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**Electricity Usage Due to EVs Could Soar by 1700% by 2020, UTC Report Finds**

(Washington, DC), April 27, 2011 -- Energy usage attributable to electric vehicles could rise 1,700% by 2020, according to a report authored by utility management consulting firm The Shpigler Group and released today by the Utilities Telecom Council (UTC). Annual megawatt hour (MWh) usage from electric vehicles could grow from only 146,000 in 2010 to 2.6 million by 2020, the report notes, raising a host of technological and operational issues for the nation's electric utilities, particularly when it comes to modernizing and upgrading utility communications and information technology.

The report, *Gearing Up for Electric Vehicles: Tackling the EV Challenges to the Smart Grid*, also notes that this surge in EV usage could foster a 61-fold annual reduction in CO2 emissions, with almost 2.6 million tons in emissions reductions that year. To accommodate this game-changing shift in electricity usage, a number of key issues must be addressed, including improved battery performance, continued exploration of vehicle-to-grid technology that can utilize EV batteries as grid storage devices and infrastructure innovations that support the peak load changes that EVs will introduce to the grid. Chief among the innovations are improvements in communications and IT technologies, which are needed to better plan and operate the electric delivery system, particularly meter data and network management systems.

"Ensuring grid reliability with hundreds of thousands of new electric vehicles plugging in every day will require a significant expansion of utilities existing communications and control networks," noted UTC President & Chief Executive William R. Moroney. "This report provides an excellent framework to help UTC's member utilities understand the ICT network designs required to navigate the EV technology challenges ahead," he added.

"The rapid growth of electric vehicles in the coming years promises to be a real game-changer for electric utilities," explained David Shpigler, President of The Shpigler Group. "At a minimum, each electric utility will need to ensure that the grid can handle the increased load that will undoubtedly occur. Meanwhile, certain utilities will look to become more active participants in the EV sector, and this report will help to provide a guide as to the varying options at hand."

*Gearing Up for Electric Vehicles: Tackling the EV Challenges to the Smart Grid*. The report is sponsored by Accenture. It is available at no charge to UTC's utility members and available for sale to UTC's associate members and non-members. For more information, download the report's table of content or visit <http://www.utc.org/utc/gearing-electric-vehicles-tackling-ev-challenges-smart-grid-april-2011>.



### **Utilities Telecom Council**

The Utilities Telecom Council (UTC) is a global, full-service trade representing entities that own, manage, or provide critical telecommunications systems in support of core services. Founded in 1948, UTC has evolved into a dynamic organization that represents the broad communications interests of electric, gas, and water utilities; natural gas pipelines; other critical infrastructure entities and other industry stakeholders. Visit [www.utc.org](http://www.utc.org) for more information on UTC and its services.

### **The Shpigler Group**

The Shpigler Group supports a client through the development of strategic management consulting services. We focus on the electric utility and communications industries in identifying opportunities to create value in a constantly changing world. For more information about the firm, please visit the company's website at [www.shpigler.com](http://www.shpigler.com).