

GPG Outbrief 19

# Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel

Emerging Building Technologies, GPG Program | U.S. General Services Administration | May 29, 2019

The logo for the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), consisting of the letters "GSA" in white on a dark blue square background.

GSA

# GPG-041 Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel @ gsa.gov/gpg

- ❑ Infographic
- ❑ 4-page Findings
- ❑ Full Report
- ❑ Additional Resources

The screenshot shows the GSA website page for GPG-041 Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel. The page features a navigation bar with the GSA logo and links for BUYING & SELLING, REAL ESTATE, POLICY & REGULATIONS, SMALL BUSINESS, TRAVEL, SHARED SERVICES, TECHNOLOGY, and ABOUT US. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Governmentwide Initiatives > Sustainability > Emerging Building Technologies > Published Findings > Energy Management > Submeters and Analytics: Full Panel.

The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is a navigation menu for 'EMERGING BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES' with the following items: Overview, About GSA's Proving Ground (GPG), Published Findings, Building Envelope, Energy Management, Advanced Power Strips, Chiller Plant Control Optimization, Socially Driven HVAC, Wireless Pneumatic Thermostats, and Wireless Sensor Networks. The 'Published Findings' item is expanded to show 'Submeters and Analytics: Full Panel' and other categories like HVAC, Lighting, On-Site Power & Renewables, Water, and Ongoing Assessments.

The right column is the main content area for 'Submeters and Analytics: Full Panel'. It features a large heading, a paragraph of introductory text, and two report thumbnails. The first thumbnail is for a '4-PAGE REPORT SUMMARY' (PDF - 425 KB) and the second is for a 'FULL REPORT—MAY 2019' (PDF - 4 MB).

The main content area also includes a large infographic header for '041 SUBMETERS & ANALYTICS: FULL PANEL' dated MAY 2019. Below the header are two sections: 'OPPORTUNITY' and 'TECHNOLOGY'. The 'OPPORTUNITY' section is titled 'MONITOR AND ANALYZE INDIVIDUAL CIRCUITS FOR GRANULAR ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION' and includes the text: 'Why is GSA interested in circuit-level submetering and analytics?'. The 'TECHNOLOGY' section is titled 'METER & DATA STORAGE WITH CLOUD-BASED ANALYTICS' and includes the text: 'How does the full-panel submetering and analytics system work?'. Below the technology section, it states: 'Monitors up to 42 circuits; voltage taps power the system'.

# Webinar Recording and Slides Available on [gsa.gov/gpg](https://gsa.gov/gpg)



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## Open for Registration

**Submeters and Analytics: Full-Panel**  
Wednesday, May 29, 2019, at noon ET

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**Submeters and Analytics: Wireless Current Transformers**  
Thursday, June 20, 2019, at noon ET

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June 20      Submeters & Analytics: Wireless CTs

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# How to Ask Questions

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Please chat your questions during the presentation for the Q&A segment



# Introduction

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## **Michael Lowell**

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# Webinar Agenda

- ❑ **Introduction (5 minutes)**  
Kevin Powell, Director, Center for Emerging Building Technologies
- ❑ **Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel (20 minutes)**  
Dylan Cutler, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- ❑ **On-the-ground Feedback (5 minutes)**  
Tyler Cooper, GSA Region 8
- ❑ **Lay of the Land (5 minutes)**  
Dylan Cutler, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- ❑ **Q & A (20 minutes)**



# Introduction

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## **Kevin Powell**

Director, Center for Emerging Building Technologies

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# Opportunity

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TENANT OR EQUIPMENT-LEVEL BILLING

FAULT DETECTION AND DIAGNOSTICS (FDD)

ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES (ECMs)

GPG-041

# Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel

General Services Administration  
Public Buildings Service



GPG-041 | MAY 2019

## SUBMETERS & ANALYTICS: FULL PANEL



### Cost-Effective Integrated Submetering & Analytics

Historically, building operators have had limited ability to quantify and analyze energy consumption for individual spaces or pieces of equipment. Incumbent approaches have used either advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) or custom installations of circuit-level submeters. AMI is expensive and is typically installed for whole buildings or large end-uses, such as chiller plants, which limits its ability to assess consumption on a granular level. Custom submetering installations are costly on a per-point basis, subject to data reliability and integrity issues, and do not easily scale to measure all loads within a building. New systems that integrate sensors and analytics are simplifying the submetering process and driving costs down. GSA's Proving Ground (GPG) worked with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to perform testbed evaluations of three submetering and analytics implementations. This summary reviews one of them, a full-panel system provided by EnerNex and tested at the U.S. Courthouse in Salt Lake City, Utah. GSA has identified two primary use cases for circuit-level submeter data: improving tenant billing practices and optimizing building operations via fault detection and diagnostics (FDD) and energy conservation measures (ECMs). Researchers found that at the testbed location the analysis of sensor data provided an effective solution for both use cases. The technology illustrated that GSA could save approximately \$6,000 annually by billing for the actual overtime use of utilities in the courthouse data center. An energy audit, based on sensor data, also identified three ECMs. By implementing one of these—reprogramming the data center air conditioners—facility staff reduced the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) load for the data center by 10%. At the testbed, comparing potential savings to installed costs yields payback under one year.

