



Richard Burt Appointed Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer; Dan Schoenecker to Retire

August 29, 2018

SAINT PAUL, MN. Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is pleased to announce the following leadership changes, effective immediately. Richard Burt, Vice President Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Standards, has been promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer reporting to Sara Patrick, President and CEO. In his new role, Burt will oversee and be responsible for providing strategic direction and guidance to MRO's compliance monitoring, risk assessment and mitigation, registration, security and operations teams. "Richard's many years of industry experience, diverse technical power systems background, and exemplary leadership skills have been instrumental to MRO's success," said president and CEO Sara Patrick. "He is uniquely qualified to oversee MRO's technical teams and I am confident that he will continue to drive operational excellence across these areas of the company and help lead alignment efforts within the ERO."

Burt joined MRO in February 2012 as a Principal Risk Assessment and Mitigation Engineer and was promoted to Vice President Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Standards in April 2015. About the promotion, Burt said "I'm honored to have the opportunity to lead the diversely talented technical staff that comprise these teams at MRO, and look forward to furthering collaboration in support of effective and efficient mitigation of reliability and security risks to the bulk power system."

To oversee the day-to-day activities of MRO's compliance monitoring and risk assessment and mitigation staff, two new director-level positions have been created and filled internally. Jeff Norman, Risk Assessment and Mitigation Principal, was promoted to Director of Compliance Monitoring, and Bill Steiner, Risk Assessment and Mitigation Principal, was promoted to Director of Risk Assessment and Mitigation. Reporting directly to Burt, these new director positions will ensure greater alignment in the application of the standards and in the risk-based oversight tools used by MRO to identify and mitigate risks to reliability of the bulk power system.

Additionally, effective September 1, 2018, MRO's CMEP Process Principal Ken Gartner will be promoted to Director of Internal Oversight and Information Technology. In this new position, Gartner will be responsible for conducting and directing periodic internal oversight monitoring of MRO's

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CMEP activities, facilitating responses to all NERC and FERC oversight requests related to delegated functions (excluding financial oversight requests), and overseeing MRO's Information Technology Department operations. Gartner will report to Sara Patrick.

About the new organizational structure, Patrick said, "This new structure better aligns MRO with the ERO Enterprise and allow us to more effectively and efficiently implement and expand our risk-based approach to regulation. I am looking forward to the leadership, insight and experience these new directors will bring both to MRO and the ERO."

Finally, MRO's Vice President Operations Dan Schoenecker has announced he will retire at the end of 2018. Schoenecker has served as Vice President of Operations for the past 12 years and the organization has certainly benefited from his many years of industry experience, knowledge of the regional bulk power system, and leadership in many areas of the company. Schoenecker also represented MRO on many NERC and ERO leadership teams, along with industry committees and working groups. "Dan's highest priority has always been reliability of the bulk power system," Patrick said, "He has been an instrumental member of the MRO team and we are really going to miss him." Schoenecker will begin his transition immediately and will be in the office three days a week.

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Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the reliability and security of the bulk power system in the central region of North America, including parts of both the United States and Canada. MRO is one of seven regional entities in North America operating under authority from regulators in the United States through a delegation agreement with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and in Canada under similar arrangements. The primary focus of MRO is developing and ensuring compliance with reliability standards and assessing the grid's ability to meet the demands for electricity.