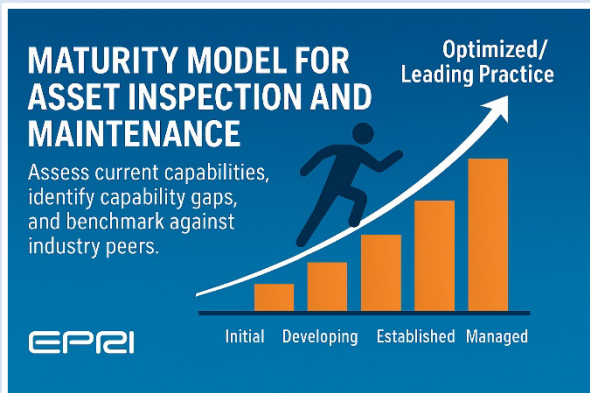


DISTRIBUTION ASSET INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE MATURITY ASSESSMENT



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Define capabilities needed by utilities for successful asset inspection and maintenance implementation.
- Develop methods to assess inspection and maintenance capabilities.
- Benchmark utility-specific capabilities against company strategic plans and industry peers.
- Inform asset inspection and maintenance improvement plans.

Background, Objectives, and New Learnings

Asset management is a systematic, consistent, and repeatable approach that integrates people, processes, and technologies to help an organization achieve its strategic objectives. Utilities desire to better understand the quality of their current asset management program and how it compares with industry leading practices and where there may be areas for improvement. Several questions need to be answered to understand the current state and potential gaps. For example:

- Are the people, processes, and technologies in place to support the program?
- Is data available to make informed decisions?
- Are risks associated with the asset portfolio well understood?
- Is the inspection and maintenance function integrated into strategy and decision making?
- Are practices in place to promote continuous improvement?

Working with the electric industry, EPRI has developed a capability maturity model to help utilities assess the current state of its asset inspection and maintenance program, identify an aspirational future state to meet strategic objectives, and describe a logical progression for adding the new capabilities (people, process, and technologies) that are needed to meet objectives.

With this project, EPRI intends to work with project participants to further develop the asset inspection and maintenance maturity models to create and apply an assessment framework that would enable utilities to assess their existing capabilities relative to those needed to achieve future goals and relative to industry peers.

Benefits

Member companies can leverage the assessments of their asset inspection and maintenance programs to compare with industry leading practices, identify areas for improvement, and inform practices to help achieve corporate objectives related to reliability, cost, risk, and safety. The public may benefit through increased service reliability and safety, and affordable electricity rates.

Project Approach and Summary

EPRI plans to work with participating utilities to develop and apply an asset inspection and maintenance assessment framework through the following tasks:

Task 1: Develop Maturity Assessment Framework:

EPRI intends to develop and validate a capability maturity model for distribution asset inspection and maintenance activities. The maturity model is expected to describe an industry-recognized basis for asset inspection and maintenance capabilities addressing people, process, and technologies. The model will describe utility capability at five progressively more advanced levels ranging from most basic to state of the art. An assessment tool will also be developed, utilizing the model, to assess a utility's current state of readiness, their desired future state, and the associated capability gaps.

Task 2: Utility-Specific Maturity Assessment:

EPRI intends to apply the assessment framework with each participating utility. The assessment is expected to be facilitated by survey tool and augmented by EPRI subject matter expert overview and interviews of utility staff. The assessment is intended to answer the following questions.

- What are the current capabilities?
- What is the desired future state and by when?
- What are the gaps in workforce, processes, and technologies between the current and the desired state for defined time horizon(s)?
- How do capabilities compare to industry peer baseline?

Task 3: Document Industry Practice

In this task, EPRI plans to assimilate the results from all utility assessments and develop an anonymized repository of utility capabilities. The repository is expected to document the current state of utility inspection and maintenance capabilities, planned future states, and enable comparison and benchmarking among peer utilities.

Deliverables

Each participating utility will receive an individualized report (PowerPoint) documenting their assessment results and comparison with other project participants.

All participating utilities will receive the following:

- Regular update webcasts
- Summary report (PowerPoint) of aggregate assessment responses (anonymized)
- Tech transfer workshop (virtual)

The non-proprietary results of this work will be incorporated into EPRI's Distribution Systems R&D program, and available to the public for purchase, or otherwise.

Price of Project

The price to participate is \$15,000. A minimum of six (6) participants are needed to initiate the project. This project qualifies for Self-Directed Funding (SDF).

Project Status and Schedule

The project is planned to start in Q2 2024 and run for approximately 12-months. The project will commence when six participants have joined.

Who Should Join

Utilities that are interested in gaining insight into their current and future asset inspection and maintenance program capabilities for the purposes of implementing or improving their ability to operate safely, reliably, and meet regulatory obligations.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the EPRI Customer Assistance Center at 800.313.3774 (askepri@epri.com).

Technical Contact

Krys Ford at 804.914.2067 (kford@epri.com)

Member Support Contacts

Brian Dupin at 650.906.2936 (bdupin@epri.com)

Barry Batson at 704.905.2787 (bbatson@epri.com)

Chuck Wentzel at 618.320.0011 (cwentzel@epri.com)

Annie Haas at 704.608.6314 (ahaas@epri.com)

Warren Frost at 403.474.4432 (wfrost@epri.com)