

# ASSET HEALTH MONITORING USING SYNCHROPHASOR TECHNOLOGY

PRESENTATION FOR  
NASPI WEBINAR SERIES

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# OUTLINE

- EPG Introduction
- Asset Health Monitoring Solution
  - Background and Need
  - Platform Features and Capabilities
  - Failure Types and Examples
  - Integration with WAMS Platform
- Summary and Looking Forward



# EPG - INTRODUCTION

- Leading Provider of Synchrophasor Technology Solutions since 2000
- Comprehensive platform for real-time monitoring and grid analytics
  - WAMS
  - Oscillations
  - IBR Monitoring
  - LSE
  - Model Validation
  - WAMPAC
  - Real-Time and Offline Analytics
  - Advanced Applications
- Solutions in use at several grid operators, reliability coordinators and utilities in US and internationally

# ASSET HEALTH MONITORING

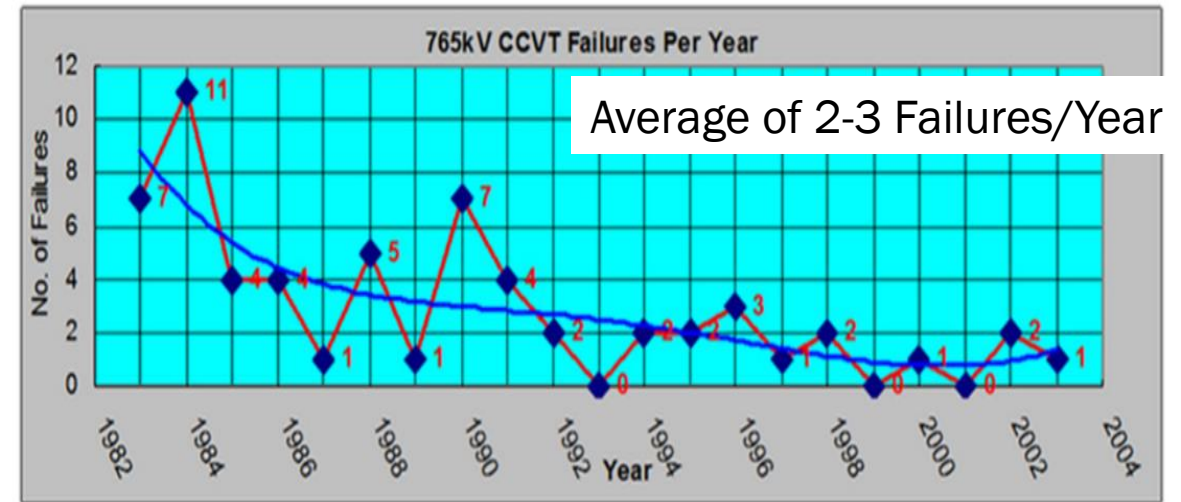
- Utilities have invested billions of dollars in transmission equipment and substations
- Key substation assets include transformers, circuit breakers, instrument transformers (CTs, PTs, CCVTs) and Intelligent Electronic Device (Relays, PMU, DFRs)
- Proper functioning of substation assets is critical for power system operations, reliability and personnel safety
- T&D incidents are increasing:
  - Infrastructure is aging increasing vulnerability to equipment outages
  - Resource mix shifting to IBRs – more oscillation incidents
- Equipment Failures can cause increases in costs, outages and risk to personnel safety and system reliability
- Identifying precursors to equipment failure can help prevent failure and minimize the impact on the system
- PMUs can be used to detect precursors to equipment failure and complement existing asset health monitoring methods

# TRANSMISSION EQUIPMENT FAILURE - COSTLY

EQUIPMENT DAMAGE, OUTAGE, PERSONNEL SAFETY



**Example from AEP of failing CCVT in a substation**



AEP 765kV CCVT Failure Rate

~ 60 Reported Failures between 1982-2004

Source: T. Yang, Applying Substation Linear State Estimator to Instrument Transformer Health Monitoring and Management: Roadmap, CIGRE 2016.

