

Powercor Australia - Provision of Asset Inspection Services

Project: Provision of Asset Inspection Services

Client: Powercor Australia Ltd.

Location: Western Victoria

Contract Value: A\$3,000,000 - \$3,500,000 p.a.

Contract Duration: July 1997 to September 2006

In July 1997 Electrix entered into an historic strategic alliance with Powercor Australia Ltd, to undertake cyclic condition based inspection of its electricity distribution assets in the Western half of the state of Victoria. This was the first time Asset Condition Monitoring has been managed centrally across Powercor's entire business. Electrix and Powercor worked closely to develop standardised work practices, procedures and efficient work programs.

The service involves the provision of management, resource and materials to test, inspect and treat poles, inspect pole top structures, crossarms, insulators, conductors, street lights and identify trees interfering with powerlines needing attention.

At the outset of the contract Electrix successfully outsourced seventeen Powercor staff, introduced a comprehensive monthly customer reporting system and established an efficient material supply network and IT based benchmarking and performance reporting system. The inspection cycle is based on inspecting approximately 130,000 poles per annum and Electrix utilises a mix of day labour resource and sub-contractors to resource the contract. Innovative processes and specialised equipment are being used to refine work practices and increase productivity.

Within the first three months of the contract, Mr Terry Dovey, Manager Maintenance Contracts, Powercor, reported that "Already in the first three (3) months of the Electrix contract, what can only be deemed as great strides have been taken in Asset Inspection, and I am extremely optimistic for the future".

The contract has subsequently been extended and renewed on a number of occasions with the latest renewal for a period of up to 4 years ending September 2006.. At each stage further service delivery enhancements have been incorporated including the introduction of an updated electronic data capture system to further improve on the quality of asset condition and configuration data.



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