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Based in Finland  
Established 2019  
US focus starting 2023

**30**  
Employees

**Technology Company**

- Reliability solutions
- Transmission and distribution grids


**Innovative Solutions for Faults**

- Detection, Location, Prediction

**US Utility Customers**


- 18 Cooperatives
- 9 Municipals
- 6 Investor Owned

**Partner Network**




**Jake Rudisill Associates**

**Collaboration Acquisition**



Engineered to order. Built to last. **SAFEGRID**

	Global	United States
Customers	<b>80+</b>	<b>33</b>
Sensors Installed	<b>2500+</b>	<b>800+</b>



## Agenda

- Why focus on Grid Reliability?
- Why new tools are needed for Fault Location?
- Why Fault Prediction is important?
- Considerations for traditional fault location tools
- New technology, approaches and tools
- Use cases and examples

## Why securing the power system is important



### Reliable power supply more important than ever

Global electricity demand is projected to grow at 2.1% per year until 2040, increasing by over 50% in total



### Climate change and climate caused outages

Wildfires create up to 10 percent of global CO2 emissions. Detecting fire-inducing faults such as trees touching power lines enables wildfire prevention



### Distributed generation and renewables

Increasing penetration of renewables changes grid dynamics and makes it decentralized. Improved monitoring is needed



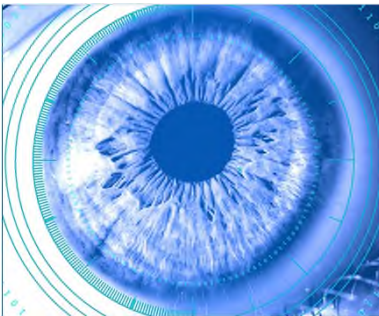
### Hard-to-find faults needs a solution

Traditional methods can't find high-impedance earth faults and intermittent earth faults. A new solution is needed

**Grid reliability is crucial for the on-going energy transition**

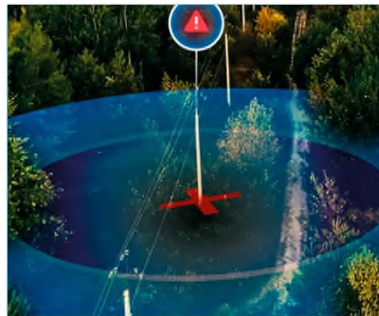
## Key elements of Safegrid's IGS

Application above 1 kV



### Improve grid visibility

Detect faults other solutions cannot  
High impedance faults  
Improve SAIDI



### Locate faults at 100 meter accuracy

Reduce restoration time  
Lower repair cost  
Improve SAIDI



### Predict faults

Identify precursory events  
Avoid unplanned outage  
Improve SAIDI & SAIFI

# Fault Location Solutions



## Indicators

- Flags
- Blinking lights
- Visual Enhancement for patrolling



## Communicating Sensors

- Fault current passage
- Basic data transfer
- Logical Fault location
- Accuracy is based on spacing - Patrol



## Advanced Sensors

- Communications
- Advanced data
- Impedance Model – Distance to Fault
- Multiple potential locations



SAFEGRID™

**Safegrid Technology – A unique approach to fault location and prediction**



## Fault Passage Indicators

- Pros
  - Patrol Enhancement
  - Can be relatively inexpensive/simple
  - Can have blinking lights to aid in the dark
  - Can communicate to SCADA
  - Solutions for both OH and UG applications
- Cons
  - Patrol past a point
  - Time over current – only sees certain problems
  - Voltage limitations
  - Can cause conductor issues – clamps, sag, ice
  - Manual reset F/I's sometimes do not get restored
  - Power harvesting models can have battery issues with low power flow
  - Radio comms are sometimes out of scan (900Mhz)

## Power System & Impedance Models

- Pros
  - Provides accurate distance to fault
  - Work well in Transmission/Sub-Transmission lines
  - Can utilize data from relays, PQ meters, DFRs
- Cons
  - Requires an accurate power system model
  - Requires tools, experts and time to calculate distance
  - Can produce multiple fault locations in distribution circuits
  - Calculations need to be updated for changes to circuit



