

## GridON signed contract to supply a 30MVA Fault Current Limiter to Western Power Distribution for a primary substation in Birmingham, UK

GridON Ltd was awarded a contract for its novel Fault Current Limiter (FCL) by Western Power Distribution (WPD), the electricity distribution network operator for the Midlands, South West and Wales. The contract was awarded to GridON following a tender process in which GridON's FCL was chosen. A GridON FCL is already installed at a UK Power Networks substation since May 2013 and has been already proven effective in normal operation and during fault conditions. This contract is a testament to the growing demand for FCLs as a critical component in the rapidly expanding electrical networks worldwide.

With the ever-increasing demand for electricity, distribution and transmission operators are seeking cost-effective and reliable means to connect additional generation and distributed renewable energy sources. Fault currents, caused by short circuits in electrical grids, are creeping up with the increase in electricity supply on meshed networks, and often exceed network capacity and protection capabilities. Cascading fault currents may result in supply disruptions, equipment damage and severe power outages. Traditional solutions are very costly and may negatively impact power quality, stability and reliability of supply.

GridON provides operators and grid planners with a very robust and efficient fault current limiter, which enables network meshing and connection of additional power generation sources. The FCL will significantly cut capital expenditures and extend the useful life of existing network assets, minimizing the costs of upgrading transmission and distribution network over the next few decades.

Roger Hey, Future Networks Manager at WPD, said: "The installation of the GridON equipment on to our network is part of our Birmingham based Tier-2 LCNF Project FlexDGrid. It will enable us to connect additional generators and new electricity consumers quicker whilst also further improving reliability of supplies across the city"

"We would like to thank WPD for selecting GridON and we look forward to successful delivery and commissioning of our system in Birmingham, UK" said Yoram Valent, co-founder and Chief Executive of GridON. "WPD's selection of GridON to comply with the specific requirements at the Castle Bromwich substation is a strong testimony to the unique capabilities of our FCL technology. The quality and robustness of our Fault Current Limiter is an outcome of a very successful and synergistic partnership with Wilson Transformer Company."

## About GridON Ltd

GridON offers fault current limiters for distribution and transmission networks and for energy-intensive industrial grids. GridON's FCLs enable increased supply by cost-effective network meshing and connection of additional power generation and renewable energy sources. The FCL improves grid resilience and reliability and significantly lowers capital expenditures and operating costs, while extending the useful life of existing network assets.

GridON's FCL is based on combining industry-standard, proven transformer technology with unique and proprietary concept of electro-magnetic flux alteration on a saturated iron core. The self-triggered system responds instantaneously to faults, suppresses fault current for its entire duration, and recovers immediately following fault clearance – being always ready for consecutive faults events.

GridON's first installed FCL was funded by Energy Technologies Institute, a public-private partnership between global industries - BP, Caterpillar, EDF, E.ON, Rolls-Royce and Shell - and the UK Government. GridON is offering scalable FCL solutions from distribution to very high transmission voltage ratings, in partnership with Wilson Transformer Company - Australia's leading manufacturer of high-quality transformers.

GridON was awarded the Global Cleantech 100 and the UK Energy Innovation in 2013, and received the prestigious ACES Smart Grid and GE ecomagination Powering the Grid awards in 2012.

For further information, please visit [www.GridON.com](http://www.GridON.com) or email [sales@GridON.com](mailto:sales@GridON.com) or call +972.3.711.1183.

## About Western Power Distribution

Western Power Distribution is the electricity distribution network operator for the Midlands, South West and Wales. It delivers electricity to over 7.8 million customers over a 55,500 square kilometers service area. WPD's network consists of 221,000 kilometers of overhead lines and underground cables, and 185,000 substations. WPD employ over 6,000 staff.

The Fault Current contract forms part of WPD's Project FlexDGrid, a £17m project based in Birmingham which uses ground breaking solutions to accommodate more low carbon generation across the city, reducing power cuts and carbon emissions.

Ofgem's Low Carbon Networks Fund was established as part of its current price control arrangements for electricity distribution businesses (DNOs). It allows up to £500million of support between 2010 and 2015 to projects sponsored by companies that trial new technology, operating and commercial arrangements. It aims to help DNOs deliver cost-effective and innovative solutions for a sustainable future electricity network.

Two tiers of funding are available. Tier One is designed to enable DNOs to recover a proportion of expenditure incurred on small-scale projects.

Tier Two involves a competition annually to help fund a small number of flagship projects.

WPD now has four Tier Two projects and seven of the 22 Tier One projects. This is more than any other UK Distribution Network Operator for both categories.

For further information, please visit [www.westernpower.co.uk](http://www.westernpower.co.uk) or contact Michael Clarke on +44(0)1332 827172.