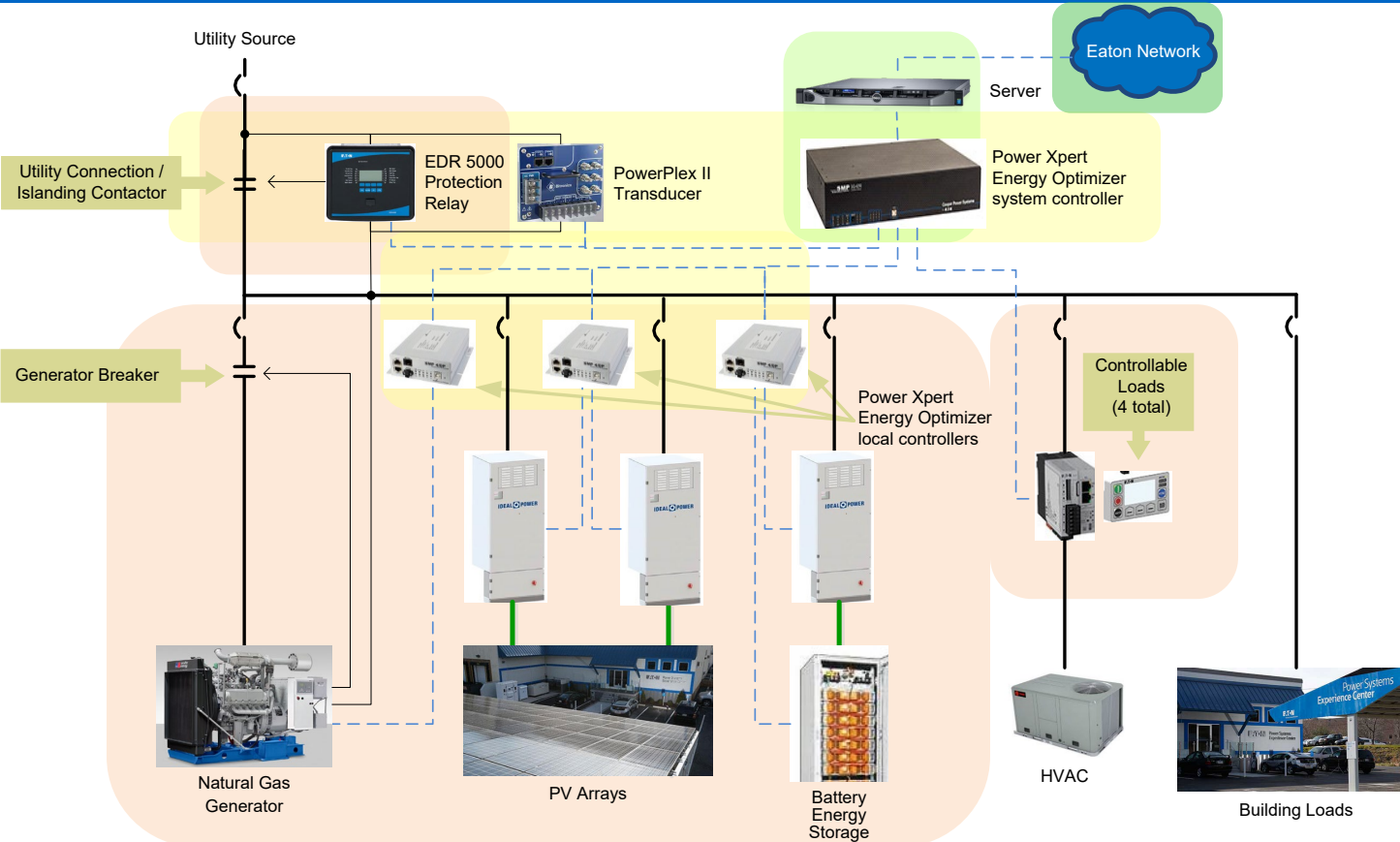
- 4 Controllable HVAC units (4 -25 kW)
- Lights, outlets, etc. (8-12 kW)

Use Cases (partial list)

- Peak Power Limiting / Load Leveling
- Demand Management
- Renewable Firming
- PV Shifting
- Power Factor Control
- Resiliency: Islanded operation optimizing renewables

Microgrid

Power System Experience Center, Warrendale, PA



Block 4 – Grid Interactive Control Functions

- Area EPS Control
- DMS
- SCADA

Block 3 – Supervisory Control Functions

- Forecasting
- Data management & Visualization
- Optimization (Volt/VAR, Economic Dispatch)
- Dispatch

Block 2 - Local Area Control Functions

- Sequencing / Status Control
- Load Management
- Fast Transition – management
- Resynchronization
- Disturbance Recording

