

PLP Electropar, New Zealand

1 of 19 manufacturing plants - 2,600 employees

Design, Engineering, Manufacturing and IANZ accredited Testing laboratory





PPA Synopsis

Managing utility assets without Network Standards and Specifications

- a look at what utilities have achieved when they adopt standardisation of design and equipment;
- the downstream outcomes of **improving network performance**, optimising annual capital and maintenance spend and being able to effectively hold critical spares;
- explore how best to **extend asset life**, improve network performance and other applications to improve resource utilisation
- this discussion will also address the ease of transferability and application to the Pacific island utilities and communities.





Asset Management practices vary significantly

...and as such, this poses a number of challenges;

- 1) unavailability of international specifications on maintenance
- 2) lack of uniformity in equipment replacement criteria across our industry
- 3) difficulty finding the right skills to maintain **aging equipment**, let alone **strategic spares**
- 4) managing aging equipment
- 5) deciding how to invest across a range of priorities





Sometimes it takes a 'burning platform' for Network Standards



- 22,900 km's of o/h network
- 330,600 electricity connections
- 104,400 gas connections
- 5,185km's gas lines
- Two Regions East and West
- Relatively good network with subtransmission at 33kV and 66kV and 11kV distribution
- Predominantly built in the 1950's and 1960's



The fuel for the burning platform - rapid growth



- 1993 New Plymouth Energy merged with Taranaki Electricity & formed, TEL
- 1994 TEL, (Taranaki Energy Limited) acquires the Hawera Gas Company
- 1995 TEL merges with Wanganui-based Powerco to become PowerCo Limited
- 1997 purchase Hawera based Egmont Electricity
- 1998 Government passes Electricity Industry Reform Act
 purchases Wairarapa Electricity's network business
- 2000 Powerco merges with **CentralPower**
 - CentralPower former Manawatu-Oroua Power Board and ElectroPower





...and more growth, but still **NO** standards



- 2001 Powerco purchases the Hutt Valley and Porirua gas networks
- 2002 Powerco purchases Electricity Assets of United Networks Limited plus gas networks
- 2004 Powerco purchases Siemens Energy Services Tauranga division
- 2005 Powerco sells its New Zealand contracting business to;
 - Tenix Alliance
 - 2015 Tenix NZ is sold to Downer

• 12 x Networks later...... purchase and sale of contracting business

.....different Network Asset Managers and Planners – our networks are different!





All the networks are completely different - aren't they?

.....they stand poles, string conductor, bury cable and bury gas pipes



What is different is;

- o system voltage
- o design
- o asset age and condition, and environmental factors such as;
- o wind speed, terrain, snow
- o costal, geothermal, urban and rural, resorts and islands

The first pass at standards achieved;

- ✓ product and supplier rationalization
- ✓ development of specifications, some but by no means all
- ✓ performance requirements electrical and mechanical, some but well short of all
- ✓ principal focus primary equipment, secondary equipment significantly lesser focus
- $\checkmark~$ adopted by ~ 60% of the 29 lines companies in NZ





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he connection you can count on.

Today



GROUP GROUP

- 2 x distinct regions Eastern and Western
- Both regions have separate planning teams under review
- Capital and Maintenance outsourced;
 - – maintenance
 - Capital contestable **Downer** Northpower electrix
 - smaller contractors for LV work
- 'Design by Jury' **changing**

Standards:

- are out of date and in need of "currency"
- acknowledged new standards must drive better network performance
- a view to extend asset life by using condition, location and geography
- tighter focus on specifications and reliability requirements







11kV cables

- Approved Standard refers to General Cables, (GC) as the exclusive supplier for some of the 11kV cables
- GC closed in December 2016, other suppliers yet to be approved

LV heat shrink

- 3 x suppliers approved
- One has moved out of the NZ market
- Vector does not buy the other product, similar for others in the industry
- Leaving one only supplier who is **very expensive** any guesses?