## Newer Grid Monitoring Technologies



- Monitors mechanical parameters
- Quick to install
- Battery/Solar powered
- Works at any voltage
- No electrical information
- Requires devices every 2-3 poles



- Monitors electrical field
- Partial discharge
- Predictive fault capability
- Additional cross arm required
- Installation is engineered solution
- Data analysis - false positives



- Easy and fast installation
- No contact with conductors
- Works at any voltage
- Precise fault location - 100 meters
- Predictive fault analysis

# Safegrid Approach



## System Focus

Communications  
Data collection  
Cloud based software solutions  
System integration



## Technology

Traveling Wave technology  
Current waveforms  
Fast current transients at 1Mhz  
Location to +/- 100 yards



## Innovative Sensors

Grayhawk  
Grayfox

**Safegrid Technology – A unique approach to fault location and prediction**



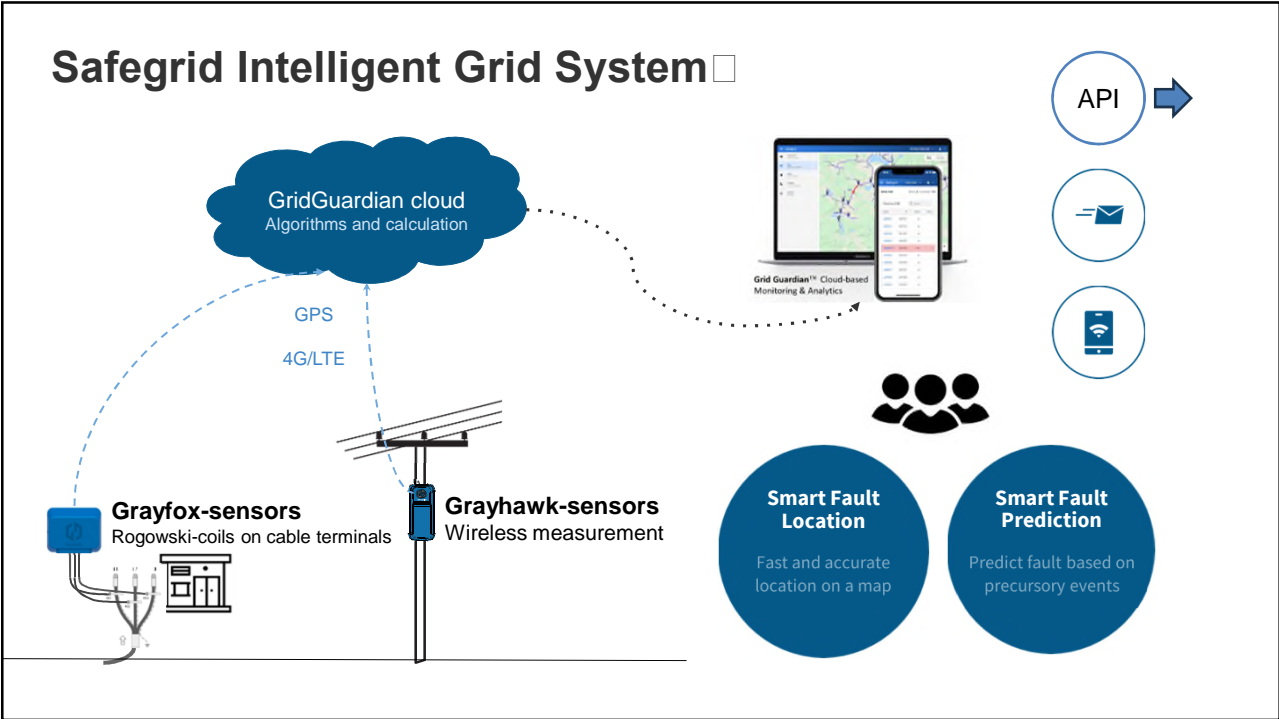
# SAFEGRID


## System

## Grid Guardian

- Intuitive event and sensor management
- Visual GIS based real-time monitoring
- Cloud based monitoring and analytics
- ISO 27001 Certified
- Browser and mobile user interfaces
- Stand alone tool for analysis and integrated with other system
- Smart Fault Location
- Smart Fault Prediction

LOCATE. PREDICT. PREVENT.