Reference: Joshua C, DE-OE0000850 Final Report, "Substation Secondary Asset Health Monitoring and Management System (SSHM)", June 2020, [Link](#)

# EHV INSTRUMENT TRANSFORMER FAILURES – TRANSMISSION COMPANY IN USA

## Number of Failures in last 10 years

- CCVT – Over 50
- PT – 20 to 50
- CT – 6 to 20

## Cost of a Single Failure Event

\$50,000 - \$250,000

## Impact of Failures

Impact	Number of Events
Misoperation of Protection Relays	2 to 5
Outage	6 to 10
Equipment Damage	6 to 10
No Significant Impact	10 to 50

## Time Required for Repairs

More than a week: could be more than a month if replacement equipment is not available

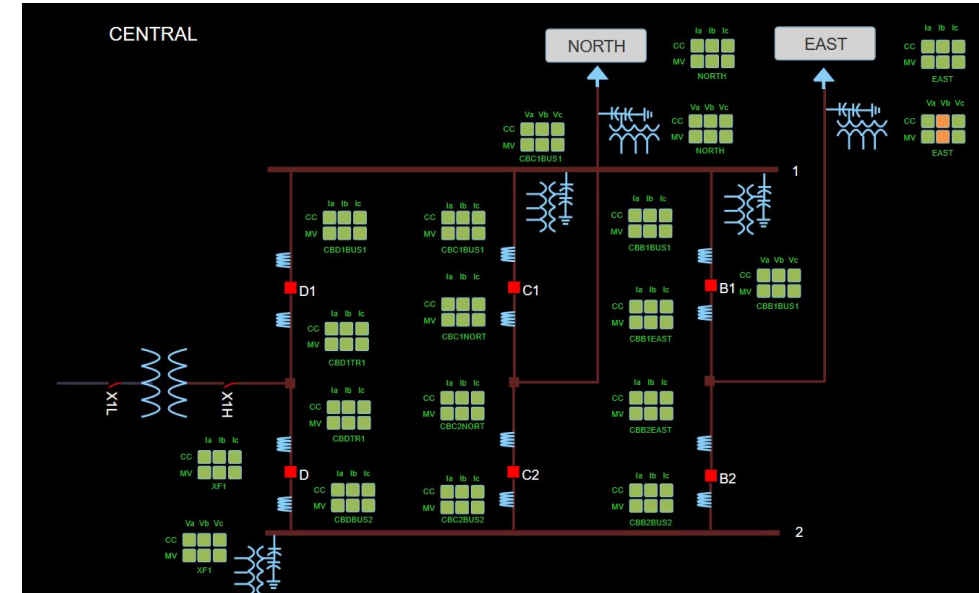
# EPG'S ASSET MONITORING SOLUTION - OVERVIEW

- **Platform:** Detect precursors to Equipment Failure from Instrument Transformers (CT, PT, CCVT)
- **Data:** PMU C37.118 Stream
- **Methodology**
  - Real Time Advanced Analytics
  - Ability to filter out system events and bad data
- **Deployment:** Central Location or in substations
- **Visualization:** One Line Diagrams, Dashboards
- **Automated Real-time Alarm and Email Notifications**
- **Field Tested**
  - Validated for 138kV, 500kV and 765kV substations
- **Demonstrated at AEP**
- **Pilot Deployment at New York Power Authority (NYPA)**

# REPORTING AND ALARMING – EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

The screenshot shows an Outlook email interface. The email is from 'epg\_test' with the subject '[Alerting] Substation 1 Alarm'. A callout bubble points to the email title with the text 'CCVT Precursor Alarm Email'. Another callout bubble points to a button in the Grafana dashboard titled 'Link to Real Time Dashboard'. A third callout bubble points to a screenshot of the Grafana dashboard, labeled 'Screenshot of Real Time Alarm Dashboard'. The dashboard shows a table of alarm events and a line graph of a metric value over time.

Time	Value	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear
2022-07-27 09:06:30	1.000	Clear	Flag	Clear	Clear	Clear



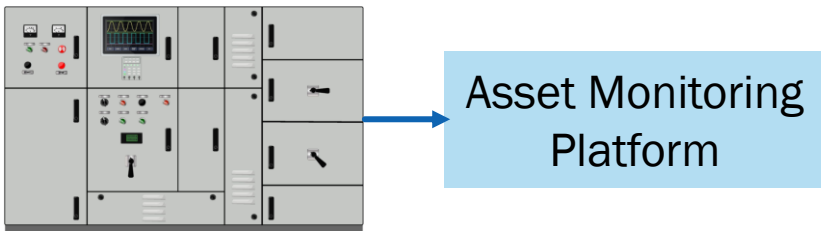
Identify faulty equipment on substation one-line diagrams

- Email Provides Information on
- Substation effected
  - Equipment (CT, PT, CCVT) alarming
  - Faulty Phase
  - Metric violated (Voltage or Current)