Procurement - the absolute lowest total cost of ownership with the greatest possible asset utilisation

- Does your procurement team purchase on lowest unit price?
- Is procurement purchasing based on your network standards & performance criteria?
- When materials **constantly fail** in the field causing **multiple unplanned outages**, <u>what changes do you make?</u>
- Do you check the materials procured will perform to the standards specified in your tenders?
- Is your organisation reviewing the test reports and validating materials they have purchased?





Are we doing and lifecycle cost and economic analysis?

Comparing a **one time large payment** for a **new asset** vs. **smaller payments** of keeping **an aged asset** or inferior asset with all maintenance, refurbishment and replacement costs, as such;

Ongoing distributed expenses are **converted into their present values** using **inflation** and **discount rates** – consideration for outage costs can also be factored in.

A range of international standards already exist;

- ISO 14040 life cycle assessment principles and framework
- IEC 60300-3-3 application guide life cycle costing

Even with standards, there is still variability on how life cycle costing is carried out;

- some exclude inflation and depreciation rates whilst others do not
- some include asset disposal and others don't, and so on





Documentation and Process - fundamental to success

Network Standard					
1	NETWORK	Document No Amendment No Approved By Approval Date Review Date		NW000-S0079 2 Chief Engineer 13/09/2016 12/07/2019	V V V
Supersedes Network Standard (NETWORK) NW000-S0079 Amendment No. 1					
NW000-S0079	NS181 APPROVAL OF I STANDARD VARIATION	MATERIALS & EQU NS	JIF	PMENT AND NET	WORK

AUSgrid has more than **100 different standards plus amendments** which are **living** documents constantly under review and refinement





Managing approvals needs the utmost rigor

Scope and Risks Addressed

- ALL materials and equipment used in the construction and maintenance of the Network must be approved by the Asset Management -**Network Standards Group**
- Approved materials and equipment are included in Australian Utilities approved materials list.
- Any variation to the • standards (design, construction and maintenance) must be approved by Australian Utilities.
- The standard applies to the procurement of all materials and equipment

Additional Information see Sections 1 & 2 within

Material and Equipment Approval

MANDATORY approval requirements;

- Inspection of manufacturing facilities:
- Inspection of testing facilities including:
 - documentation of test reports
 - record keeping
 - evidence of electrical and mechanical standards met, e.g. **IEEE. etc**
- **Approval Forms**
- Validity and Term of Approval

Tools and Forms Annexures A, B,C & F **Network Standard Variations** Approval

Ausgrid

MAJOR approval requirements;

- Approval of variations •
- Points of contact
- Form of approval
- Amendments to Network standards
- · Records update
- **Process Update**
- **Communication update:**
 - procurement
 - field crews incl. training
 - control room/RTAM group
 - Network Planners
 - Planners
 - Project Managers

Tools and Forms Annexures B, E & F

The connection you can count on.





Standards give you ability to reject equipment....



.....sub-standard equipment has undesirable impacts such as;

- ✓ safety
- ✓ reliability
- ✓ compatibility or operational issues

This includes, but not limited to situations where materials or equipment are found to be:

- faulty or defective
- lesser quality, as deemed by the utility, than a sample product that was submitted at the time of original approval
- different to what was approved
- manufactured at a manufacturing facility different to what was approved
- not compliant with the utilities requirements (e.g. due to **un-notified changes by the manufacture/supplier**).





Assessed based upon



- compliance with AUSgrid Network Standards;
- AUSgrid specifications which include applicable Australian and International Standards
- compliance with any other AUSgrid technical requirements
- type testing in accordance with the specification and proof of compliance
- current NATA or equivalent accreditation of the testing facilities
- current ISO quality accreditation of the design and manufacturing facilities
- manufacturing process controls
- environmental and work health & safety (WHS) impacts of the material or equipment (incl. compliance with Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and Regulation 2011 (NSW) regarding Safety in Design)





And underpinned with...



