



## **National Grid:** *Proactive Overhead T&D Inspection Pilot Program*

In February 2010, Long Island Power Authority (LIPA, a National Grid managed company) started a two year pilot program to examine the effectiveness and accuracy of the patented Exacter technology and overhead system assessment.

At the completion of the pilot program, National Grid selected a number of components that were identified by Exacter to be independently tested by EPRI for degradation and/or contamination. The results of the pilot program and independent EPRI study confirmed the effectiveness of the patented Exacter technology.

In April 2013, National Grid presented their findings at the EEI 2013 Spring Transmission, Distribution, and Metering conference:

### **Project Design**

- Focused on Worst Performing Circuits (Transmission & Distribution)
  - o 18 Distribution Circuits
  - o 15 Transmission Circuits
  - o 334 Total Circuit Miles

### **Assessment Findings**

- Exacter performed a system assessment during February 2010
- 68 locations with 1 or more identified component
- 100 total components identified
  - o 96 Distribution System components
  - o 4 Transmission System components

### **Pilot Program Results and Observations**

- Majority of identified components (more than 95%) were not detected by visual inspection
- Independent study validated ability to identify degraded, contaminated, or failed components
  - o 50% of transmission components validated in lab testing
  - o 80% of distribution components validated in lab testing
  - o Field conditions cannot always be replicated in lab

*For more information on the National Grid pilot program, and to view the EEI conference presentation; please visit:*

<http://www3.eei.org/meetings/OMR%204%20Documents/Lauletta.pdf>