**SAFEGRID**

**Sensors**

### Monitoring the Grid



Transmission      Substation      Overhead Distribution      Underground Distribution

A simple and scalable solution for medium and high voltage overhead and underground lines

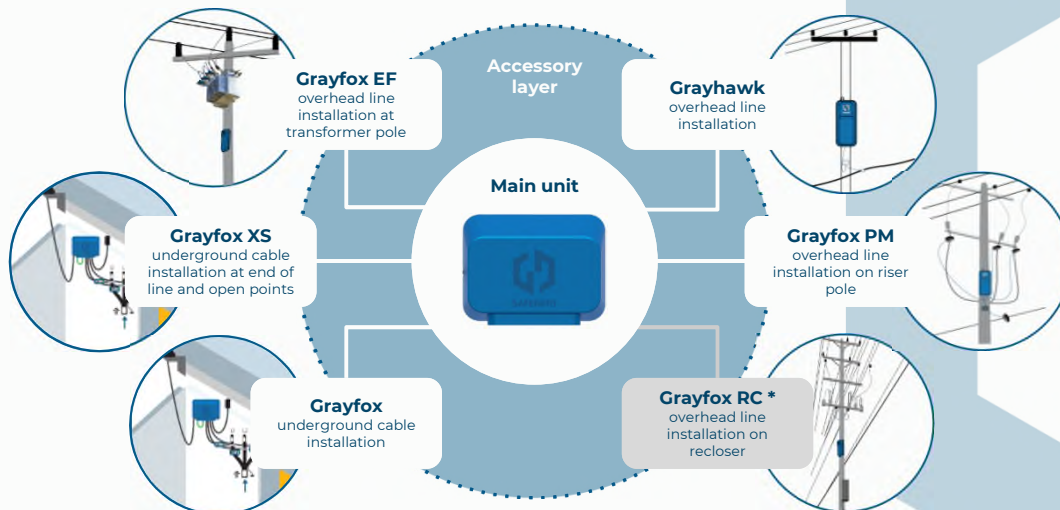
## Safegrid's IGS Sensor main unit

All Safegrid sensors are based on the main unit. Different variants are created by adding accessories to package with the main unit.

- IP Class: IP65
- Sampling frequency: form 2 kHz to 1.2 MHz
- Battery: Li, 24-hour backup, operating temperature from -35 C up to 75 C.
- Comms: 2G & 4G LTE-M, SIM card provided by Safegrid. Multi-network - the device selects the cellular network with the best signal
- Time & location synchronisation: GPS & Galileo



## Sensor main unit & variants





# Grayhawk

Overhead lines

- No physical connection to the line
- No outage needed for deployment
- Simple & accurate, sampling at 1 MHz
- Location and time sync by GPS
- Cellular communication to Grid Guardian
- IP65 rated
- Power 100 to 240 V DC or AC. Solar option 12 to 24 V DC. 24 hour battery
- Compatible with all grounding types and most pole configurations

