

News Release

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Southeastern Electric Exchange works with Avanade to drive technology advances and help speed up disaster relief

Southeast's leading organization in charge of restoring electricity deploys newest Microsoft technologies to modernize infrastructure and reduce emergency response time

SEATTLE, May 13, 2020 – When rough weather or a natural disaster strikes, Atlanta-based Southeastern Electric Exchange (S.E.E.), the trade association of investor-owned electric utility companies in the southeastern U.S., is responsible for mobilizing workers and equipment across 23 states and the District of Columbia to restore power. To make its operations as reliable and responsive as possible, S.E.E. turned to Avanade, the leading digital innovator in the Microsoft ecosystem, to update its business and communications systems.

Avanade has helped S.E.E. move its communications systems to Microsoft® Office 365 and Microsoft's powerful cloud platform, Azure, combining state-of-the-art online communications technology with the power and flexibility of a cloud-based system. The result: more reliable communications, a faster response time and shorter power outages.

"During an emergency, a fast response can save lives," said Avanade Southeast General Manager Amy Zoretic. "S.E.E. stressed to us that its communications systems must be secure, stable and fast. Avanade installed a more reliable and agile system that responds fast when it counts, improves performance, can be updated often and ultimately lowers operations costs."

With Microsoft 365's built-in robust security features, S.E.E.'s online systems are now more secure and significantly more reliable, thanks to its new built-in Microsoft cloud backup capabilities.

"As we move into spring storm and hurricane season, the reliability of our communications and collaborations systems are more important than ever," said S.E.E. Executive Director Scott H. Smith. "Any time our members' electric systems are impacted and we need to mobilize resources, we can't afford

unexpected downtime. We are already seeing additional ways this new system will help us, as we explore all it can do.”

As one of the largest global deployers of Microsoft technologies, Avanade works with a wide range of companies across the energy and utility industry, helping them take advantage of the newest technologies to modernize their business and operations.

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About Avanade

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital and cloud services, business solutions and design-led experiences on the Microsoft ecosystem. Our professionals bring bold, fresh thinking combined with technology, business and industry expertise to help make a human impact on our clients, their customers and their employees. We are the power behind the Accenture Microsoft Business Group, helping companies to engage customers, empower employees, optimize operations and transform products, leveraging the Microsoft platform. Avanade has 38,000 professionals in 25 countries, bringing clients our best thinking through a collaborative culture that honors diversity and reflects the communities in which we operate. Majority owned by Accenture, Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at www.avanade.com.

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