

Task Force for the Development of a:
***Guide for Collecting and Managing
Transmission Line Inspection and
Maintenance Data***

Status Update

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Scope of the Guide:

- This guide provides **reference information** to assist electric utilities and their contractors with the **development of computer-based means for collecting and managing** transmission line **inspection and maintenance data** and associated asset information, including **inventory data**. It provides a **high level overview of key principles** and considerations learned through experience that will **help ensure common pitfalls are avoided** and **enhance the usability** of systems. It is **not intended to provide an exhaustive discussion** of the many details and specifics that must be accounted for when designing and developing a system for an individual utility's application and needs.

Purpose of the Guide:

- The purpose of the guide is to provide easy to use reference information that will serve as a framework and roadmap for designing efficient and effective systems that will facilitate and/or enhance:
 - Data Collection
 - Field and office usability,
 - Data integrity,
 - Compatibility with geographic information systems and enterprise solutions,
 - Data exchange with other systems and users,
 - System expansion and modification,
 - Transferability of data (from one system to another, i.e., due to system upgrade or implementation of a new system),
 - Data analysis,
 - Reporting,
 - Security, and
 - Flexibility to adapt to system and regulatory changes.

Sections of the Guide

| TOPICS AND DESCRIPTION | SECTION |
|---|---------|
| Drivers for Collecting and Managing Inspection and Maintenance Information – Reasons/rationale supporting the need to collect and manage inspection and maintenance information using efficiently designed computer-based systems are provided. | 2 |
| Starting to Design a Data Management System – A variety of key considerations ranging from determining stakeholders and development drivers to establishing requirements and resources necessary to design, develop, implement and support a system are provided. | 3 |
| Data Requirements – The types of data that need to be collected to meet various goals for system use are outlined. | 4 |
| Data Collection and Management Tools versus Data Management Systems – Issues that will be encountered and must be addressed when using multiple data collection and management tools within a data management system are discussed. | 5 |
| The Role of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) – Capabilities offered by and advantages of integrating GIS functionality with data collection and management systems are discussed. | 6 |
| Data Collection Methods – Brief explanations of the various methods for data collection are provided, including general considerations for each. | 7 |
| Matching Data Collection Capabilities with Various Types of Inspections – The capabilities of various types of inspections and the data collection features needed to support them are reviewed. | 8 |
| Sample Data Models – Graphical depictions of data models representative of those required to support systems with varying degrees of sophistication and functionality are provided. | 9 |
| Optimizing Data Quality and Usability – Data collection system design features that help ensure data quality and usability are reviewed. | 10 |
| Data Collection and Communication Hardware – Various hardware options for field data collection and data communication are discussed and the features and advantages of each are reviewed. | 11 |
| Reporting Functionality – A variety of types of reports, and report generation and presentation options designed to meet different asset management needs are discussed and samples are provided. | 12 |

Current Status

- July 2009
 - Reviewed by handful of WG members
 - No major changes
 - Draft is pretty much ready for submittal
 - Approximately 50 pages

Next Steps

- PAR review in September
- Submit draft shortly thereafter
- Goal is to submit final document by year end