**Press Release February 10, 2015**

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**COUNTDOWN FOR ICSG ISTANBUL 2015 STARTS**

**“The 3rd International Istanbul Smart Grid Congress and Fair”**, organized under the aegis of the Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology, the Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and UGETAM (*INTERNATIONAL GAS TRAINING, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH CENTER*), sponsored by TRT (*TURKISH RADIO AND TELEVISION CORPORATION*), Daily Sabah, Turkcell and Vodafone, and participated by the leading companies of the industry, is, this year, to be held at Halic Congress Center, Istanbul on April 29 and 30, 2015.

The series of “**International Istanbul Smart Grid Congress and Fair**” events, the first of which had been held on May 9, 2013, and the auguration of had been honored **H.E. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan**, the Prime Minister of the time, (ICSG Istanbul 2013), is to be continued in its third year as ICSG 2015, now a UFI approved tradeshow and an IEEE PES approved International Scientific Congress.

**Foreign Energy Ministers to convene**

The Minister of Energy of the UK, the Minister of Energy of Ireland, the Minister of Energy of Jordan, the Minister of Energy of Azerbaijan and the Minister of Energy of Germany are amongst the personal invitees of H.E. Taner Yildiz, the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

**Governmental Delegations to attend ICSG Istanbul 2015**

ICSG İstanbul 2015 will be attended by delegations specifically from the **USA, UK, France, Denmark, India, The Netherlands** and **Germany**, and complimentary bilateral meetings will be held, which will provide the fair participants with the opportunity to develop and improve cooperation with international companies. Also, the Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Economy will be organizing a “Procurement Committee Program” at ICSG 2015. The countries, which will be participating as a part of the Procurement Committee Program, have been designated to be The Netherlands, Jordan, Italy, Germany and the UK.

**Distinguished speakers worldwide to address the participants at the Congress**

**John McDonald**, the Past President of the IEEE PES, a Member of IEEE PES Region 3 Scholarship Committee, the VP for Technical Activities for the US National Committee (USNC) of CIGRE, the Past Chair of the IEEE PES Substations Committee, the Chair of the Smart Grid Consumer Collaborative (SGCC), the Director, Technical Strategy and Policy Development for GE Energy, and also an Advisor to the White House, and **Gianluca Fulli,** the Smart Grid Project for the European Commission, will address the participants as the keynote speakers at ICSG Istanbul 2015.

**Turkey’s new economic action plan was announced by H.E. Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu in November, 2014, and the Smart Grids industry is mentioned within the top five priority items of the plan.**

The 25 priority transformation items also covered by the program of the 62th cabinet of the Republic of Turkey and also by the the governmental development plans were publicly announced by PM Dr. Ahmet Davutoglu in three chapters, namely the real economy, the macroeconomy and the human – oriented issues. The top five priority items within the government programs and the development plans pertain to smart grids, and are listed as follows;

* Program for Reduction of Import – Dependency
* Program for Commercialization in Priority Fields of Technology
* Technology Development through Public Procurement and Domestic Production
* Program for Energy Generation Based on Domestic Resources
* Program for Improvement of Energy Efficiency

**The International Exhibitor Promotion Activities for ICSG Istanbul continued without a pause.**

As an outcome of the contacts and meetings with Cimperium - International Marketing and Sales Programs with regards to the promotion of the event toward potential American exhibitors, American companies will be participating to ICSG Istanbul 2015.

Leocadia I. ZAK, the Director of USTDA will be amongst the attendees of ICSG Istanbul 2015 congress, and act as the seminar moderator. USTDA will also be attending ICSG Istanbul 2015 congress and fair through a delegation of top government officials.

The British Chamber of Commerce in Turkey has recognized ICSG 2015 as a partner event, and has been carrying out the promotion activities for the event in the UK.

The French Trade Council has been carrying out activities for the announcement of ICSG 2015 to the French companies.

The Office of Commercial Attache of the Consulate General of Denmark and the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science will be attending ICSG 2015 as booth exhibitors, and organizing a workshop. Also, bilateral meetings will be organized with a committee, which will be arriving from Denmark.

India Smart Grid Forum has emailed the details of the event to some 40 thousand contacts, and has announced and advertised ICSG 2015 to some 2,500 senior executives. Bilateral meetings will be organized with a committee, which will be arriving from India.

Synergy Events, the Dutch event organizer, the organizer of European Utility Week, represented by HHB Expo in Turkey and an ICSG Istanbul 2015 partner, has been actively promoting the event Europe-wide.

Turkish – German Chamber of Commerce and Industry recognizes ICSG 2015 as a partner event, has been actively promoting the event toward both potential exhibitors and potential visitors in Germany. A news report about the event has been released in German on the Chamber’s website.

The British Chamber of Commerce, the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Commerce of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Jordan Chamber of Commerce will be attending ICSG Istanbul 2015 throough designated delegations as a gesture of cooperation.

The details of ICSG Istanbul 2015 Congress and Fair were given coverage on GEP, the most widely circulated international congress and fair website in Korea, as a result of the contributing efforts of KOTRA (Korea Trade Investment Promotion Agency), and Korea Smart Grid Association has been organizing a committee to attend the event.

ICSG was also advertised and promoted during Distributech (San Diego), held on February 3 – 5, 2015.

**Corporations, institutions and industry associations supporting ICSG 2015.**

The entities affiliated to Turkish Energy Foundation will be visiting ICSG 2015.

Turkish Electricity Transmission Company (TEIAS) will be visiting ICSG 2015 through the officials from the Head Office in Ankara as well as some 22 Transmission Facility and Operation Group Directorates as well as 10 Load Dispatch Operation Directorates Turkey-wide.

Turkish Electricity Distribution Company (TEDAS), currently covering 21 distribution regions nationwide, will be visiting ICSG 2015 along with all subsidiary distribution companies within its organization.

The senior executives of the 21 distribution companies affilaited to the Association of Electricity Distribution Companies (ELDER) will be visiting ICSG 2015.

Turkish Natural Gas Distribution Companies Association (GAZBIR) will be visiting ICSG 2015 along with its member companies.

**The congress program has been developed by ICSG Istanbul 2015 program committee.**

The Main Congress Hall has been designated to stage the inauguration and the industry-specific presentations as well as the panel discussions, while two halls have been allocated with poster and paper presentations, the program for which will be developed by the Science Committee. The presentation program will be finalized by the Science Committee through the evaluation of the presentations submitted with respect and reference to IEEE guidelines as ICSG congress is, now, an IEEE supported event.

A HUB, where workshops can be conducted and complimentary presentations can be given ve participants and exhibitors, has been erected at the trade fair space. The HUB & BUSINESS LOUNGE was sponsored by ORACLE UTILITIES.

**For Further Details, please visit:**

**ICSG webpage:** [**www.icsgistanbul.com**](http://www.icsgistanbul.com)

**ICSG promotional film;** <http://vimeo.com/109445935>  *( Turkish)*

<http://vimeo.com/109455318> *( English)*