Deployment in less than 30 minutes

Senses magnetic fields  
Detects transients

Innovative design for safe, simple and fast deployment



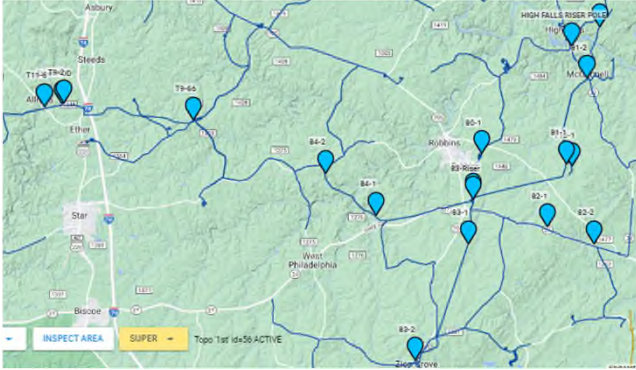


**SAFEGRID**

**Technology**

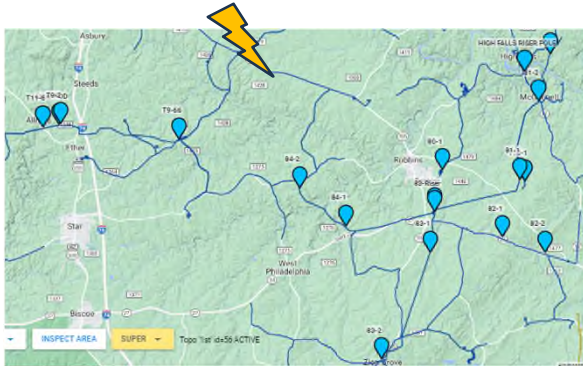
The Safegrid logo consists of a stylized white 'S' and 'G' intertwined within a blue square. Below the logo, the word 'SAFEGRID' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters. To the right of the logo, the word 'Technology' is written in black, bold, lowercase letters.

# Distributed Sensor Network



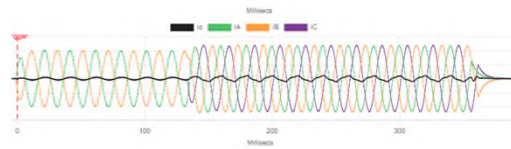
- Import topology from GIS system
- No impedance model calculations
- Sensors strategically placed to provide maximum coverage
- Transmission 4 to 6 miles
- Distribution - System Complexity - 2 to 3 miles
- Tools for evaluating locations - planning pins
- Based on distance, number of taps, branches

# Sensors Collect Data



Trigger on current  
Or  
Trigger on transient

Current Waveshape / Oscillography  
2.4 KHz



Fast Transient Signals  
1 MHz



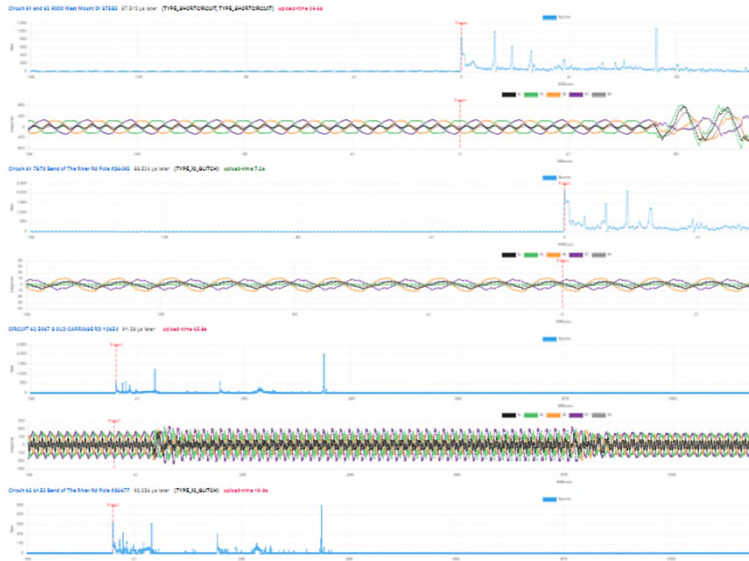
## Data Analysis

### Process Data

Sensors detect transient signals that trigger data recordings and data is uploaded to GridGuardian

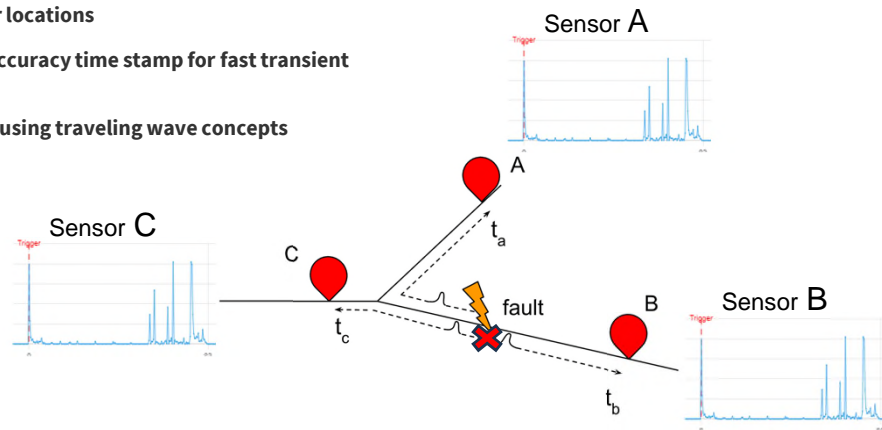
### Align Data

Group events & reclosing actions  
GPS location & timestamp  
Align data in time



## Location Algorithm

- Fast Transient detected at sensors
- Topology defines distances between sensors
- GPS provides sensor locations
- GPS provides high accuracy time stamp for fast transient
- Location calculated using traveling wave concepts