The GPG program enables GSA to make sound investment decisions in next-generation building technologies based on their real-world performance.

# Measurement & Verification

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**Dylan Cutler**

R&D Staff

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

# Incumbent Approaches to Submetering

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## Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

- Installed on whole building or large end uses
- Limited access to granular data
- Expensive

## Custom build of circuit-level submeters

- Data integration and reliability issues
- Don't scale easily to measure all loads
- Costly on a per-point basis

# New Integrated Approaches to Submetering & Analytics

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## Full-Panel Meters

Monitors 42 circuits. Uses a voltage tap along with CTs. Works with revenue grade and standard accuracy CTs.

## Wireless CTs

Clip on sensors powered by current in electrical wire; no meter. Best for fault-detection, low power loads are problematic to track.

## Single Circuit Meter

Single, 3-phase circuit. Uses a voltage tap, similar to full panel meters. Best for panel mains, or large pieces of equipment. Available in revenue grade and standard accuracy.

## Electromagnetic Field Sensors

Stick-on sensors applied to panel exterior measure current by magnetic fields. Trades accuracy for low installed cost. Best suited for fault detection and diagnostics.

# Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel



Technology for M&V  
provided by Enertiv



**M&V** Salt Lake City Courthouse



2 large server rooms

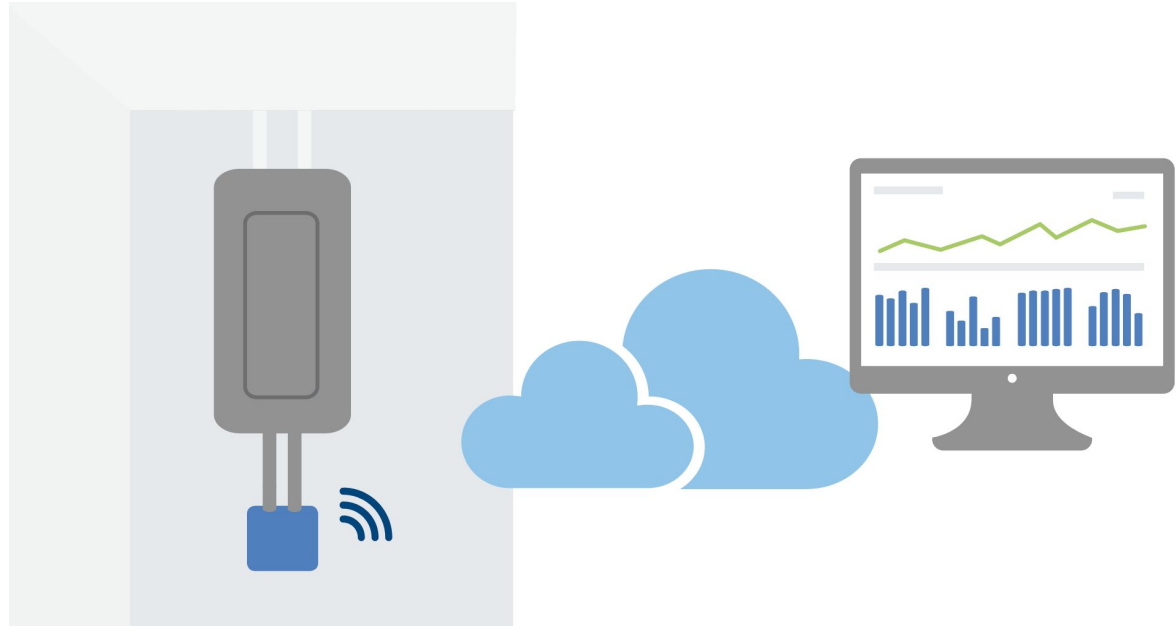


# Submeters & Analytics: Full Panel (provided by Enertiv)

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## Meter and data storage with cloud-based analytics

- Monitors and provides data on 42 channels
- Voltage tap powers the system
- Can be paired with various CT types