- bankable warranties and guarantees
- product and public liability insurances
- organisational structure and financial strength of the supplier
- **life cycle costs** of the equipment when used on AUSgrid's network
- implications regarding AUSgrid maintenance and operations processes
- training requirements





If you get it wrong, the consequences can be catastrophic







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Pacific Island Utility – supplied counterfeit equipment

- No specifications
- No test certificate
- No materials compliance
- Failed at 70% of breaking load
- Zinc plated pin instead of galvanised
- Attached to Transmission Lines
- Twice the price of OEM equipment!



OEM equipment is:

- Material specified
- Corrosion & Mechanical specifications
- Test reports & certification supplied



MATERIAL TO AS1154, GALVANISING TO AS/NZS4680 CLEVIS THIMBLE MINIMUM AVERAGE COATING MASS = 600g/m sq BOLT AND NUT MINIMUM AVERAGE COATING MASS = 500g/m sq

MINIMUM FAILING LOAD - 70kN





Counterfeit 70kN ACT-27-16

Failed at 51.3kN

Failed mechanical test requirement of AS1154.1 – 2009, section 2 Insulated fittings, clause 2.2. – Mechanical Strength Type Tests



Stainless Steel

Zinc Plated Clevis Pin & Zinc Plated Split Pin



Zinc Plated – TTF 3-4 years





Black Saturday in Feb 2009, bushfire survivors secured \$500 million





- 119 people died
- More than 1,000 homes destroyed
- 125,000 hectares of total destruction

Victoria has a history of electricity assets causing bushfires, 1969, 1977 and February 2009.

The electricity commission devoted a considerable amount of time to examining **systemic factors associated with the reliability and safety** of Victoria's distribution networks.





The Electricity Commission recommended MAJOR changes

- strengthening its regulatory capacity; and
- replacing ageing electricity distribution infrastructure with technology that delivers greatly reduced bushfire risk

PLUS interim measures aimed at reducing the risk of electricity assets causing bushfires in the short term;

- reducing the length of the inspection cycle
- **improving** the efficacy of asset inspection
- modifying the operation of automatic circuit reclosers
- retrofitting vibration dampers to longer spans of power line; and
- fitting spreaders to power lines to minimise clashing

There is **nothing worse** than being told how to run your business!





Pacific Island Tender with limited specifications

Tenders <u>MUST</u> have drawings & specifications otherwise what are you buying?



1) Dulmison part code, if not it will be a copy & faulty

3) & 4) okay but what is the die size for crimping? Incorrect die connection at risk.

6) & 7) what material? If al clad steel this <u>will</u> rust vs. aluminium

8) & 9) could be M12, M16, M20 Huge variation – price, size & strength

10) & 11) no galvanising specs, if from China this could be painted or Zinc plated





Some Pacific utilities appear blind to equipment standards for line hardware....this is **costing big \$ annually** and a major contributor to poor reliability

- Legacy products copied by some Trading Companies sourcing from China and India with NO regards to testing and standards
- Confusion in the market over manufacturer brands, such as
 - Dulmison part numbers being used even by suppliers/traders who copy the original (type tested) parts e.g.: ACT27-16, STC2-1 LTD75-1, AC58-1, LT48-1
- Procurement buying on "**looks**" instead of on correct test specifications, standards and manufacturer warranties
- When we see som Islands going through 400 connectors per month, that means they are faulty, i.e. to the tune of **\$230,000+** each year this <u>should not</u> be happening





Most focus on larger capital items such as switchgear, transformers and conductor, whilst the **smaller items fly under the radar of control and cost...**



.....we see **millions of dollars** annually being wasted in the Pacific on inferior products, purchased without standards and specifications





Mechanical Tests: Tensile and Compression

- 0-300kN Vertical test facility
- 10N Minimum tensile or compression
- 0-500kN Horizontal test facility to 20m test length
- Twist, wrap and torsion tests: methods: AS 1222, 1531, 3607
- 30kN Cantilever flex test
- Clamp slip test
- Tension tests on products without strain rate control

Dimensional Tests

- Profile projector
- Vernier callipers
- Micrometers
- Digital and analogue height indicators
- MEL lasers
- · Go and No-Go guages

