



SEL product receives UTC Wireless Product of the Year award

LAKE ZURICH, Ill. – The RadioRANGER™ Wireless Fault Indication System received the Utilities Telecommunications Council Wireless Product of the year award during a UTC conference and exposition May 6-9, 2007. The conference, held in Austin, Texas, showcases current and emerging technology for critical infrastructure communication.

The RadioRANGER is a product of the Lake Zurich-based E. O. Schweitzer Manufacturing Division of Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL). It reduces the time required to find power failures by leading line crews to the location of underground faults.

“A key part of the competition is getting the judges excited about the product,” SEL Research and Development Manager Ken Fodero said. “This year it was easy to build the excitement because the RadioRANGER System solves a big problem in a very innovative way.

The judges for the award go from booth to booth during the exposition to ask questions about the product and its applications.

“The RadioRANGER makes what is usually a time-consuming, expensive, and often hazardous task into a simple process a line crew can complete from a truck,” Fodero said. “Today, a troubleshooting crew looking for the location of a fault in an urban area faces the challenge of blocking traffic to open and enter each vault to look for a power failure until the problem is found.”

The process often involves draining vaults of water and clearing them of debris and hazardous gasses, he said. With the RadioRANGER system, a crew uses a small handheld device to identify the vault or span of underground cable between two vaults in which the fault occurred.

EOS Manufacturing is accepting orders now for RadioRANGER starter kits. The product is scheduled to release in June 2007.

E. O. Schweitzer Manufacturing, the electric power industry’s market leader in fault indicator and related sensor technology, became a division of SEL in 2006. The company opened in 1949 and today produces the widest variety of fault indicators in the industry.

SEL invents, designs, manufactures, and distributes complete solutions for the protection, automation, metering and control of electric power systems worldwide. SEL sells products in 117 countries and employs more than 1,300 people in 61 locations around the world.

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