



2022 Conference Schedule

October 11 – 13, 2022

Hosted by: Jackson Energy Authority

[Grant Event Center – Union University Campus](#)

1050 Union University Drive | Jackson, TN 38305

Monday, October 10th

- 1:00 – 4:00 **Cyber Security Round Table – NEW THIS YEAR – UTILITIES ONLY PLEASE**
JEA Training Center, 320 Hwy 45 Bypass Jackson, TN 38301
Stacy Mill, CISO, Nashville Electric Service (NES) will be our moderator of this FIRST TIME round table discussion with all the hot topics around **cyber security**. Bring your thoughts, your actions, your plans, and your concerns to the table and let your peers help you as you share in the discussion. No additional registration required, just show up, we will have plenty of room.
- 4:00 – 7:00 **Early Registration – Lobby at Main Entrance to Grant Event Center**
1050 Union University Drive | Jackson, TN 38305
Vendor Setup – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center
Vendors - Check in at registration table before setting up

Tuesday, October 11th

- 7:00 – 8:30 **Breakfast – Grant Event Center - Salon 3**
- 7:00 – 8:30 **Registration – Lobby at Main Entrance to Grant Event Center**
- 7:00 – 8:00 **Vendor Setup – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center**
- 8:30 **Program begins – Salon 2**
- 8:30 – 9:00 **Welcome – Mike Baughn - UTA President, JEA**
Welcome – Jim Ferrell - President & CEO, JEA. Monte Cooper - COO, JEA.
Recognition and Introduction of Special Event Sponsor
- **Entertainment sponsor – ATT/Firstnet and GeoTab (5 min)**
- 9:00 – 10:15 **Keynote – Mark Herbison, President of HTL Advantage. Kyle Spurgeon, President, CEO Jackson Chamber of Commerce.**
- Mark has more than 30 years of economic development and governmental experience with an emphasis on business recruitment, retention, and expansion programs. In 2019, he accepted the position of President of HTL Advantage, a three-county industrial development agency serving Haywood, Tipton, and Lauderdale Counties in West TN and oversees the development and marketing of multiple industrial sites across the HTL region.

Mark was instrumental in getting Ford Motor Company to choose Haywood County for their historic \$5.6 Billion dollar Blue Oval City. Technology is reshaping our economy, our industries, our livelihoods and West TN will lead the Ford Motor Company and our country into the *electrified future*. Mark will be joined by Kyle Spurgeon, President CEO Jackson Chamber of Commerce for a lively discussion moderated by Steve Bowers, Communication Manager, JEA.

10:15 – 10:30 Mike Baughn - Recognition and Introduction of Special Event Sponsors

- **Dinner sponsor 1 – Pure Storage (3 min)**
- **Dinner sponsor 2 – Honeywell (3 min)**
- **Dinner sponsor 3 – IFS/Clevert (3 min)**
- **UTA-GO Grand Prize sponsor – TBD (2 min)**

10:30 – 10:45 **Break** – Grant Event Center

Visit Vendor Booths – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center

10:45 – 11:30 **UTILITY SPOTLIGHT NES Cloud Journey – Vishal Marneni, Enterprise Architect, NES; Chris Beegle, Director of Infrastructure, NES**

Nashville Electric Service (NES) is driving technology modernization efforts in every facet of our organization including technology, people, processes, and vendor management. We started our ambitious transformation driven by two key goals: advancing customer experience and accelerating business solution enablement. Our presentation will go over the role of cloud technologies in our transformation and the journey of how Business and IT leadership accelerated our capabilities.

11:30 – 11:40 Mike Baughn - Recognition and Introduction of Special Event Sponsors

- **Poker run stop 1 – BGSF (2 min)**
- **Poker run stop 2 – ATOS (2 min)**

11:40 – 1:30 **Lunch** – Grant Event Center – Salon 3

Visit Vendor Booths – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center

1:30 – 2:15 **Staffing/Remote worker - Ron Womble, Chief of Staff, NES**

Technologists have embraced remote work for years. The pandemic accelerated remote work adoption at an unprecedented rate and the great resignation resulted in an unemployment rate of 3.6% across all sectors and 1.6% in the technology sector, employees are demanding flexible work options. This presentation will review strategies to embrace a remote workforce while retaining employee engagement, productivity, and company culture.

2:15 – 3:00 **UTILITY SPOTLIGHT Do You Operate Under a False Sense of Security? – Ron McLeroy, Technical Services Director, Huntsville Utilities. Tracy Williams, Senior Cybersecurity SME, PeopleTec**

We will discuss SCADA system security from the standpoint of an attacker and point out possible points of weakness or vulnerability that may need to be considered as part of an overall security equation. There are many points of entry to gain access to critical infrastructure beyond basic cybersecurity, and we'll explore a few of these.

3:00 – 3:30 **Break** – Grant Event Center
Visit Vendor Booths – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center

3:30 – 4:15 **EV Presentation – Ryan Stanton, TVA**
Join TVA as a thought leader on how electrification, EV will change the utility in the near future.

