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UCTE key challenge

- The association of Transmission System Operators (TSOs) in continental Europe
- 29 TSOs in 24 European countries
- UCTE ranks high among the largest synchronously operated grids - worldwide

One key challenge: SECURITY FIRST!
Facts (1/2)

- Manual disconnection of the line Conneforde-Diele
- Tripping lines of neighbouring TSOs
- Splitting of the whole UCTE system into 3 zones

Area 1 under-frequency
Area 2 over-frequency
Area 3 under-frequency

Facts (2/2)

Immediate reaction from UCTE TSOs (defence plan)

- Restoration of the service within 20 minutes
- Full re-synchronisation within 38 minutes
- Normal situation in all EU countries in less than 2 hours

⇒ European blackout was avoided
Causes

Two main causes

- Non-fulfilment of the N-1 criterion
- Insufficient inter-TSO coordination

UCTE Security Package

UCTE Operation Handbook (OH)
Multilateral Agreement (MLA)
Compliance Monitoring & Enforcement Process (CMEP)
Recommendation 1

Review Policy 3 of Operation Handbook (N-1 security criterion)

- Clarifying the contingency situation

Recommendation 2

Policy 5 to be extended (Emergency Operations)

- With Master Plan for UCTE wide / regional disturbances
Recommendation 3

Developing standard criteria for regional and inter-regional TSO coordination

Recommendation 4

Set up of an information platform allowing TSOs to observe in real-time the actual state of the whole UCTE system in order to better react during large disturbances
Appeal for support

- TSO control over generation output in severe conditions
- Technical requirements to be fulfilled by generators (also in the distribution grid)
- TSO to be informed about generation schedules and their changes
- Access for TSOs to online data of generators (also in the distribution grid)

The way forward

- Harmonized current national legal and regulatory frameworks needed
- A coordinated action under the umbrella of EC appears essential on reliability issues.
- UCTE welcomes the EC initiative for moving towards a new TSOs Community mechanism that would propose common essential security standards.
- UCTE offers itself as key partner to build up this mechanism.
Thank you for your attention!