

**ELECTRICAL AUTOMATION  
SYSTEMS TOWARDS INTELLIGENT  
AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
APPLICATIONS**

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Musse Mohamud Ahmed



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**ELECTRICAL AUTOMATION SYSTEMS**  
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**APPLICATIONS**

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## CHAPTER 4

### SCADA SYSTEM FOR ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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Chapter 4 deals with SCADA history overview and in order to upgrade the existing one to better one and SCADA research to distribution system in Malaysia.

#### 4.1 SCADA History

In 1997, a switching gear tripped at the Sultan Salehuddin Abdul Aziz power station in Klang, caused load shedding from Kuala Lumpur to Johor Baharu [1]. At that time, TNB was not equipped to deal with unexpected crisis. In order to improve the quality of service to consumers, TNB has installed Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System/Data Automation (SCADA/DA) programmed in the distribution network in stages from 1998 to 2004 [2].

SCADA is a process control system that enables a site operator to monitor and control processes that are distributed among various remote sites. The IEEE Std C37.1-1994 specification for the electric power industry defines SCADA systems as “a system operating with coded signals over communication channels so as to provide control of remote terminal unit (RTU) equipment” [3].

SCADA began in the early sixties as an electronic system operating as input and output (I/O) transmissions between a master station and a remote station. The master stations would receive data through a telemetry network and then store the data on mainframe computers. In the early seventies, Distributed Control Systems (DCS) were developed to control separate remote subsystems and in the eighties, with the development of the microcomputer, process control could be distributed among remote sites. Further development enabled the DCS to use Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC), which have the ability to control sites without taking direction from a master. In the late nineties, SCADA systems were built with DCS capabilities and systems were customized based on certain proprietary control features built in by the designers. Now with the Internet being utilized more as a communication tool, SCADA and telemetry systems are used automated software with certain portals to download information or control a process. Good SCADA systems today not only control processes but are also used for measuring, forecasting, billing, analyzing and planning.

Historically, SCADA system has consisted of four components which are the supervisory system, remote terminal units, a communication network, and field instruments.