# Classification Algorithm

**Fault**



Short Circuit  
Action Required  
Email, Text

**Predictive**

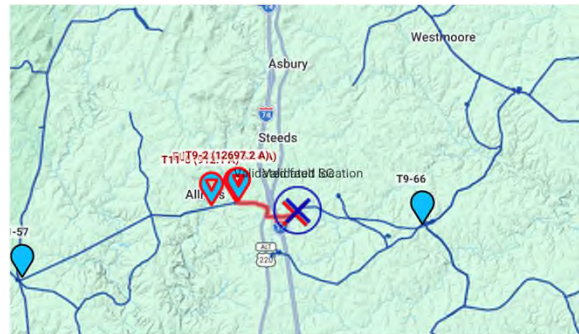
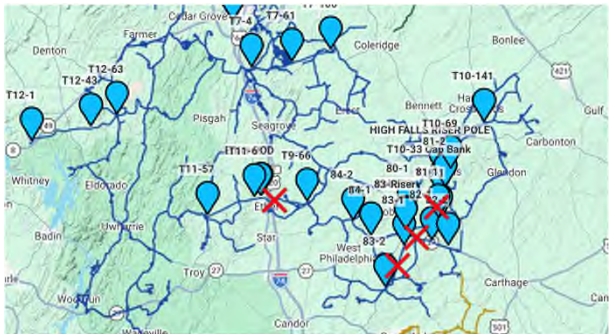


No immediate action  
Pattern recognition  
Requires multiple data points

## Classification

GridGuardian analyses data and classifies events by type and severity by correlating data from participating sensors

## Smart Fault Location

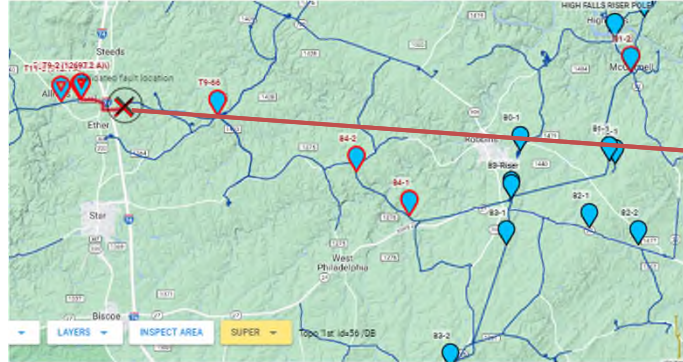
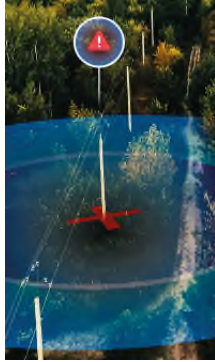


Alerts (5)

Device	Type	Fault Current	Level	Location	Time (GMT-5)	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> T9-2, T11-6, Ether POD	SHORTCIRCUIT - LINE TRIPPED, RECLOSE, PHASES_C	5474.3 A	CRIT	No location available (reclosing on fault) Downstream from: Ether POD, T11-6, T9-2	Nov 29 2023, Wed, 4:45:58.434 AM	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> T9-2, T11-6, Ether POD	SHORTCIRCUIT - LINE TRIPPED, PHASES_C	5457.4 A	CRIT	1.458 mi from T9-2, 2.893 mi from T9-66 Downstream from: Ether POD, T11-6, T9-2	Nov 29 2023, Wed, 4:45:52.909 AM	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> Robbins	SHORTCIRCUIT - PHASES_AN	2740.5 A	CRIT	1.371 mi from 83-Riser, 1.400 mi from 82-1 Downstream from: Robbins	Nov 09 2023, Thu, 11:49:48.436 AM	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> 83-Riser, 83-1, Robbins	SHORTCIRCUIT - PHASES_BN	909.9 A	CRIT	1.632 mi from 83-1, 2.402 mi from 83-2 Downstream from: 83-1, 83-Riser, Robbins	Nov 03 2023, Fri, 7:09:26.576 PM	⋮
<input type="checkbox"/> 81-1, Robbins	SHORTCIRCUIT - PHASES_B	1004.4 A	CRIT	1.742 mi from 81-2, 5.832 mi from 80-1 Downstream from: 81-1, Robbins	Nov 03 2023, Fri, 4:41:37.114 AM	⋮