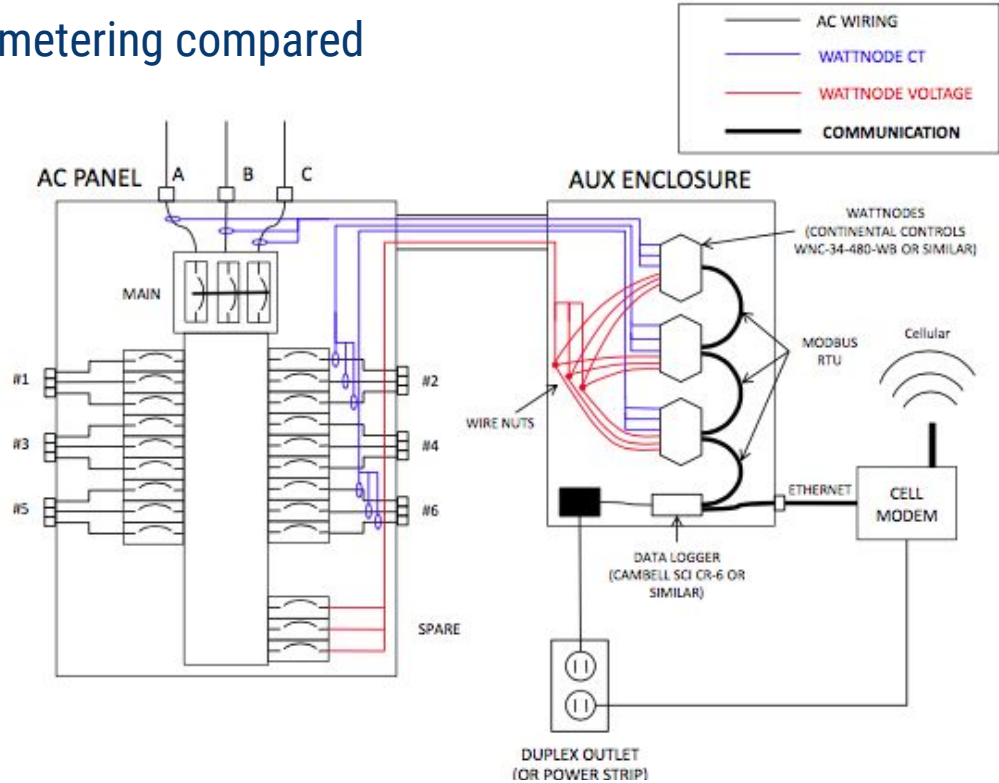




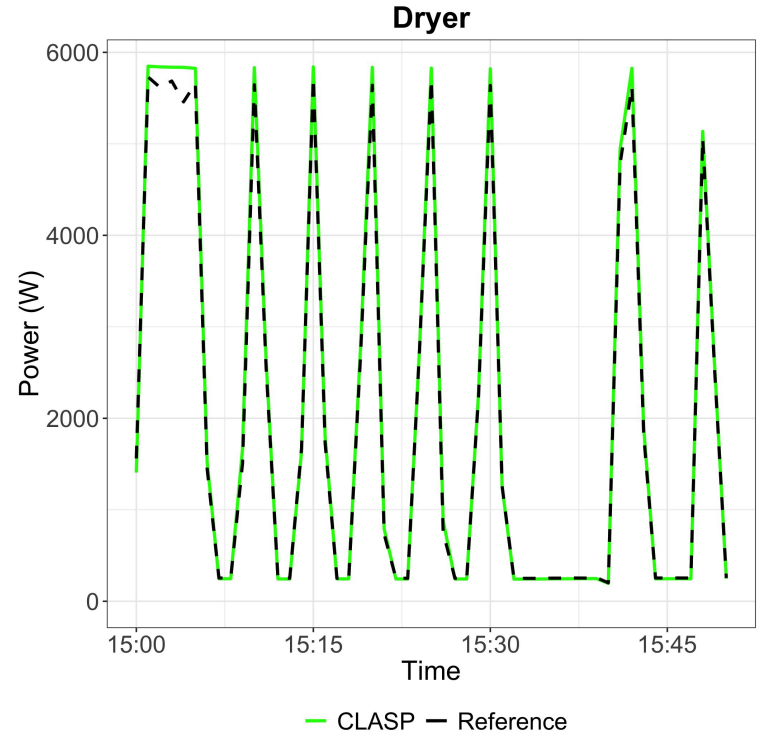
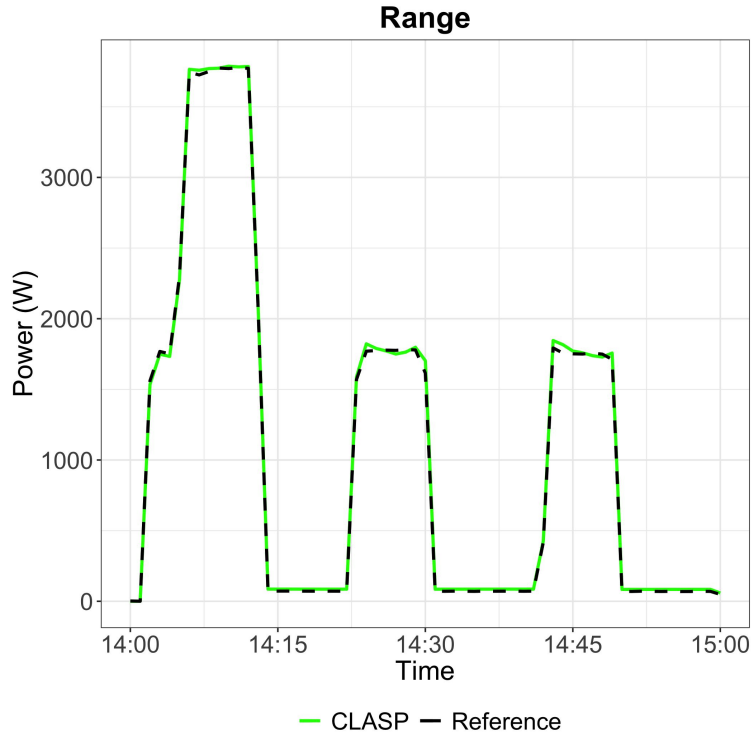
# M&V Design

