



Guest Snapshot: Transmission Efficiency with CTC Global

July 2025

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New York, NY



www.bluedotcapital.co



hello@bluedotcapital.co

Blue Dot's Guest Snapshot Series

In our Guest Snapshot series, the Blue Dot Capital team, in collaboration with guest experts, unpacks topics such as regulations, geopolitics, and energy policy, and their ramifications for how institutional investors design and execute their investment strategies and programs.

Snapshot: Unpacking Transmission Efficiency with CTC Global

For this Snapshot, we are joined by J.D. Sitton, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of CTC Global, the world's leading developer and manufacturer of high-capacity advanced conductors. The company's cutting-edge ACCC® Conductors have been successfully deployed in over 1,350 projects across 65 countries and 30 U.S. states by more than 300 utilities to safely and quickly add the greatest amount of electricity at the lowest capital cost.

In February 2024, Endeavour Capital and Greenbelt Capital Partners made a strategic investment in CTC Global.

Q&A

Q: There has been a growing emphasis on grid resilience and the critical role of modern grids in addressing electricity challenges. Can you explain how CTC Global's conductors drive grid modernization and how you differentiate yourself in the market?

A: CTC Global's ACCC® Conductor is an industry leader in grid efficiency, offering a comprehensive solution to the challenges of modern grid systems that have been used by utilities around the world and across the U.S. Fundamentally, our advanced conductors can double the capacity on existing lines and reduce line loss by up to 40% compared to legacy conductors.

The ability to increase transmission capacity without requiring new rights-of-way or extensive infrastructure makes our conductors a particularly cost-effective choice for grid upgrades, supporting the rapid expansion needed for electrification and sustainability goals. Reconductoring with our advanced conductors can unlock even more efficiencies: it's around ¼ the cost of rebuilding or replacing a line, can reduce upfront capital costs by 50% or more, and can cut project lead times from years to months. Its superior thermal stability ensures safe operation at higher loads and cooler operating temperatures, thereby lowering sag.

These efficiencies allow utilities to maximize existing assets, accelerate the integration of new energy sources, and meet the energy demands of the future. The conductor's design also helps future-proof the grid by supporting the transition to a more resilient and sustainable energy system.

CTC Global stands out by enhancing conductor performance and offering tailored, high-impact solutions that drive grid modernization and resilience.

Q: Your global presence gives you a front row seat to see how electricity markets and utilities are adapting to electrification, extreme weather events, and greater deployment of renewable energy. What are some policy or market developments and innovations that have caught your attention?

A: For years, we've helped global utilities address the electrification challenges driven by rapid urban growth, industrial expansion, and installations like data centers. With little time to waste, customers needed "speed to power" solutions that cut down the lengthy time it normally takes to increase grid capacity. They turned to our high-capacity advanced conductors, which can double the amount of power transmitted in a matter of months.

Now, U.S. utilities are experiencing the same "speed to power" challenges, particularly with the expansion of data centers across the country, and they don't have years to wait. Accelerating the deployment of high-capacity conductors can make the difference between a project getting built – or not.

From a policy perspective, more needs to be done to encourage and enable utilities to install new technology like our advanced conductors and upgrade the dated grids. Already, we've seen lawmakers and regulators in states across the country pass initiatives to modernize the grid, including by encouraging the adoption of advanced technologies like CTC's advanced conductor. These are promising signs, but more is needed, from the state and federal levels, to ensure that our grid policies align with the pace of technological innovation and that we're prepared for the future.

Q: Speaking of innovation, let's talk about your recent partnership with Google and how it came to fruition.

A: We're so excited for this first-of-its-kind strategic collaboration. Google is a global leader in digital innovation, including cutting-edge AI technology supported by data centers, and shares our belief that we can't rely on 100-year-old wires to power the next wave of innovation and economic growth.

Google selected our high-capacity advanced conductors to help transform how energy moves across the grid, and to support our approach to meeting the historic load growth from data centers, manufacturing, and electrification. Together, we're working to encourage utilities to make the necessary upgrades needed to get more power out of our system using our technology.

The goal of the initiative is to encourage wider adoption of our high-capacity advanced conductors in the U.S. by offering support across cost assistance, lineman training, and technical assistance. We are seeking high-impact reconductoring projects that can be completed and unlock significant capacity by the end of 2026. We began with a Request for Information process open to utilities, transmission developers, state economic development offices, and local policymakers. Over the coming months, we'll move quickly to review and select projects and grow this collaboration to build out the foundational infrastructure needed to boost U.S. technological leadership and reindustrialization.

Hyperscalers want to ensure that they will have sufficient reliable energy to power their data centers, and we've already seen many of them partner with energy companies to help supply their future needs. Now, Google is looking at how that energy will be transmitted, and we're thrilled to be working together to deploy our high-capacity advanced conductors to boost grid capacity and reliability.

Our Guest:

J.D. Sitton, CEO, CTC Global.

J.D. Sitton is the CEO at CTC Global. J.D. has led start-up and growth-stage companies in the energy technologies and services, health care, and industrial controls industries for the past 20+ years. He has worked closely with leading investors and strategic partners to develop and launch new products and services for electric utilities, oil and gas companies, and petrochemical operators. J.D. holds an MBA from the Bauer School of Business and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rice University.

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