Records per page: 50 1-5 of 5

# Smart Fault Location



**X**  
Location Coordinates  
35.892780 x -77.878905

## Actionable Information - Email or Text Alert

Type	Location	Time ↓
SHORTCIRCUIT - PHASES_AN Fault current 2740.5A	2.207 km from 83-Riser, 2.253 km from 82-1 Downstream from: Robbins	Nov 09, Thu, 18:49:48.436

# Transmission Fault Location



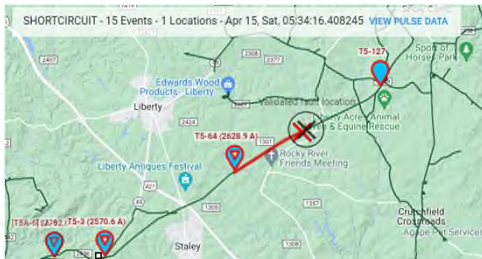
## Broken insulator

- Single reclose and hold
- Grid Guardian located within 1 pole span
- Immediate action avoided second outage



**Locate. React. Repair**

# Transmission Fault Location



## Broken Crossarm

Relay and impedance data indicated location  
Off by several miles  
3 hours patrolling with no success  
Grid Guardian located within 1 pole span



Locate. React. Repair

# Case Study



## Distribution Fault

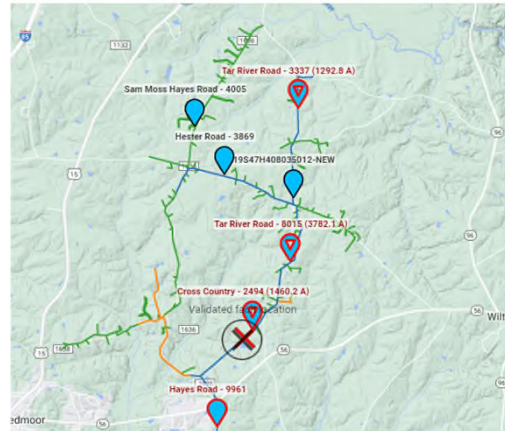
Transformer failed

Red X is indicated fault location  
Black X is customer validated location



Transformer example

## Distribution Fault Location

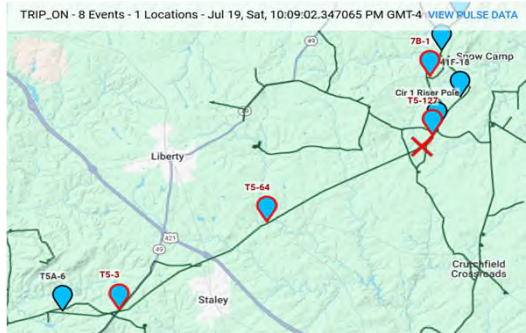


### Distribution Fault

Tree on line  
 One recloser operation held  
 Tree burning

Tree on line

## Fault Location

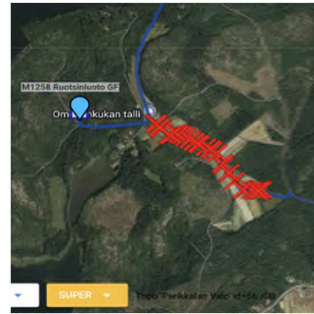


### Tree on Line

- Green tree had bottom phase pinned down
- Fault located within a span
- Saved hours of line patrol



## Intermittent Faults



### Intermittent Fault

- End customers complained about blinking lights
- Map indicated multiple events occurring in the proximity of the substation
- Intermittent earth faults at an indoor secondary substation circuit-breaker bushings.