Block 1 – Device Level Control Functions

- Voltage / Frequency control
- Reactive Power Control
- Load Control
- Energy Storage Control
- Generator Control
- Fault Protection & Island Detection

Actual Microgrid Performance - 24 hour period

Conditions:

- Winter Loading
- Sunny

Functions Illustrated:

- Power Limiting – On Grid
- Scheduled Operation

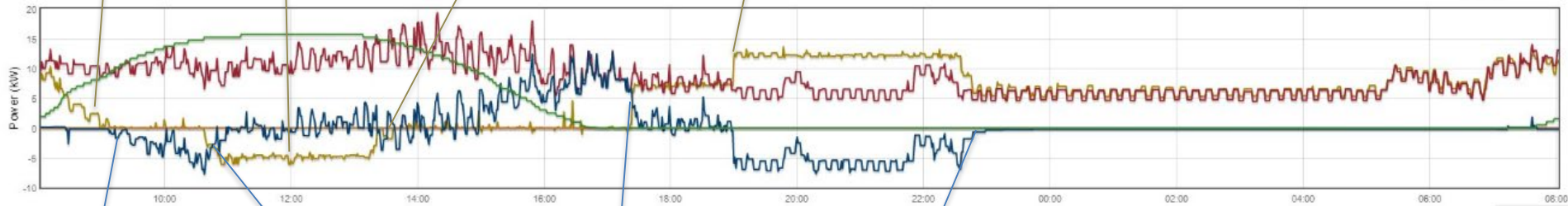
Utility Power
Limited to
0-7 kW

Utility Power
Export limited
to 5 kW

Utility Power
Limited to
0-7 kW

Utility Power
Limit raised to 13 kW;
desired SOC=80%

— Load