## Revenue-grade and circuit-level submetering compared

- Installed revenue grade metering on same set of circuits
- Power and energy data collected at 1-minute intervals
- Compare data recorded over same period of time for accuracy and completeness



# Standard-Accuracy Sensor Load Tracking in Laboratory

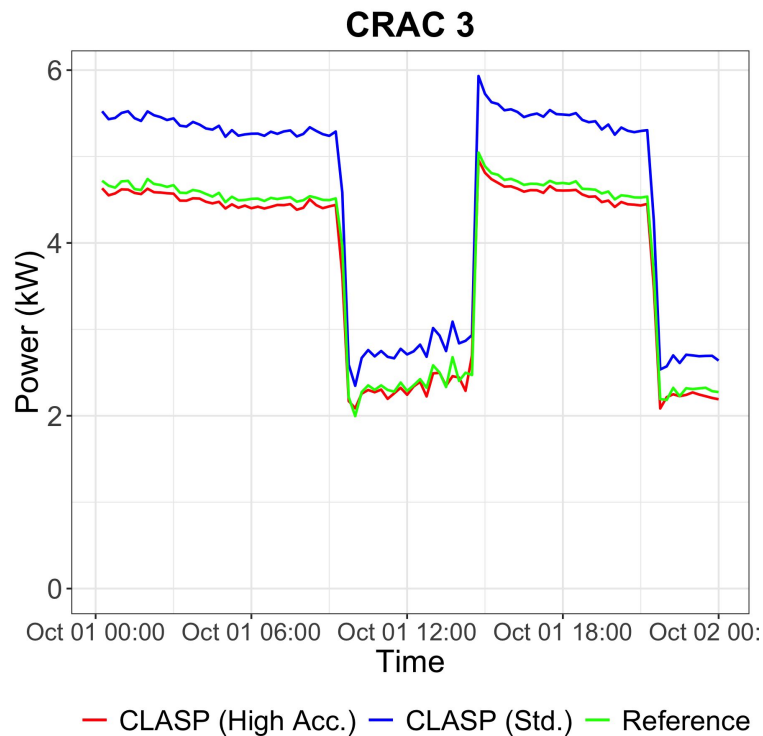
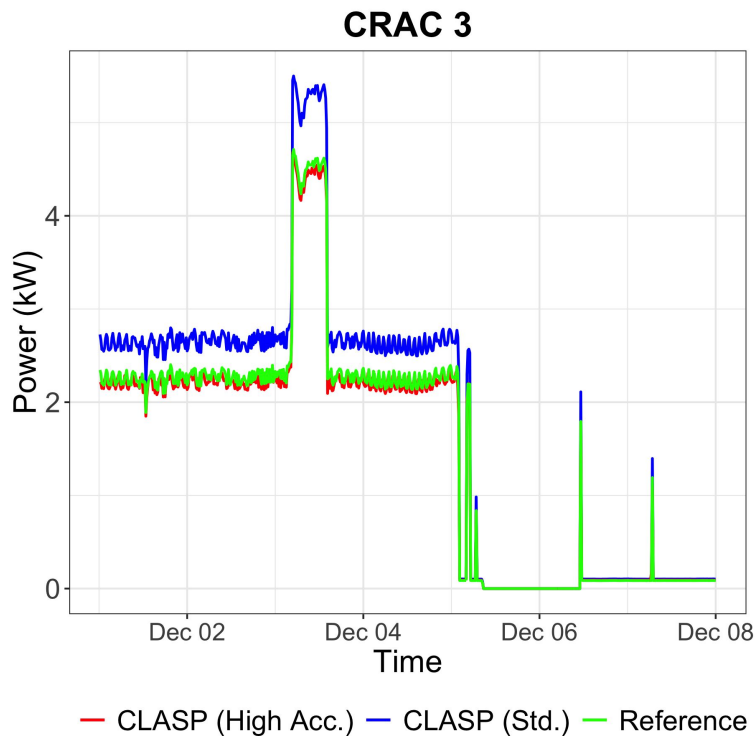


