

Exacter Predictive Technology for Preventing Outages



Exacter's Predictive Technology helps municipal utilities identify and locate significant points of risk on their overhead systems. Exacter finds deteriorating assets that usually cannot be identified from visual or IR inspections. This allows true conditions-based maintenance to take place before a power outage occurs. Exacter has become an extremely important tool for reducing power outages, minimizing emergency repairs, and improving reliability for many municipal utilities, IOUs and CoOps across the country.



Orrville OH – Factory Outage Prevented:

Orrville is a medium-sized municipal utility in Ohio. Their power supply is critical to local industry including, Smucker's, the noted jam and jelly manufacturer. During their first deployment of Exacter Technology, a three-phase cutout was identified as deteriorated on a backbone circuit. Visual inspection did not indicate a problem. However, when the lineman operated the cutout, the porcelain body shattered and the live conductor came loose. The operations manager remarked that had the cutout failed when there was no one on sight to repair it, there would have been an outage of over half of the city.



The City of Westerville, OH – 80% System Outage Prevented:

During a routine PdM inspection survey with Exacter technology, a failure signature was identified as coming from a major feed riser-pole. Upon close examination of the top of the structure it was noticed that the sub-transmission cable ground leads had been blown off the terminations. There were also burned cables going underground. This was an imminent failure that would have taken out 80% of the city's system and would have resulted in a significant rebuild. The repair was made before any problem occurred.



Village of Jackson Center, OH – Protecting Industrial Customers

Exacter uncovered 22 insulators and two lightning arresters emitting failure signatures. In early 2016, Exacter performed its second reliability survey, finding 32 problematic components. One of them was a dead end bell going into a 69kV line, which was the only line going in to the substation. Had it failed, it would have taken out the majority of the community plus a number of key industrial customers. "We let our customers know that we patrol the lines with Exacter to assure reliable power. It's literally the best tool in our reliability toolbox," states Village Administrator Bruce Metz. The two Exacter surveys prevented significant problems that could have impacted the community's largest industrial customers.