

# ELES at the dawn of digital utilities

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**Abstract.** ELES, Slovenian Operator of Transmission System and High voltage network (TSO) is standing in the middle of the new digital business transformation that is today facing utilities all over Europe.

Involvement of distributed energy resources in alignment of supply and demand based on big data, asset management and asset maintenance strategies based on advanced data driven processes, security related smart grid investments and smart real time awareness applications, are typical technical advancements that have a strong impact on the TSO Business of today as well as for the future. Data driven decision making is another challenge related to organization and business models of energy companies.

Digital transformation calls for a better optimization of power and digital resources within the utility as well as better cooperation within the electricity sector, also on a trans-national level. TSOs are therefore more than ever involved in European energy innovation initiatives, research alliances and EU funded research projects. ELES is gaining momentum by taking over Coordination of European Research projects and through European experience creating stronger cooperation and alliance of partners also on the national Slovenian level. Research organizations and Academic institutions are gaining with strong involvement in the business oriented research that utility companies can use and disseminate in their environments immediately after the projects are finished.