# Energy Error in Laboratory

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Trial	Appliance	Voltage (V)	Mean Power (W)	Mean Bias (W)	Average Percent Error (%)	RMSPE(%)	Total Energy Error (%)
1	Refrigerator	120	114.30	-1.84	-1.61	1.61	-1.61
2	Washer	120	115.38	4.88	4.60	11.49	4.23
3	Lighting (All)	120	530.53	-12.42	-2.17	3.09	-2.34
4	Lighting (240V)	240	122.16	-23.16	-18.96	18.96	-18.96
5	Dryer	240	2024.44	52.60	0.22	4.49	2.6
6	Water Heater	240	2059.44	53.42	2.38	2.51	2.59
7	TV/DVD	120	103.95	-0.41	-0.87	4.65	-0.39
8	Range	240	1056.91	12.36	10.79	14.31	1.17

# Tracking Computer Room Air Conditioner Power at the Testbed



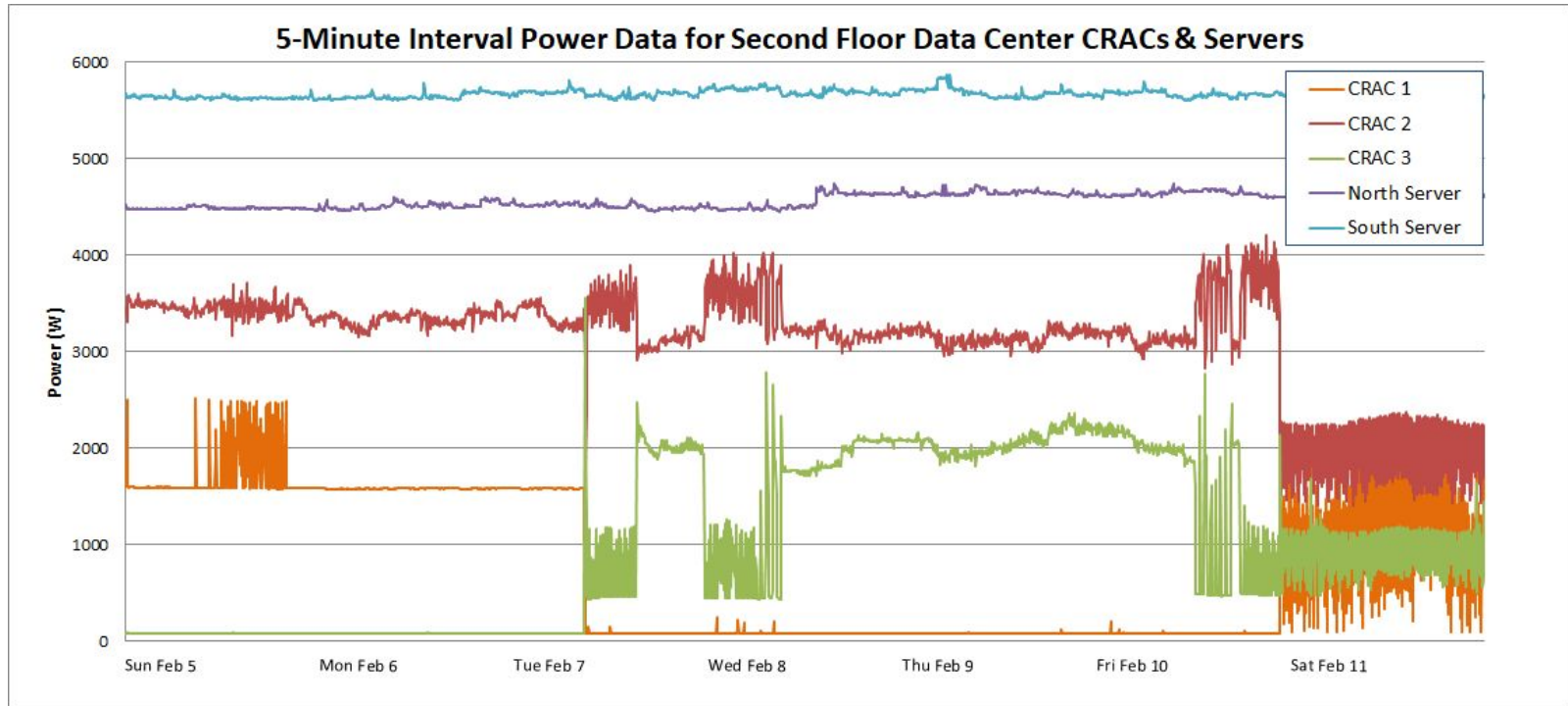
## <3% Error in Measurement with High-Accuracy CTs

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Equipment	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17
CRAC 1 (Std.CT)	16.54	16.64	16.58	16.15
CRAC 2 (Std.CT)	15.87	15.83	16.3	16.28
CRAC 3 (Std.CT)	-11.76	5.86	16.96	16.83
CRAC 1 (Accu-CT)			-3.18	2.59
CRAC 2 (Accu-CT)			-2.99	-3.19
CRAC 3 (Accu-CT)			-1.64	-1.7