— Utility
— Generator
— Storage
— Solar



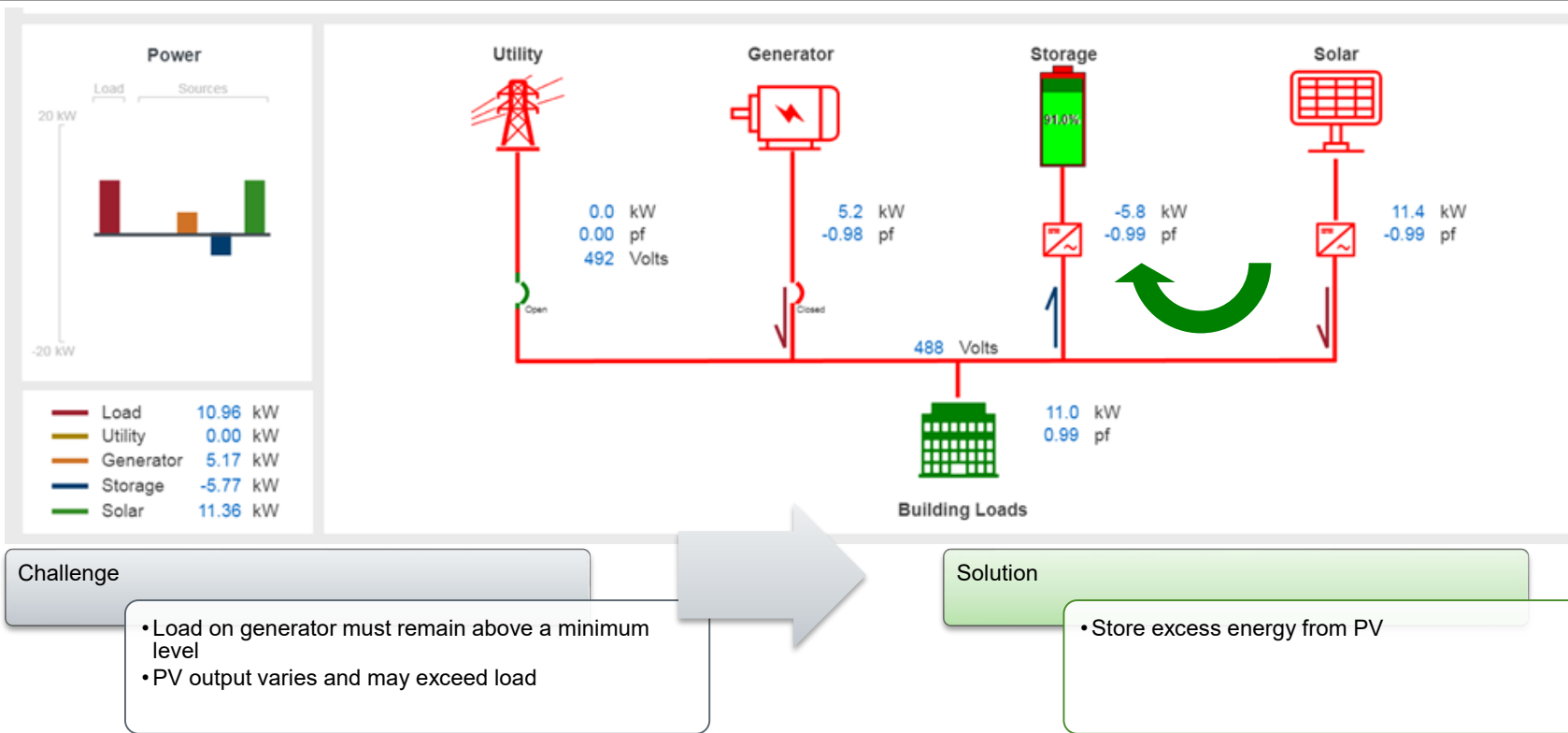
Excess PV
stored in
battery

Battery
Approaching
Maximum SOC

Battery at
Desired
SOC (35%)

Battery at
Desired
SOC (80%)

Islanded operation requires coordinated control of sources



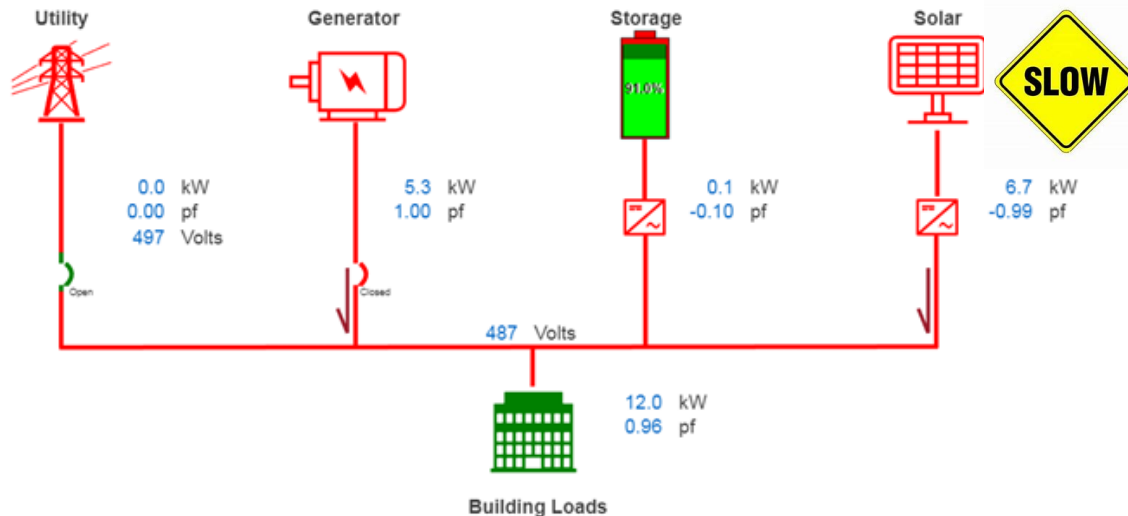
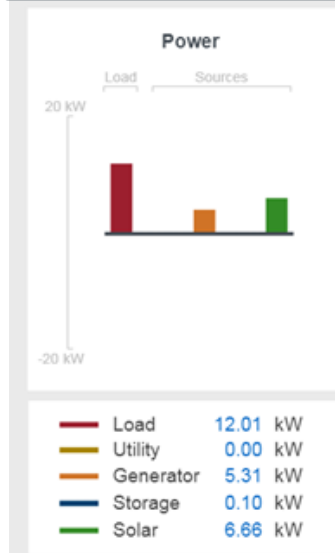
Islanded operation requires coordinated control of sources

Challenge

- Load on generator must remain above a minimum level
- PV output varies and may exceed load
- **Energy storage is “full” or offline**

