

Cisco buying smart grid specialty firm Arch Rock

September 2 2010



The Cisco Systems logo stands in front of the company's headquarters in San Jose, California. Computer networking powerhouse Cisco on Thursday announced it intends to buy smart grid specialty firm Arch Rock.

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Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

"Arch Rock's wireless mesh technology enhances Cisco's IP-based, end-to-end smart-grid offerings," said Laura Ipsen, senior vice president and general manager of Cisco's [Smart Grid](#) business unit.

"This acquisition further positions Cisco as a strategic partner to utilities working to better manage power supply and demand, improve the

security and reliability of energy delivery, and optimize operational costs."

San Francisco-based Arch Rock was described as a leader in developing technology that lets utilities securely route data along [wireless networks](#) of sensors and [smart meters](#).

Word of the planned acquisition came a day after California-based Cisco announced a "strategic alliance" with Itron, a US company that specializes in "intelligent" devices for metering use of electricity, gas or water.

"The alliance between Cisco and Itron represents a major step forward in the realization of a modern, more intelligent energy infrastructure," Ipsen said.

"Utilities will benefit from an energy grid that is more secure, scalable and reliable, as well as solutions that are easier to maintain and able to support future needs."

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Citation: Cisco buying smart grid specialty firm Arch Rock (2010, September 2) retrieved 23 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2010-09-cisco-smart-grid-specialty-firm.html>

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