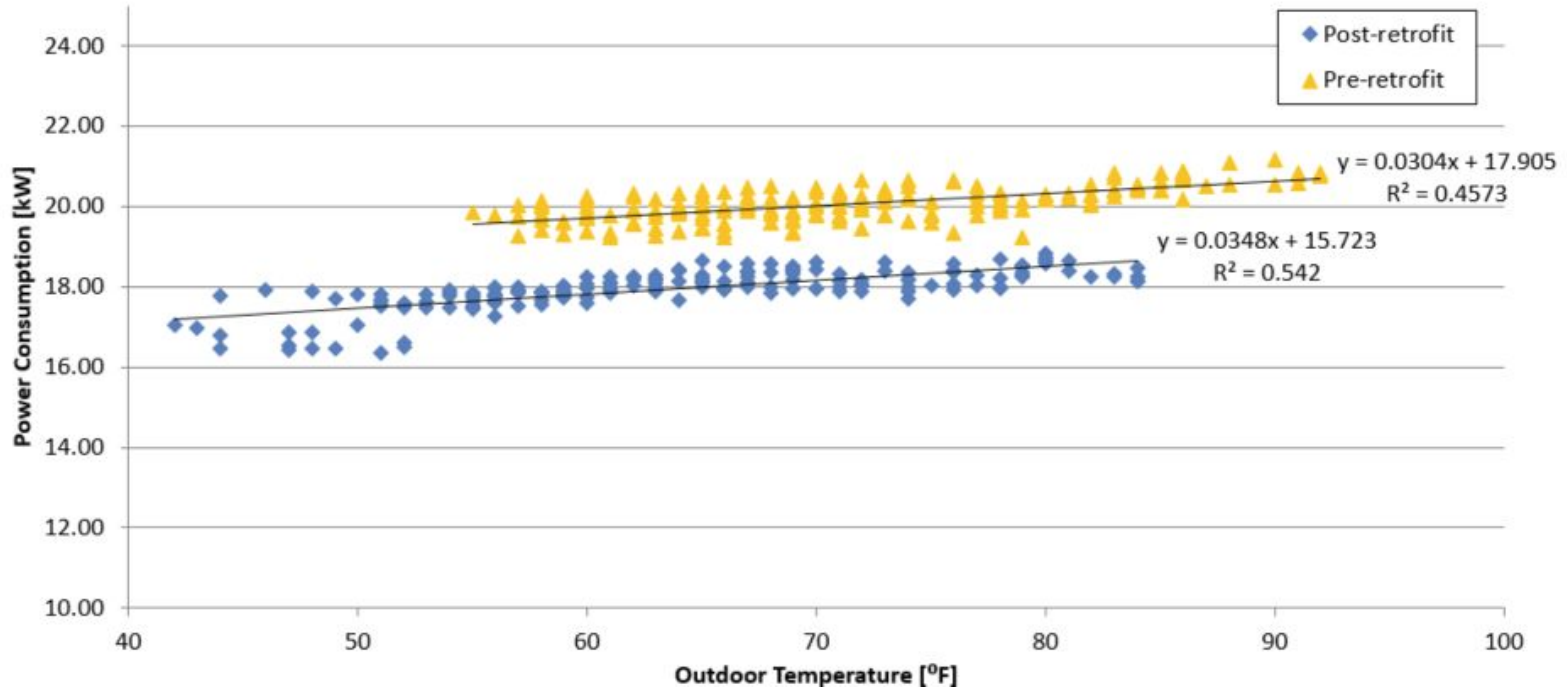
# Identifying Energy Conservation Measures

## CRAC unit operation



# 10% Average HVAC Load Savings

1-week power consumption for the 2nd floor server room



## <2-day Installation

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### 14 hours for 5 complete panels with 96 breakers