4:15 Mike Baughn – Wrap up and Recognition of Special Event Sponsor
• **Networking Event – Meridian Cooperative (4 min)**

5:00 – 6:30 **Opening Night Networking Event**
Location – Hilton Garden Inn 1324 Vann Drive Jackson, TN 38305
Join us for a casual networking event sponsored by *Meridian Cooperative*

Wednesday, October 12th

7:00 – 8:20 Breakfast – Grant Event Center – Salon 3

8:20 – 8:30 Welcome Back – Mike Baughn – UTA President, JEA

8:30 – 9:30 **AI and Robotics Development – Carter White and Sam Dean, Quantitative Analysts, TVA**

TVA's Enterprise Analytics team has been exploring the combination of AI and Machine learning with Robots for innovation. Spot, a robot produced by Boston Dynamics, was recently tested to automate data acquisition tasks. The team applied edge analytics, computer vision, and machine learning to allow Spot to collect data in various environments without the need for an operator. The goal is to generate insights from various SPOT sensor data (camera images, LiDAR, thermal, acoustic, etc.) and allow engineers and field operators to perform asset and equipment inspections from their computers. This session will include an overview of the technology used and how AI and Machine Learning are developed to apply intelligence to the data acquired. We'll also discuss how these technologies can be applied to various use cases to reduce costs and drive employee safety.

9:30 - 10:15 **UTILITY SPOTLIGHT - Outage Management - Community & Customer Communication - Howard Wu, Senior Program Manager - Crisis Management Worldwide Disaster Recovery and Investigations — Amazon - Washington, DC. Heidi Slakans, Memphis Light, Gas & Water (MLGW)**

In the global economy, multiple industries and disciplines are often pulled into a crisis that requires proactive Customer Communication management, be it a pandemic, an environmental disaster, a specific community or single customer. This presentation will focus on the communicators' coordination and communications, working with stakeholders internally and externally to ensure effective communication amid a large-scale crisis or a community outage impacting the customer planned and unplanned.

10:15 – 10:30 **Break** – Grant Event Center
Visit Vendor Booths – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center

10:30 – 11:15 **UTILITY SPOTLIGHT Business Analytics – Utility Panel Presentation**
Bruce Anderson, CEMC Dale Justice, JEA

Each panel presenter will share their different journeys into using BI tools to produce dashboards from big data that help their utilities make critical decisions.

11:15 – 12:00 **Utilities Migrating to Microsoft Cloud Ecosystem – Microsoft Presenter**

12:00 – 1:30 **Lunch** Grant Event Center – Salon 3
Visit Vendor Booths – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center

1:30 – 2:15 **5 Principles for Creating a Culture of Appreciation - Chris Doyle**

Back by popular demand, join Chris Doyle, former VP of Product Marketing at TelTronics and product innovation specialist at global giant Panasonic Corporation, to find out how you can influence the culture of appreciation at your company.

2:15 – 3:00 **Transparency in Government: TN's Public Records Act - Maria Bush, Open Records Counsel in the Office of Open Records, TN Comptroller of the Treasury**

This session is designed to enhance knowledge about the rights and responsibilities set forth in the TN Public Records Act. Topics covered will include how to receive public record requests, how to respond to public record requests,

how much to charge for public record requests, public records policies, and what records are confidential specific to municipalities and cooperative utilities.

3:00 – 3:30 **Break** – Grant Event Center
Visit Vendor Booths – Salon 1, Lobby, Heritage Center Area at Grant Event Center

3:30 – 3:45 Mike Baughn – Wrap up and Recognition of Special Event Sponsors
Instructions for D & E Event

4:45 – 9:30 **Entertainment night – Fun & Games in Downtown Jackson, TN**
Get your *poker face* on and join us for a *poker run* and a night full of games and winnings. We will have two chartered buses transport us to a couple of unique stops before heading to our final stop to continue gaming fun and dinner at Hub City Brewing.

4:45 – 5:00 Departure via shuttle buses to Stop 1 & Stop 2

5:00 – 5:30 Poker run stop 1 sponsored by XX

5:30 - 6:00 Poker run stop 2 sponsored by XX

6:00 – 9:00 Dinner & Entertainment

9:15 Departure via chartered buses back to hotels

Thursday, October 13th

7:00 – 8:00 Continental Breakfast – Salon 3

8:15 – 8:30 Welcome Back – Mike Baughn – UTA President, JEA

8:30 – 9:30 **UTILITY SPOTLIGHT Major Storm Restoration Efforts – Marty Ivy, Mayfield Electric & Water Systems.**

Mayfield Kentucky was in the path of an EF4 tornado this past December that destroyed much of the town and most of Mayfield Electric and Water Systems' infrastructure.

Marty Ivy will present his utility's journey to build back from nothing and share the recovery process, lessons learned, and how this will continue to impact them.

9:45 – 10:45 UTA Business Meeting

10:45-11:00 Door prizes/goodbyes

11:00 – 11:30 UTA Committee Meetings