

## **Fraunhofer CSE selects XTRLs as 2014 TechBridge Microgrid Challenge Winner**

*Early-stage company developing integrated platform for microgrids wins project award.*

Boston, MA – May 6, 2014 – The Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE) is pleased to announce XTRLs International Inc. (XTRLs) as the winner of the 2014 TechBridge Microgrid Challenge.

Sponsored by The Shell GameChanger Program, the 2014 TechBridge Microgrid Challenge called for early-stage companies or teams to submit innovative microgrid technology solutions in the context of current or new business models. Forty-four applicants from around the globe were evaluated based on the potential impact of their technology or solution that will help drive microgrid adoption. Only teams that have raised less than \$2M in private sector funding were eligible to apply.

“The TechBridge Challenge is a unique platform to discover early-stage companies that are building critical technologies for industry challenges. Whereas most competitions end with finding a winner, identifying XTRLs as the winner is just the beginning for us. We’ll now work with them to support their product development so they can make a real splash in the microgrid space,” said Johanna Wolfson, TechBridge Program Leader.

The Challenge builds on TechBridge’s mission to help promising early-stage, clean energy start-ups build, develop, and validate their technologies to accelerate commercialization. By tapping into the deep industry knowledge at Fraunhofer, TechBridge executes targeted, low-cost projects from an industry perspective that move a product toward commercialization. Over the past three years, TechBridge project awards supported 16 start-ups that have raised more than \$70 million in follow-on funding to date. The Challenge selects a promising startup that is solving expressed market needs, and awards that startup with commercialization support.

XTRLs International Inc. is a privately held Delaware C-corp headquartered in San Diego, CA, specializing in utility management technology. XTRLs provides controls system technologies to large commercial, industrial, institutional, and government customers worldwide.

“The Fraunhofer CSE TechBridge award gives us an incredible opportunity to commercialize this microgrid technology, which otherwise might take years,” said Deanna Bebb, President, XTRLs International.

## **About the Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE)**

The Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit applied research and development laboratory dedicated to fostering economic development through the commercialization of clean energy technologies for the benefit of society. With a focus in building energy technologies, solar photovoltaics, distributed electrical energy systems, start-up assistance, and technical validation, Fraunhofer CSE engages in collaborative research with private companies, government entities, and academic institutions. Fraunhofer CSE is a subsidiary of Fraunhofer USA and affiliated with Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Europe's largest contract R&D organization.

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### **Press Contact**

Lia Breunig  
Marketing Communications Manager  
Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems  
lbreunig@fraunhofer.org | +1 617-714-6512