

Keynote Speaker:



Joe Zhou, VP and Sr. Managing Director,
Black & Veatch

Abstract

With the passage of both the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), There will be much accelerated growth in both renewable energy resources and electrification investments. This will force significant changes to the structure and operation of the electric grid. Utilities will need to seek solutions to transform its grid infrastructure through innovative technologies that can both scale and perform. Standards such as OpenFMB can play a significant role in achieving the decarbonization and grid transformation goals.

This keynote will explore the past, present and future of grid interoperability standards such as OpenFMB, analyze market demands for both In Front of the Meter (IFM) and Behind The Meter (BTM) use cases, and articulate value propositions of using OpenFMB for both utilities, energy prosumers, and technology solution providers. With mass deployment of grid technologies rapidly accelerating, time is now to work collaboratively and expeditiously across our industry to ensure greater awareness and adoption of OpenFMB. OpenFMB is an open and extensible framework that can provide the necessary "connective tissue" between all parties playing the eco-system we call the "Grid of the Future". There is greater need now for OpenFMB, let's work together to make it happen.

Biography

Serving as the global leader for Black & Veatch Digital Advisory group, Mr. Zhou focuses on the Infrastructure Modernization and Digital Transformation initiatives for electric, gas, water/wastewater utilities and distributed energy infrastructure owners. He provides executive level strategic advisory and thought leadership services for Grid Transformation, Electrification & Decarbonization, Resiliency and Security, and Sustainability initiatives. As a past co-chair of the first OpenFMB task force within the North American Energy Standards Board, Mr. Zhou was very active in leading several smart grid interoperability standards. Today, he continues to work collaboratively across technology vendors, service providers and energy and utility companies as we embark on the journey to the "clean energy infrastructure of the future".