



DECISION READY IN REAL-TIME

Presented by

Matt Tolbirt (PG&E), Kevin Bellflower (PG&E), Mike Nettler (PG&E), Greg Dumas (DST Controls)

About PG&E Electric Transmission

Electricity and Gas

- Northern and Central California
- 15 million people
- 70,000-sq-mile service area
- 140,000 circuit miles
- All-time Peak
 22,544MW (07/25/06)

Transmission

(Circuit Miles)

•	•
500 kV	1,330
230 kV	5,420
115 kV	6,230
60/70 kV	5,660
Total	18,640

Substations

Transmission 142

We Serve 1 in 20 Americans







Honoring Innovation

Electric Operations Systems Dispatchers are Rewarded for Innovation

By Alex Jespersen-Wheat | April 25, 2013

Mike Nettler knows that the saying, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" doesn't hold true at PG&E. In fact, it's quite the opposite.

Here, employees are rewarded for speaking up about processes that are working, but could be made even better. For example, Mike—a Senior Systems Dispatcher in Electric Operations—has been working over the past year-and-a-half to develop a new process for monitoring power flow limits during outages.

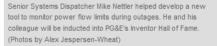
PG&E's Transmission and Distribution System has over 141,000 circuit miles, and on average, 63 pieces of transmission equipment are taken out of service each day. In order to provide our customers with safe, uninterrupted service, our operating transmission lines must reliably carry more power even if nearby equipment is removed from service.

This is where systems dispatchers like Mike and his co-worker **Kevin Bellflower** come in. Their role is to monitor the entire electric transmission system and ensure that power flow increases don't exceed the allowable limit for each line.

Previously, systems dispatchers would need to

create monitoring and alarming programs for new power flow limits whenever an outage occurred. The















March 7, 2013

Great companies do the right thing. The "right thing" for PG&E means we have no priority more important than ensuring public and employee safety as we deliver reliable and affordable natural gas and electricity

to millions of Californians.

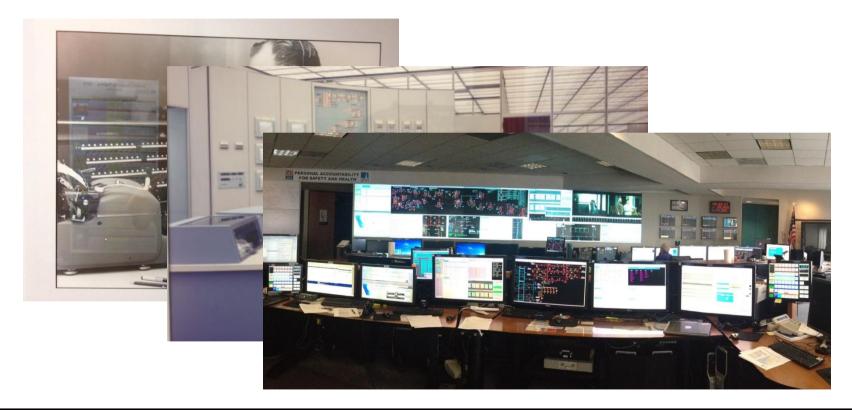
Read More >

Previous Messages from Nick >





Control Room Evolution







Constant Maintenance

Equipment Out of Service:

- 2012 approx. **23,000** equipment maintenance outages.
- Average of 63 per day
- Every scheduled outage requires an Engineering study to determine if adjacent equipment is At Risk
- System Dispatch routinely monitors 20
 to 40 flow limits per day for overloads
- We already use >50 Tools/Programs

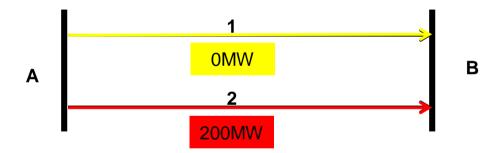






Equipment "At Risk"

Constant Maintenance means that adjacent equipment is being placed "At Risk" of Overload.