## Why is Fault Prediction Important?

- Move from reactive to proactive maintenance
- Condition based information for electrical system health
- Avoid outages and customer impact
- Reduce O&M spend by working during planned outages



## What are the challenges for Fault Prediction?

- Understanding how to manage and integrate data
- Building a work flow to proactively address new types of information

# GridGuardian Classification Algorithm

## Fault



Short Circuit  
Action Required  
Email, Text

## Classification

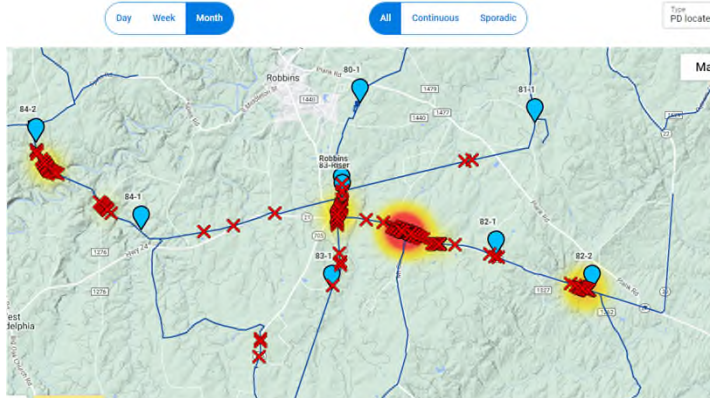
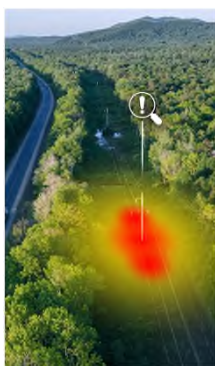
GridGuardian analyses data and classifies events by type and severity by correlating data from participating sensors

## Predictive



No immediate action  
Pattern recognition  
Requires multiple data points

# Smart Fault Prediction



Actionable Information - Email or Text Alert

## Location Patterns

GridGuardian determines locates all data to provide patterns and hotspots for investigation

## Signatures

Building a library of signatures of fast transient waveshapes that could indicate equipment failures

# Smart Fault Prediction 2.0

SAFEGRID

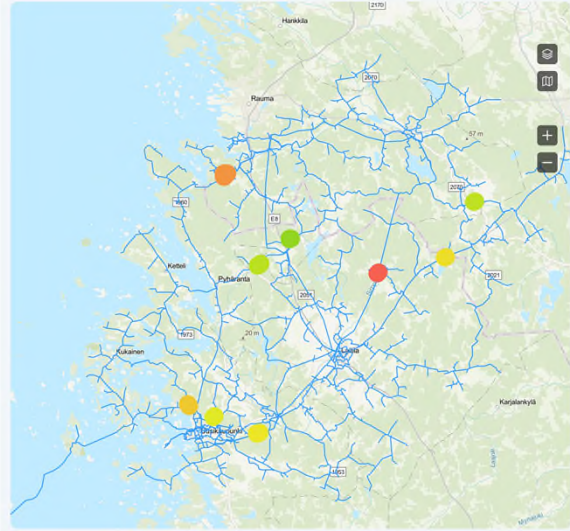
Test User

## DASHBOARD

This will contain information about the network status. Here, the main points are displayed as numbers so that the user can quickly understand the current status.

## OBSERVATIONS

ID	Name	Priority	Confidence
14	50m S from Sipontie 90, Laitila	96	73
6	140m E from Pyhäjärventie 1950, Rauma	79	92
7	Kuusathonkuja 16, Uusikaupunki	62	83
8	Eurantie 1669, Laitila	55	92
12	30m E from Silvottu, Laitila	52	76
2	20M W from Raumantie 196, Uusikaupunki	47	71
11	75m NW from Kuosvantie 33-35, Rauma	39	68
9	85M E from Ropa, Laitila	38	84
10	80m S from Kodisjoentie 99, Pyhärinta	28	48



# Smart Fault Prediction 2.0

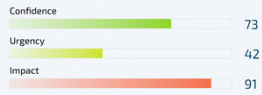
SAFEGRID

Test User

## OBSERVATION DETAILS

Validate

Observation: 50m S from Sipontie 90, Laitila  
ID: 14  
First observed: 11/04/2025  
Reactivated: 1



Priority: 82

### Activity



### Weather



# Distribution Fault Prediction



## Hot Connector – Pole top switch

Hotspot indicating consistent and persistent concern at location  
 Infrared camera indicated hot lug connection



## Overhead Switches

**Use case: failing asset prior to protection action**

Beyond accurate fault locating, Safegrid's IGS helps predicting and preventing faults to improve grid reliability. By continuous monitoring, a damaged insulator binding was identified and replaced within a week, avoiding an outage and saving significant costs.

