

Future Power System Architecture – Programme Steering Group Members

Brief Biographies (19/10/17)

Simon Harrison

Simon Harrison is a director with responsibility for strategic development at global engineering, management and development consultant Mott MacDonald, and takes a strong interest in strategic change in markets, technologies and end user expectations. He also chairs the IET's Energy Policy Panel and leads its Future Power Systems Architecture Project activity, which is supporting the government in developing an underlying engineering strategy for the future decarbonised electricity system in GB.

An electrical engineer, Simon has played a key role in developing Mott MacDonald's renewable, thermal and nuclear power businesses, including opening a number of new geographic and sector markets. He also has an interest in energy policy, and has directed a number of key studies in the UK. During his career Simon has played key roles in the development and financing of numerous privately financed infrastructure projects in sectors including power, water, transport, telecommunications and the built environment, in most corners of the world.

He has taken a leading role in many privately financed infrastructure projects around the world as well as privatisations and acquisitions. Prior to this he undertook planning of major electricity transmission and distribution systems. He is a Fellow and Vice President of the IET and a Fellow of the Energy Institute and the Royal Society of Arts, Commerce and Manufactures.

Dave Openshaw

Dave Openshaw is an independent consultant and director of his own company Millhouse Power Limited - which provides consultancy services to the electricity industry, specialising in smart grids, innovation, asset management and power system design and development. Dave is a member of the IET's Energy Policy Panel and has been a Steering Group member of the Future Power System Architecture Programme since its inception in 2015.

A chartered electrical engineer, Dave has a career background in electricity distribution and has previously held a number of senior management positions at UK Power Networks and its predecessors, including: Head of Asset Management, Head of Engineering Regulatory Strategy, and Head of Future Networks. In this latter role Dave led a team responsible for designing and delivering a range of high-profile LCNF projects including: Low Carbon London, Flexible Plug & Play Networks, and Smarter Energy Storage, each of which have majored on delivering whole (electricity) system benefits through both commercial and technological innovation.

Dave is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.

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Philip T Lawton MA FIET



Philip Lawton is the Energy Systems Catapult's head of practice, power systems and has been closely involved with the Future Power System Architecture Project.

Philip studied engineering at Cambridge University, being sponsored by the local electricity distribution company. He transferred to the CEGB and, on privatisation, joined National Grid. In 2015 he left and started working with the Catapult.

His career has covered real time control, operational planning, and leading field staff, as well as commercial roles. Within National Grid he led projects examining how Britain can meet its 2050 carbon targets and the changes required in grid operations by 2020.

Mike Kay MA MSc CEng FIET



Mike Kay is an experienced director of an electricity network business. He is a chartered electrical engineer and a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). His expertise and experience covers all aspects of power engineering associated with the distribution and transmission of electricity, and also the economic regulation of network utilities.

He chaired the Distribution Code Review Panel of Great Britain for 14 years, and led on interface issues with National Grid for the GB Distribution Companies collectively for the same period.



He is active in many industry forums and over the last decade has led the development of standards for connecting renewable and other generators to the GB distribution system. He has chaired the Engineering Committee of the Energy Networks Association, co-ordinating the technical policy approaches of the GB Distribution Companies. Mike worked for Electricity North West for more than 30 years. In that time he has been responsible for many engineering and regulatory aspects of Electricity North West's business. In his role as Network Strategy and Technical Support Director he was responsible for specifying and securing the capital investment programmes in the Distribution Price Control Reviews of 2010 and 2015. In this role he was also solely responsible for Electricity North West's Information Technology investment and services.

In recent months Mike has been part of The IET and Energy Systems Catapult steering group for the Future Power System Architecture project. He has also been advising

John Scott FIET



John Scott is currently an independent consultant with 40 years experience of electricity distribution, transmission and regulation. His previous roles include Director of Engineering for National Grid, Technical Director for Ofgem, and Director Network Innovation for KEMA Consulting.

He takes a particular interest in innovation and sustainable energy systems, and factors critical to successful deployment of innovation on power systems. He was a founder member of the government's Smart Grid Forum and has recently been a Non Executive Director at Smarter Grid Solutions Ltd. He is currently an advisor to Pearlstone Energy. He also chairs the Technical Advisory Board of the FLEXIS project. He is an active Fellow of the Institution of Engineering & Technology and has served as a member of the Board of Trustees.

He is currently on the steering group for the Future Power System Architecture project (FPSA), which is being led by The IET jointly with the Energy Systems Catapult.



Duncan Botting BA, FEI, FRSA, FEMA, MIET, MIEEE



Duncan Botting, currently holds the post of Managing Director Global Smart Transformation Limited. In this role he works closely with customers, academia, industry, utilities, government and regulators to deliver innovative technical, commercial, environmentally balanced and culturally acceptable solutions to market challenges. He also provides mentoring and business acceleration services to numerous SMEs to help them achieve their strategic aims. He has over 40 years' experience covering the complete spectrum of technical and commercial roles from apprentice to boardroom. He is engaged across the energy domain from market design to end user delivery and is invited on many influential panels, advisory boards and committees at a National, European and International level. He gained his degree from the Open University in Mathematics and Physics. He is a visiting professor at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow and previously was a visiting professor at Imperial College London.

He is an active member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET, formerly the IEE). He is chair of the IET Energy Sector Executive, a member of the IET Energy Policy Panel and IET / Energy Systems Catapult Future Systems Architecture Project (FPSA) steering group, founding member of the DECC/Ofgem Smart Grid Forum and a work stream chair and currently member of the BEIS/Ofgem Smart System Forum. He was voted one of the top 40 influencers in Europe on Smart Grids by his peers in 2014 (Metering and Smart Energy International). He is an international research assessor/advisor for competitive research programmes in various countries.

In the area of energy, telecommunications, smart infrastructure and climate security Duncan has been a thought leader for over 20 years and has been contributing to national critical infrastructure working groups (DoE, UK, Asia), global corporate R&D and scenario building to inform and challenge board level decisions. He is helping to shape future thinking and deployment across the energy, telecommunications, technology and future cities sectors by challenging traditional approaches and using his experience to, hopefully, benefit societal outcomes.



Eric Brown BSc, BEng, MSc



Eric joined Innovate UK in April 2014 as Energy Systems Catapult Programme Manager. In this role he supported strategy development and planning and, in addition, led projects aimed at building early capability and presence for the Energy Systems Catapult. In April 2015, when the Catapult was fully established, he became Interim Head of Strategy and Innovation. In 2016 Eric was appointed to his current role, Head of Innovation.

Eric combines an electrical engineering background with many years' experience in the telecommunications industry. He began his career in product and technology roles with major international organisations including Nortel Networks and Hewlett Packard. He then worked as an independent consultant with start-up network operators in various European countries as they sought to build the infrastructure that would enable them to deliver services in competitive markets. This led to co-founding a company that supported operators and their partners in defining and delivering Networks and Operations Support Systems solutions to address the demands of substantial technology and business change. More recently he has become engaged in the energy sector, where a particular interest is the use of ICT to enable and support evolution of energy systems.

Educated in Canada, Eric has a BSc in Mathematics and Physics, a BEng in Electrical Engineering and an MSc in Electrical Engineering. He is a Chartered Engineer and a Fellow of the IET.