It Doesn't stop at Equipment "At Risk"

Super Bowl Power Disturbance

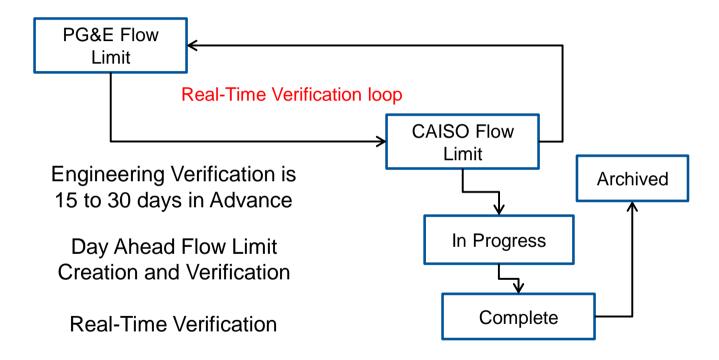








Coordinating with CAISO







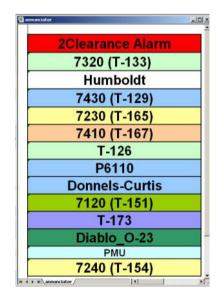


Today's Process

Spreadsheet



Generic Non-Audible Alarms





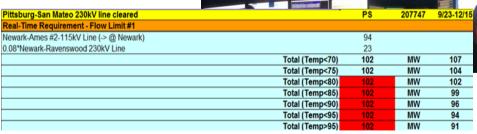




Additional Challenges

Static Limits for Dynamic Variables:

- Temperature
- Weather
- Time of Day
- Or other exceptional condition



More room for Error







Opportunity for Change

The Must haves:

- Dynamic
- Trend
- Audible Alarm
- Standardized
- Repeatable
- Easy to Use and Teach







Reality Check-Who is this Tool for?

Real Time Operations / Operators

Real Time Tool:

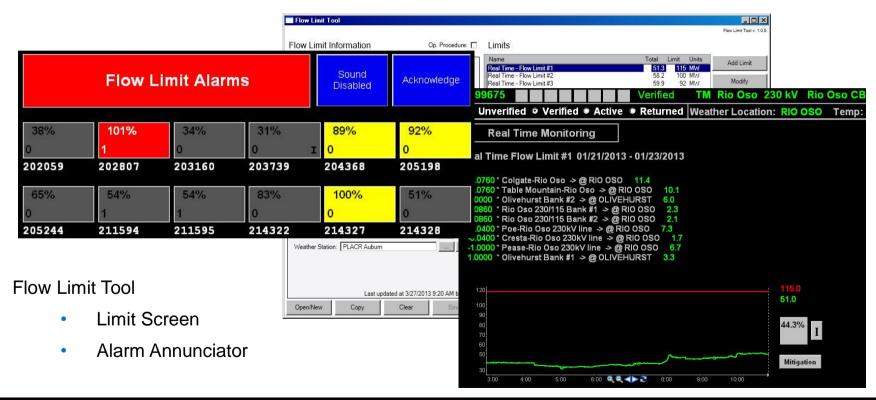
- We're building as many as 20 of these limits per night
- ProcessBook has repeatability limitations when building displays
- This is one of the 70+ tasks performed Daily...using just one of those
 50+ Tools we mentioned earlier

Dispatchers are **NOT** Display Builders





The Solution – Flow Limit Tool









Flow Limit Tool

Limits:

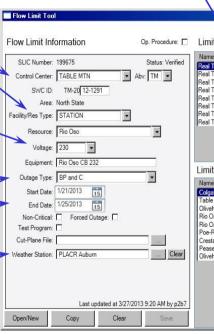
Type, Actual Flow Total, Limit

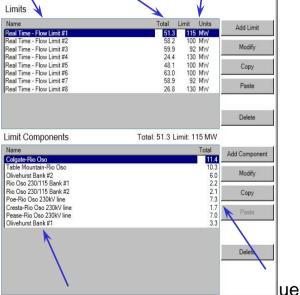
Flow Limit Information:

- Area of Control
- Resource and Type
- Voltage

(This Information is updated Daily from Outage Database)

- Outage Type
- Date
- Weather Station info (AF Tables)





(Updated in Real Time)







