



# Broadband PowerLine and the UPLC

A presentation by the  
United Power Line Council  
to the  
World Summit of PLC  
Associations  
June 10, 2003

## OUTLINE

- Overview of the UPLC
- Activities
  - Business
  - Regulatory
  - Technical
- Market Status
  - Deployments



## Overview of the UPLC

- The UPLC is an alliance of utilities and technology partners to develop business, technical and regulatory solutions for BPL in the Americas
- Ties with United Telecom Council
  - 50+ years of utelco advocacy
  - Broad based membership
  - Strong reputation, resources to accomplish activities



## UPLC Structure

- Equal partnership reflected in structure
  - Utility / Technology provider co-chairs of committees, as well as of the UPLC itself.
  - Members drive the activities of the UPLC.
    - Frequent meetings, active participation and open process



## UPLC Leadership

- UPLC Co-chairs
  - Leif Ericson, Southern Telecom
  - Joe Cufari, Current Technologies
- Committee Co-chairs
  - Business
    - Jorge Rosenblut, Enersis
  - Regulatory
    - Al Richenbacher, PPL; Steve Greene, Amperion
  - Technical
    - Phil Slack, Florida Power & Light; Jeff Norman, Main.net Power Line Comm's, Inc.



## Activities

- Business Action Committee
  - Promote market awareness through conferences, reports, and newsletters
    - PowerLine 2003 UPLC Annual Conference, Sept. 21-24<sup>th</sup> Washington, DC
    - Update to the Business Case Opportunity Study, August 2003
    - PowerLine newsletter, free monthly email about industry and policy developments



## Activities

- Regulatory Action Committee
  - Become the premier advocate for industry w/Congress, FCC & States
    - Engage w/ FCC on Notice of Inquiry
    - Promote legislation that encourages PLC deployment
    - Advocate to state public utility commissions/legislatures, upon request



## Activities

- Technical Action Committee
  - Develop common solutions to technical obstacles for deployment
    - Best practices for power line deployment
    - Coordinate w/ other organizations
      - MOU's w/PLC Forum, APTEL
      - Initiating formal relations w/PUA
      - IEC, IEEE, HomePlug
    - Serve as resource for information on technical operations



## Market Status

- Ambient Corporation
  - Publicly traded (ABTG.OB)
  - MV and LV solution
  - Trials
    - Consolidated Edison (51% stake)
    - Southern Telecom (holds warrants to purchase 2,684,000 shares)
  - Tests report 6-8 Mbps on MV and 5-7 on LV



## Market Status

- Amperion
  - AEP/CISCO/Redleaf
  - MV access solution
  - Trials
    - American Electric Power
    - PPL
    - Progress Energy
  - Speeds
    - 20 Mbps on MV, 500-800 kbps actual



## Market Status

- Current Technologies, LLC
  - U.S. privately-held company
    - Associated Group
  - Trials
    - Cinergy
    - PEPCO
  - Speeds
    - 3-5 Mbps on LV



## Market Status

- Main.net Power Line Comm's, Inc.
    - Established commercial PLC provider
    - No transformer bypass necessary
    - Trials
      - Ameren
      - PPL
      - City of Manassas
      - Other undisclosed utilities
- Average speeds 500 kbps



## Market Status

- PowerComm Systems, Inc.
  - U.S. based company
  - Trials
    - Fayetteville Electric System
    - Cullman Electric Cooperative
  - Speeds unknown



## Market Status

- Number of deployments accelerating
  - More utilities, more subscribers served and passed
- Models vary
  - Wholesale and retail
  - Residential and SME
  - Primarily suburban and rural
- Drivers: utility app's, high-speed access, VoIP, home networking



## Conclusions

- PLC ramping-up in Americas
  - Technical obstacles overcome
  - Business models in development
  - Regulatory issues becoming clearer
- UPLC leading the development of PLC
  - Become involved!



## For More Information

- |                     |                           |
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