Cyclic Thermal Tests

• Heat cycle of conductors with data logger capability to 240° C

Material Structure Analysis

- Gripo grinder polisher
- Microscope





Ultrasonic Testing

• Ultrasonic flaw and RIF detection

Mechanical Endurance Testing

- Induction shaker force rating 980N
- Frequency range 1.5-3000Hz

- Standards
- AS Australian Standards
- ANSI American Standards
- BSI British Standards
- IEC International Standards
- NATA Accredited





Hardness Tests

- Brinell at 7.35, 4.9, 9.8 and 29.4 kN
- Rockwell testing using B, C scales
- Vickers
- Shore
- Barcol

Prosperity Tests

Integrity testing of porcelain insulators

Application Oriented Endurance Test

• Fatigue testing of transmission line in-span conductor spacers

Vibration Analysis

- 2 x 30.5m Test spans equipped to measure vibration damper performance
- Vibration analysis measuring:
 - Damper mechanical impedance
 - Damper fatigue
 - Damper efficiency



Vibration Analysis

Galvernising Thickness Test

Magnetic method

Thermal Shock

• Extreme temperature change test on porcelain insulators

Thermal Endurance

• Prolonged elevated temperature test on spiral vibration dampers







Heat Cycle Tests

• IANZ Accreditation for IEC61238 (power cables up to 30kV) and IEC61284 (overhead lines).

IANZ is an ILAC Mutual Recognition Authorized Signatory. EPLP can co-accredit IANZ Reports with other ILAC Accreditations such as : NATA(Au)/ CGCRE(Br)/ CNAS(Ch)/ NABL(Id)/ KAN(In)/ SM(Ma)/ PAO(Ph)/ SANAS(SA)/ NSC(Th) / UKAS((UK).

• Lab equipment and methods can be adapted to accommodate other equivalent standards eg. BS3288:1, AS1154.1

Short Circuit Tests

- IANZ Accreditation for IEC61238 (power cables up to 30kV)
- Short circuit 11kV supply via two 400kVA transformers on-site
- Max Output: <u>25kA@40.6V</u> (~6s duration)
- Temperature monitoring

Magnetic Power Loss Tests

- IANZ Accreditation for IEC61284 (overhead lines)
- Heat units 2 and 4 provide pure sine wave current supply
- Externally calibrated instrumentation and measurement systems

Environmental Electrical Tests

- Programmable environmental chamber -40°C to 100°C
- Tensions up to 100kN
- Up to 6kV

Joint Analysis

- Analysis of ex-service joints to determine failure mechanism(s)
- Availability of live-line instruments and analytical tools including Ohmstik, Voltstik, and Reluctance tester



- Heat Unit 1 23kVA Max Output: <u>1533A@13.5V</u> or <u>2000A@9.78V</u> (Continuous) <u>1932A@13.5V</u> or <u>2300A@9.78V</u> (Short-term)
- Heat Unit 2 7kVA Max Output: <u>1000A@5.85V</u> (Continuous) <u>1200A@5.85V</u> (Short-term)
- Heat Unit 3 75kVA Max Output: 2500A@27V (Continuous) 3000A@27V (Short-term)
- Heat Unit 4 25kVA Max Output: 2500A@10V (Continuous) 3000A@10V (Short-term)



Predictive Modelling on conductor and ACSS compression fittings (asset life and performance)





Cyclic Thermal Tests •Heat cycle of conductors with data logger capability to 250° C























Existing standards and guidelines

ISO 55000, 55001 and 55002 are well-known general asset management standards published in 2014 and are a derivative of **PAS 55** standards originally from the British Standards Institute

- General in nature and targeted at larger assets in electricity, gas, water, road, air and transport, however under ISO 55001 planning for actions due to asset failures and subsequent impacts requires further attention
- and, more emphasis on monitoring and measuring asset performance
- Supported with;
- ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems
- ISO 14001 Environmental Management System
- ISO 31000 Risk Management
- ISO/IEC 19770 IT Asset Management
- ASTM E53 Asset Management Standards



• And the list goes on and on....**ONLY** use what your business can effectively handle to improve RoI and Network performance.





- ENDS –

Thank you for your time



