

Engineering Standards & Practices Evaluation



Outline

- Current status
- An ABB Solution
- Why do you need this service?
- What questions can be answered?
- What else can ABB review?
- Benefits: Engineering Standards & Practices Evaluation

Current Status

Virtually all utilities have been forced to cut back on experienced manpower and drastically reduce attendance at industry meetings.

Thus, having the overall effect of increasing the probability that the utility may become more and more out of touch with the changing environment that they must compete in.

So how does a utility “benchmark” themselves to the rest of the industry?

An ABB Solution

ABB offers a service, called **Engineering Standards & Practices Evaluation** which will allow your utility to evaluate their distribution practices and engineering standards and prepare it for this re-regulated environment where both low cost and reliability are demanded.



Why Do You Need This Service?

- Get an outside perspective on reliability and engineering practices
- Answer questions about the present and future distribution environment
- Obtain ABB expert advice on industry wide practices
- Become familiar with new standards
- Reduce lead time and quality concerns
- Review any combination of standards, practices, manuals, audits, programs and/or contracts

What Questions can be Answered?

Reliability

- What indices are important and what's being processed?
- How do I reduce SAIDI, CAIDI, and SAIFI with little or no cost?

Voltage Control

- Why is system configuration so important to voltage control?
- What about higher primary voltage levels?

Economic Evaluations

- What is an effective method to evaluate equipment purchases over the life of the equipment?
- Can automation be justified economically?

Overcurrent Practices

- How “up-to-date” are my overcurrent protection practices?
- What's new in protective devices?

What Questions can be Answered?

Overvoltage Practices

- What is the best way to protect my overhead lines?
- Why is lead length so important?

Custom Power

- What is it?
- Are static switches effective?

Standards

- What's new in distribution?
- And how will the new standards affect my utility?

Monitoring

- Are other utilities monitoring equipment and system conditions?
- What is the cheapest way to monitor?

What else can ABB Review?

- System protection standards
- Distribution standards manuals and audits
- Reliability practices, programs and assessments
- Distribution planning process
- Categorization and prioritization of corrective and preventive maintenance work
- Equipment conditions
- Substation, overhead and underground inspection practices

Project Deliverables

Upon completion of the evaluation, the following will be provided:

- an all-day presentation of study results
- an open discussion of the results and conclusions
- recommendations
- survey results
- software options
- resource availability

Benefits: Engineering Standards & Practices Evaluation

- Improve practices, schedules and criteria based on consistency and effectiveness
- Bring engineers up to speed with industry standards
- Characterize current equipment conditions
- Establish resources required to address the future workload
- Compare recent progress to reliability and planning initiatives
- Receive a description of a software product that can be used to implement the process in a multi-district environment
- Answer questions



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