Solution

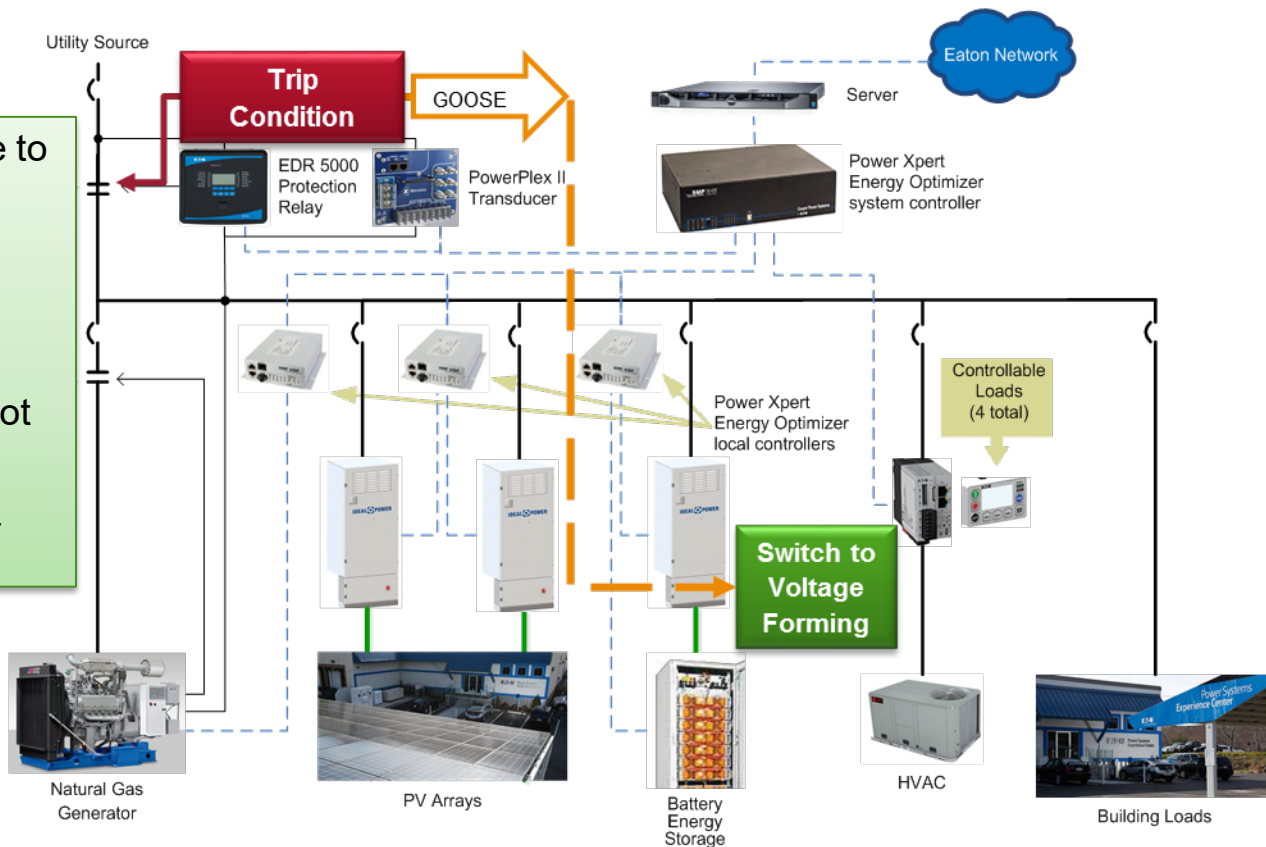
- Actively curtail PV output
(requires fast curtailment capability in inverter)



Islanding presents integration challenges

- “Seamless” islanding in response to grid disturbances is not trivial
- Overlaying a “control” doesn’t overcome device-level control deficiencies
- “High speed” communication is not instantaneous

*Actual measurements: 8-10 msec.
latency utilizing GOOSE*



MICROGRID ENERGY SYSTEMS

for protection and peace of mind

Microgrids are stand-alone power generation, distribution and storage systems that work with or independently from the main utility grid to help business, campuses and communities better respond to fluctuating power demands and avoid power disruptions.

STABILITY AND MODERNIZATION



Power reliability is increasingly a requirement, not an option, in healthcare, high-tech, commercial, military and government research facilities.



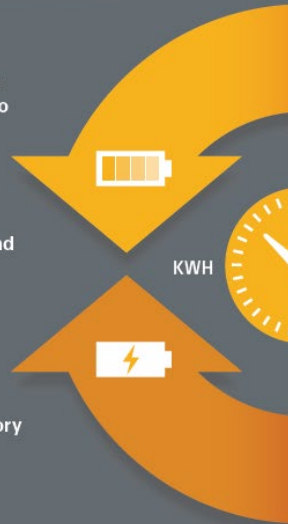
Onsite generation minimizes transmission and distribution line losses, which can be up to 7% of electricity generated.



Using advanced control to optimize system operation, microgrids shave peak demand and dynamically shift energy loads as needed.



Microgrids and energy storage can maximize the use of renewable energy sources to help meet regulatory requirements—and improve sustainability.



RECOVERY AND MITIGATION

Microgrids are a reliable and efficient way to contend with the inconvenience and costs associated with unexpected power loss.



Without loss of power, microgrids can seamlessly island from the main utility grid and function independently to keep businesses and communities online.



Using integrated distributed generation assets, switches, controllers, automation and other smart technology, microgrids ensure energy reliability.



As smart grid networks and the IoT proliferate, microgrids must be built to be cybersecurity by incorporating the latest regulatory requirements.

