

Jackson Center Ohio Uses State-of-the-Art Technology from Exacter to Assure Residents and Commercial Customers of Reliable Electric Power

Summary

- Received insightful grid health assessment
- Prevented major issue with 69kV line to substation
- Solved “flickering” problem with largest industrial customer
- Uncovered 32 arcing components on system
- Able to make repairs during regular business hours

(Jackson Center, OH — January 15, 2017) - Jackson Center is a village in west central Ohio and the home of Airstream Travel Trailers -- along with a number of other companies that comprise a relatively large manufacturing base for a small community. When Dane Nagel of Exacter, Inc. approached them about using a new technology that could help improve overhead reliability

AMP MEMBERS PREVENTING OUTAGES WITH EXACTER TECHNOLOGY



More than 20 AMP Member Communities are using Exacter technology to help prevent power outages and improve reliability.

Exacter

www.exacterinc.com

Dane Nagel - dnagel@exacterinc.com
cell: 937-570-3374

and reduce power outages, they were very interested. Dane informed them of many AMP Public Power communities taking advantage of this technology. “Dane was formerly the utility supervisor for a neighboring AMP Public Power utility in Versailles, Ohio and we knew he had used Exacter there and was pleased with the results so there was instant credibility when he came in to speak with us,” states David Overman, Utility Superintendent for Jackson Center. “We are a small community where we know most of the residents personally, so for us, reliability isn’t just a concept, it’s about taking care of the people you know.”

The goal of the Jackson Center program was simply to survey the lines and get an idea of the overall health of the village’s overhead assets. “We had no idea what Exacter was going to find,” continued Overman. “Our attitude was that if there are problems on our lines, we want to fix them quickly and on our schedule – not wait for an outage in the middle of the night and have to scramble. It just makes sense and is safer to do maintenance during the day. And preventing the outage is much better than even our quickest response.”

“Exacter found a problem on a 69kV line to the substation that had it failed would have taken out the majority of the community.”

Jackson Center did their first Exacter reliability survey in the spring of 2015. Exacter uncovered 22 insulators and two lightning arresters. “It was almost ironic,” states Village Administrator Bruce Metz. “On the same day we received our Exacter report, I received a call from Airstream about some flashes that were happening at the plant. The plant manager asked us what was going on because it had happened twice. I got with David Overman and we looked at the Exacter report and sure enough there was a problematic lighting arrester on the line into the Airstream factory. We immediately sent someone out to replace it and the flickering has not returned since.”

In early 2016, Exacter performed its second reliability survey of the Jackson Center community, finding 32 arcing or leaking components. One of them was a dead end bell

going into a 69kV line to the substation. “That was an important find,” continued Overman. “That was the only line into the substation and had it failed, it would have taken out the majority of the community plus a number of other customers in the surrounding areas. Getting the parts and doing the repairs could have resulted in no power for 5-8 hours. For the factories in our town, that would have been a huge loss, so we are very thankful that Exacter uncovered the failure before an outage occurred.”

“We are proud of our reliability and believe it’s a big reason we are able to keep companies here and even recruit new ones.”

Jackson Center sees Exacter surveys and the system health data as one of the most important reliability tools in their toolbox. “The Exacter reports pinpoint the pole number and even show a photograph of the arcing equipment. It’s all we need to send someone out to make the repairs,” concluded Overman. “We have a tight budget so being able to get ahead of problems, prevent outages, and manage them during safe working hours saves money and is how we want to operate.”

Village Administrator Bruce Metz has a different perspective on Exacter. “We work very closely with our industrial customers. They are the foundation of our tax base so taking care of them with reliable power delivery is extremely important,” states Metz. “We are proud of our reliability and believe it’s a big reason we are able to keep companies here and even recruit new ones. We let our customers know that we patrol the lines with Exacter to assure reliable power. It’s literally the best tool in our toolbox!”

“It’s literally the best tool in our toolbox!”

Jackson Center plans on continuing to do annual Exacter surveys part of their reliability program. “A lot of our components are 50-60 years old,” concluded Metz. “Being able to find points of weakness and eliminate them strengthens our system and makes it more resistant to outages – and that’s our goal.”