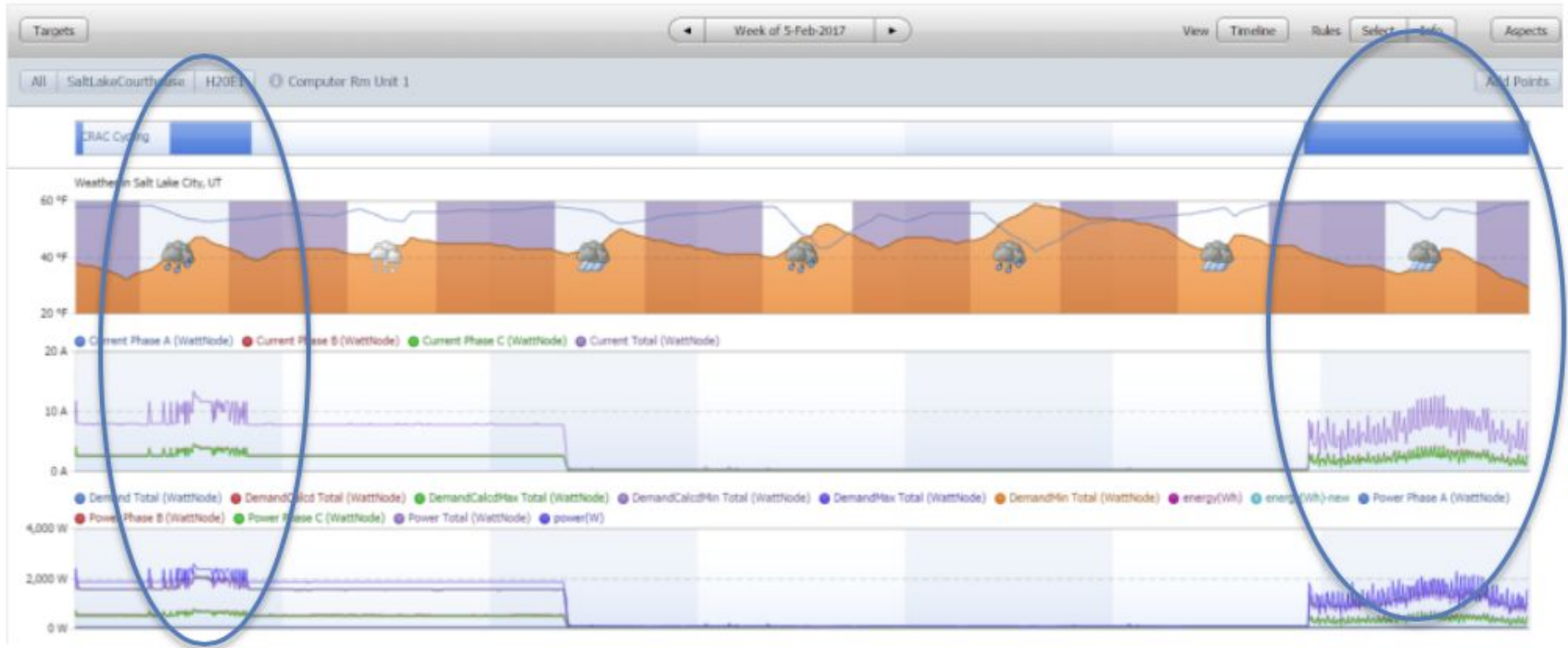
- Installed in high and low voltage panels with limited space
- Included install in motor control center and cellular gateway integration





# Demonstrated Feasibility of GSALink Integration with SkySpark

Integration into SkySpark took 12 hours; screenshot below shows short-cycling on CRAC #1



## <1-Year Payback at Testbed

	Full-Panel Circuit-Level Submetering Salt Lake City Courthouse
Equipment Cost for High-Accuracy CTs	\$2,415
Installation*	\$890
Cost Per Meter (\$)	\$1,101
Annual Fees (\$)	\$1,260
Energy Savings from ECM (\$)	\$1,611
Savings from Tenant Billing (\$)	\$5,990
Simple Payback (years)	0.6
Savings-to-Investment Ratio	4.8

Recurring  
annual fees  
are high in  
comparison  
to initial  
expense

\*Labor is 2.5 hours per meter @ \$59/hr, additional setup and parts cost is estimated at \$250/meter

# Lessons Learned & Best Practices

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- For tenant billing, use high accuracy CTs with a phase angle shift  $<0.5^\circ$ .  
High accuracy CT cost: \$30–\$70. Standard CT cost: \$3–\$5.
- Size CTs to estimated power levels. Estimate by metering current with an ammeter.
- Identify wall space; the enclosure is 7" x 7" x 3.5". Conduit runs from the enclosure to the panel so proximity to the panel is desirable. Exercise caution to avoid clutter when laying the cabling of the CTs.
- Tracing loads to individual circuits may be an expensive process for locations with many low-load receptacles. Define monitoring goals prior to deployment.
- A registered electrician is required. A spare breaker in the panel facilitates installation.

# Deployment Recommendation

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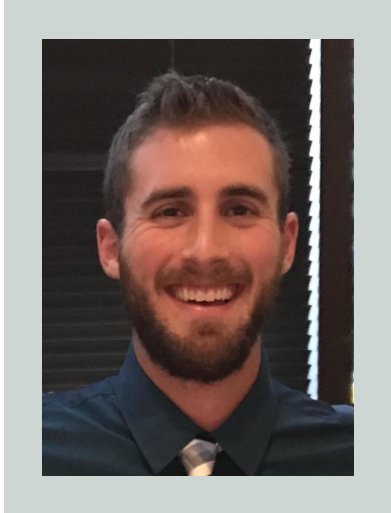
## Best use cases

- Overtime billing for devices with high power consumption
- Loads and devices not currently integrated into BAS could also benefit from FDD and ECMs identification



# GSA Feedback—Salt Lake City Courthouse

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**Tyler Cooper**

Supervisory Energy PM  
GSA Region 8

# Installation

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- Choose a targeted approach where there is potential for savings (high operational cost equipment)
- Not cost-effective to install for ECM identification and then move it to another location
- For tenant billing, would want to keep meters in place