Flow Limit Tool v. 1.0.5

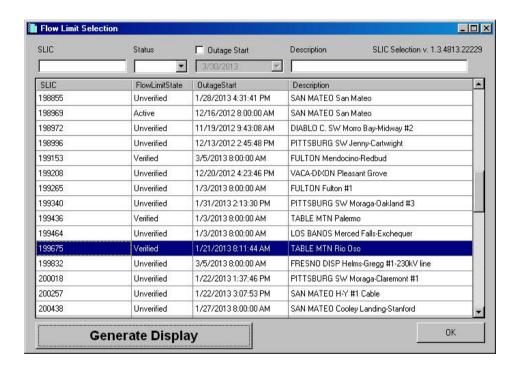
Display Generator

Add-in to Processbook:

Search Fields

- Control Number
- Verification Status
- Date
- Description
- EZ Buttons

Ease of Use for the END USER was a Priority





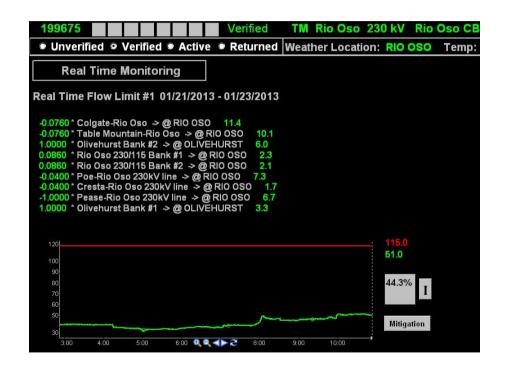




Limit Screen

Standard Display:

- Real Time Line flows
- Trend with Proximity to alarm
- Staggered Alarm points (Staged at 85% and 100%)
- Mitigation info button





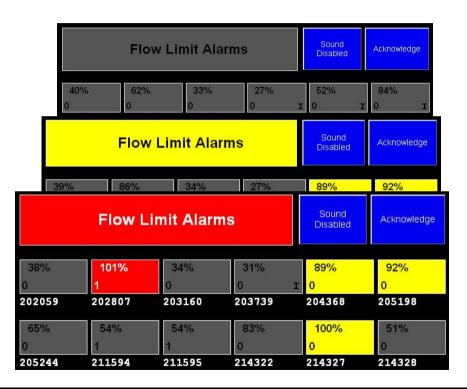




Alarm Annunciator

Standard Display:

- Real Time percentage to alarm
- Color Coded Alarm points (85% and 100%)
- Audible
- Linked to Limit Screen
- Provides Rapid Situational Awareness



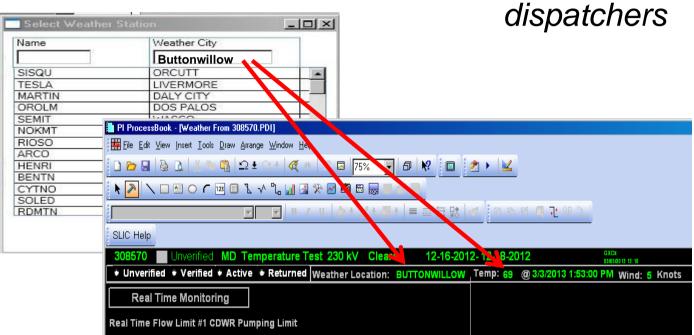






Adding Weather data

Real time weather always available to









Lets see how we did - Results

The Must haves:

- Dynamic
- Trend
- Audible Alarm
- Standardized
- Repeatable
- Easy to Use







Benefits: Enhanced Situational Awareness

Trends

- Visual Proximity to Limit
- Rapid Situational Assessment

Alarming

- Audible
- Staged 95% and 100%
- Color Coded

Weather

- Real-Time Temperature
- Wind measurements

Data Quality

Displays quality (Good, etc.)

Efficiency

- Reduced Set-up time
- Lower Training Time

Financial

- Rapid implementation of mitigation based on actual data
- Customer Power Outages are Expensive

Security

 Equipment 'At Risk' is more secure

Safety

Crews working on equipment







Questions?



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