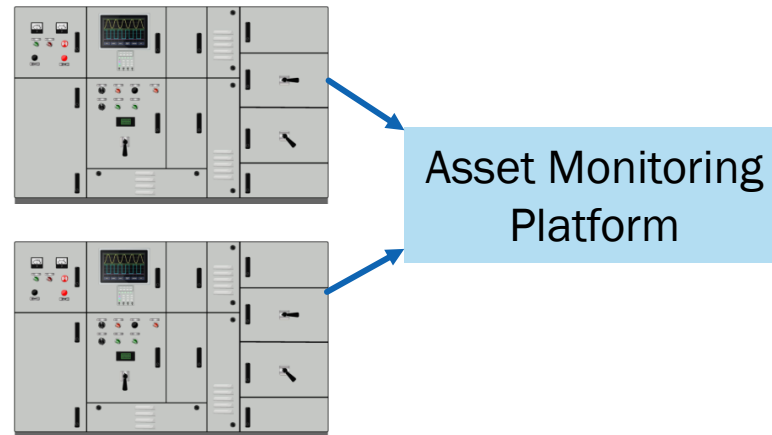
# DEPLOYMENT OPTIONS

Standalone Asset Monitoring Platform  
– Substation Level



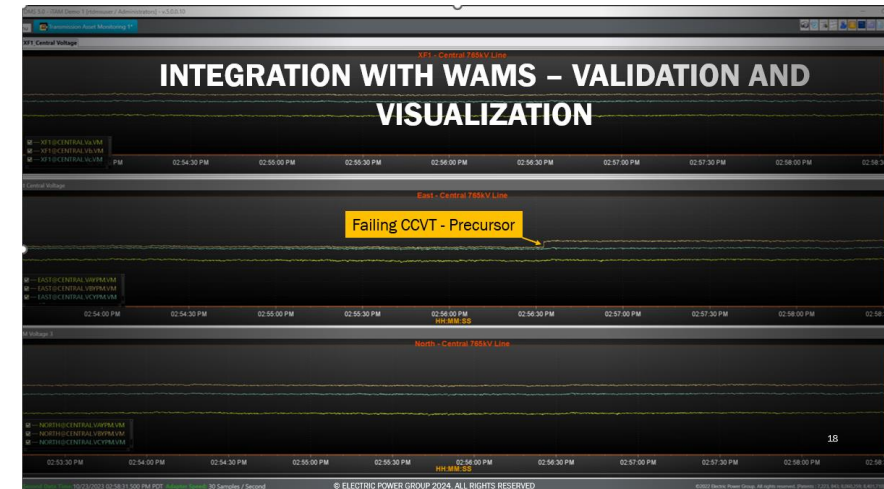
Deployed in Substation on a hardened PC

Standalone Asset Monitoring Platform  
– System Level



Deployed at a central location monitoring data from multiple substations

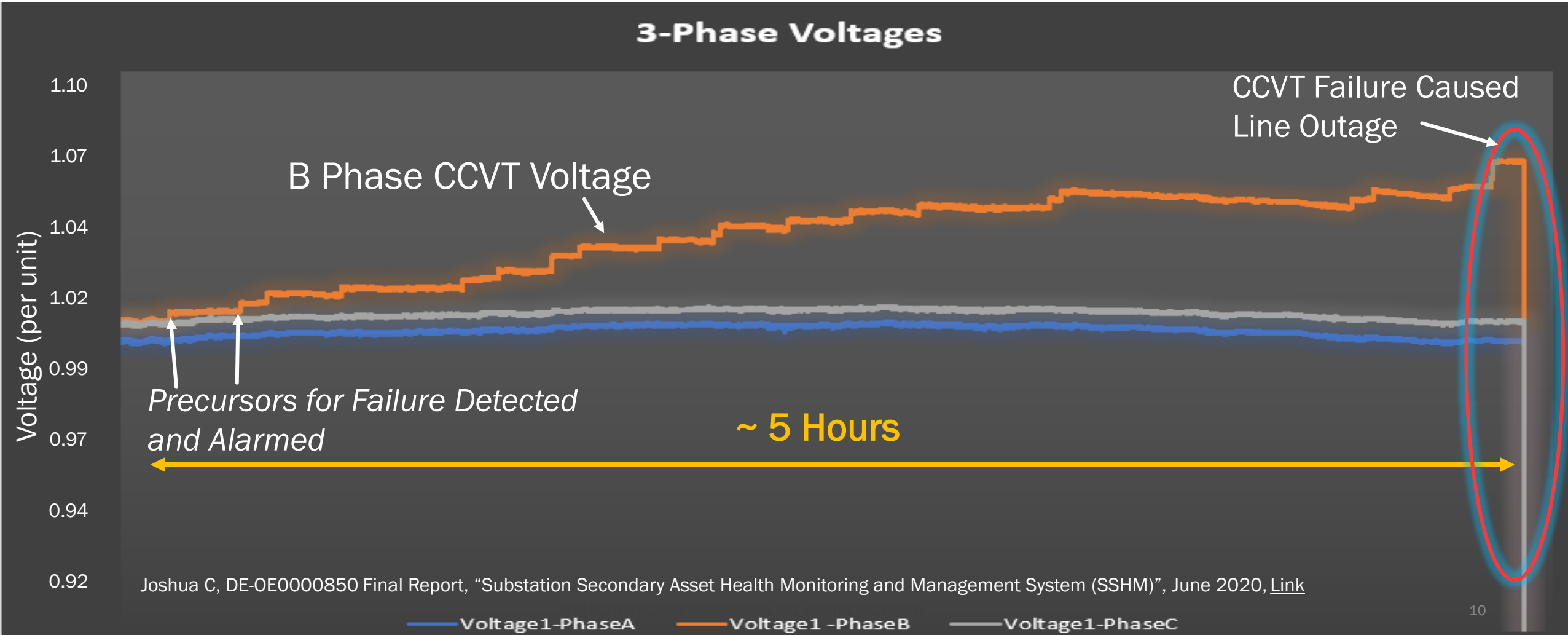