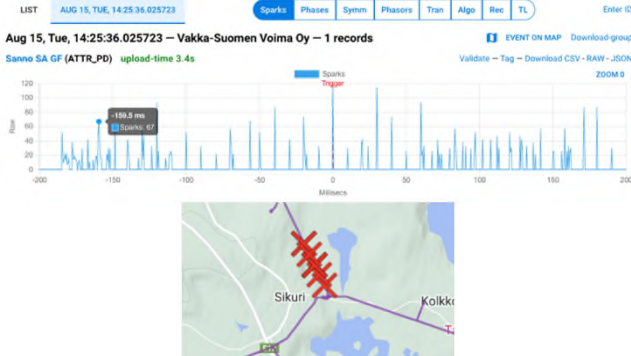
With Safegrid's solution the DSO achieved:

- Fault prevented in advance
- 10 000 € cost savings



*"Safegrid has helped us to locate and prevent component failures we haven't been effectively able to prevent. This has enabled considerable cost savings due its predictive maintenance capabilities"*

# Distribution Fault Prediction

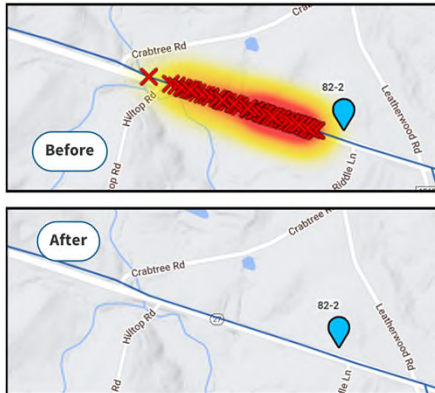


## Insulator Failing – Current Leakage

Cracked insulator tracking current  
PD sensing identified area and 2 insulators replaced

### Insulators

# Distribution Fault Prediction



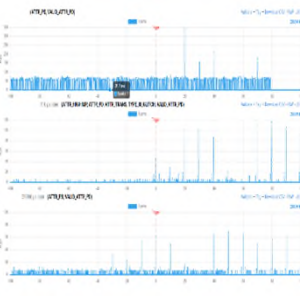
## Failing Lightning Arrester

Arrester causing PD / leaking current signals



### Lightning Arrester

# Distribution Fault Prediction



## Failing Transformer - Arcing

PD indicated failing transformer  
Oil levels low and corrected to avoid failure

### Transformers

# Wildfire Mitigation



Avoid outages with  
fault prediction.



# Wildfire Considerations

- ### High Impedance Earth Faults
- Vegetation encroachment on live conductors
  - Line down and still energize

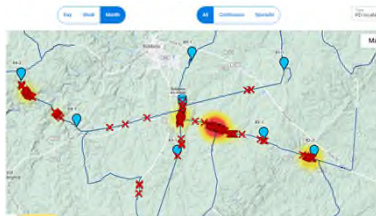
- ### Protection Scenarios
- Supporting fast trip and patrol requirements

- ### Predictive Data Integration
- Electrical conditions and anomaly data for high-risk areas

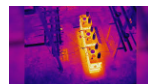


## Data Driven, Actionable Information

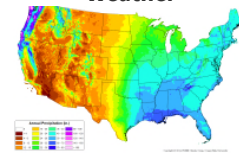
### Condition Based - Prediction



### Inspection / Historic



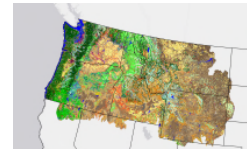
### Weather



### Fire Risk



### Vegetation





**SAFEGRID**

**Thank you!**

**Mike Burns**

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 312-259-9544