Boosting Oakville Hydro's asset management plan

Oakville Hydro has been using CableQ's non-destructive cable testing technology since 2016 to diagnose the health of their XLPE cables.

"Oakville Hydro's previous practice was to replace cable at the end of its useful life. Continuing this process of destructive testing to find out where potential cable failures would occur seemed to be like a lose-lose game for us." - Mike Brown, Chief Operating Officer, Oakville Hydro

Age is not the only indicator of an underground cable's condition. Soil type, geography, circuit loading, water and weather are all factors that, in addition to the infrastructure's vintage, impact whether a cable has reached the end of its useful life or is not yet ready to be replaced.

"Replacement based on age is not an option so utilities need more data to determine asset condition." Glenn Magill, General Manager, CableQ

The extensive research and trial period that went into the development of the technology was an important factor in Oakville Hydro's consideration and part of the reason the testing technology stands in a league of its own in the industry.

Unlike other cable testing solutions that deliver a pass-or-fail outcome, the health score from this technology means cables in good health can remain in service beyond their financial useful life, and funding can be optimized for maximum risk reduction.

To that end, Oakville Hydro is equipped with the health score to inform a long-term cable investment strategy that optimizes both spending and risk reduction. Brown says they plan to incorporate this quantifiable score into their Asset Management Process for project planning and optimization – a pre-emptive approach unavailable to them using the former model.



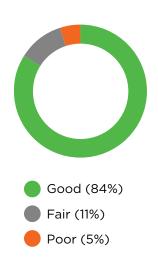
Quick facts

21,607m (102 segments) of cable tested

Total underground cable length: 1,389km

Customer count: 70,355

Results: Tested cable 25+ years old



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