# Operator Engagement

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## Not currently being used

- Integrate into GSALink to minimize platform interfaces
  - Renegotiate ongoing fees to balance costs and savings
- It did its job but this is ongoing
  - Research shows faults are corrected but then they fall out of tune
  - Audit every 4 years is standard practice
- Bridge the gap between M&V and ongoing operation

# Potential Use Cases

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## ESPC Measurement and Verification

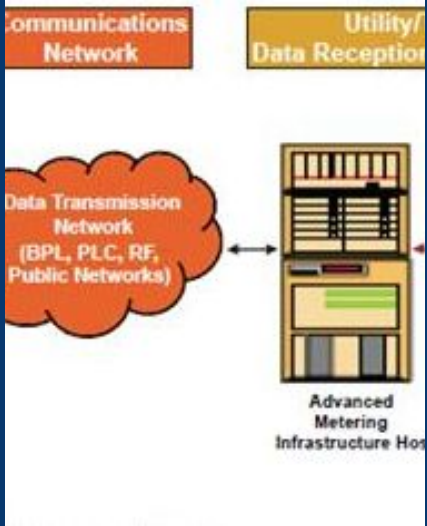
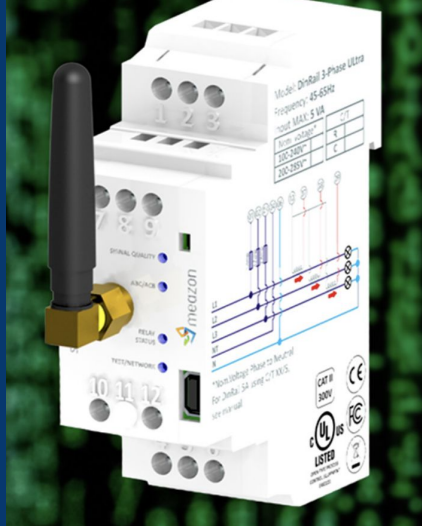
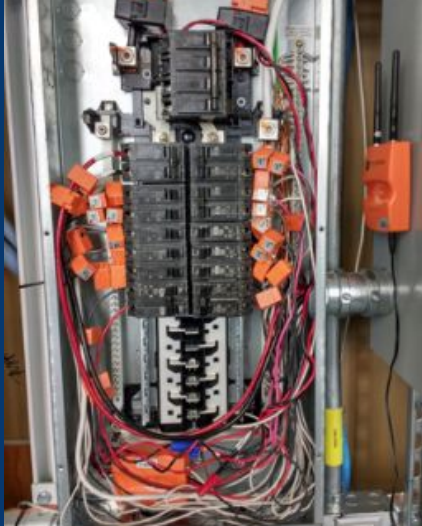
- Any replacement of mechanical equipment
- Operational Changes

## Data Center Metering (Power Usage Effectiveness)

## U.S. Courts



# Submeter & Analytics Types



# Submeter & Analytics Types

	<b>GPG 041</b> Full Panel Meter	<b>GPG 042</b> Wireless CTs	<b>Ongoing GPG M&amp;V</b> Single Circuit	<b>Not evaluated</b> Electromagnetic Field Sensors	<b>AMI</b> Advanced Metering Systems
	Monitors 42 circuits. Uses a voltage tap along with CTs.	Clip on sensors powered by current in electrical wire; no meter. Best for fault detection.	Single, 3-phase circuit. Uses a voltage tap, similar to full panel meters. Best for large pieces of equipment.	Stick-on sensors measure current by magnetic fields. Trades accuracy for low installed cost. Best for fault detection.	Hardware and software combine interval data with remote communications. Revenue grade.
<b>Tenant-Equipment Billing</b>	✓		✓		✓
<b>Fault Detection &amp; Diagnostics</b>	✓	✓		✓	
<b>Energy Visibility</b>	✓	✓		✓	
<b>ECM Capturing</b>	✓		✓		✓
<b>Equipment Cost (\$)</b>	Meter: \$500-\$850 Revenue CT: \$30-\$70 Standard CT: \$3-\$5	No meter required Standard 3-phase circuit CT: \$35-\$50	Meter: \$200-\$400 Revenue CT: \$60-\$80	Meter: \$100 estimated Not fully commercialized	Meter: \$150-\$2,000 System integration can add up to \$10,000 per meter
<b>Annual Subscription (\$)</b>	\$420 per meter	\$15 per CT at the time of the evaluation, ongoing subscription costs have since been eliminated	Ongoing GPG evaluation	Unknown	Varies

Q & A

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Your answer

**First and Last Name**

Your answer

The information presented in the Outbrief webinar was helpful.

1 2 3 4 5

Strongly Disagree      Strongly Agree

**I am interested in circuit-level submetering.**

Yes, in the next 2 years.

Yes, in the next 5 years.

Maybe

No

Thank you



For more information: [gsa.gov/GPG](https://gsa.gov/GPG)

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Kevin Powell, Program Manager [kevin.powell@gsa.gov](mailto:kevin.powell@gsa.gov) 510.423.3384