Integrated with WAMS



Deployed in a control center integrated with WAMS and other data analytics

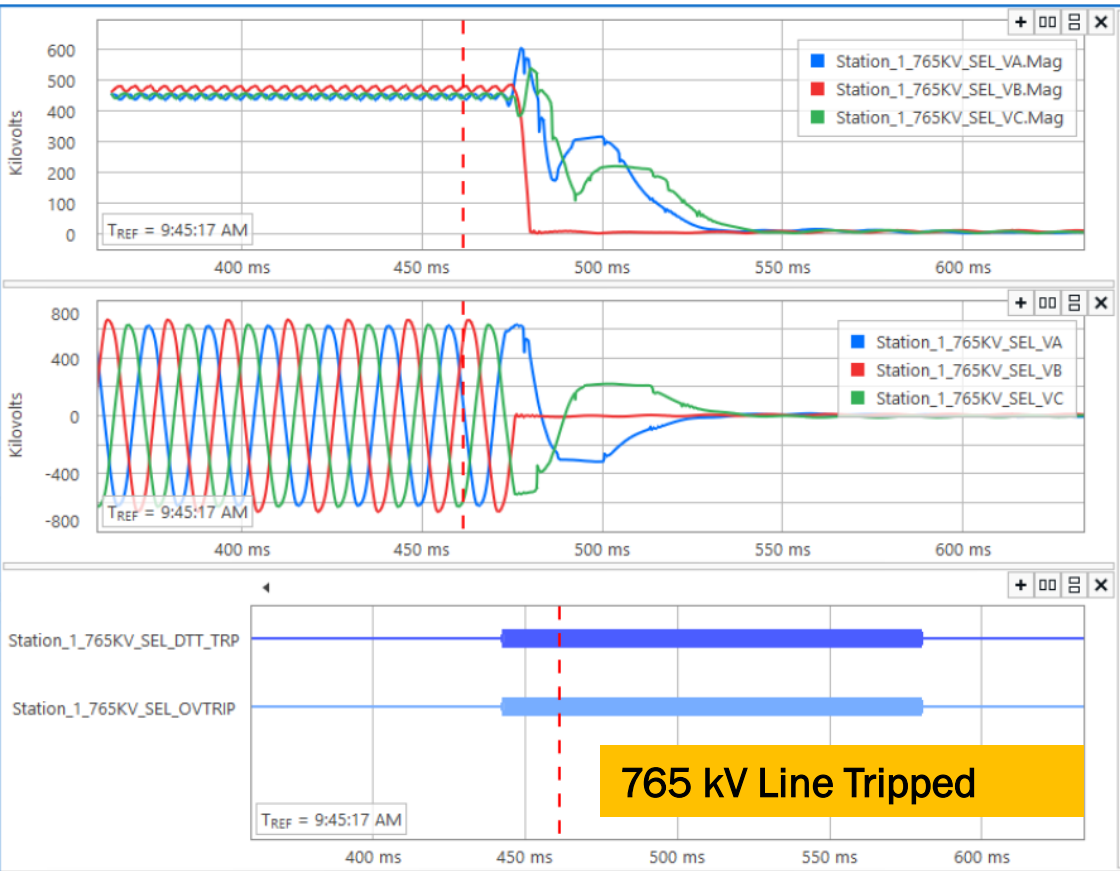
# AEP CCVT FAILURE EVENT - EXAMPLE

- CCVT Failure Event - B Phase Voltage has anomalies/precursors before equipment failed
- Can be detected 5 hours prior to failure, System is tuned to capture these failures and provide early warning



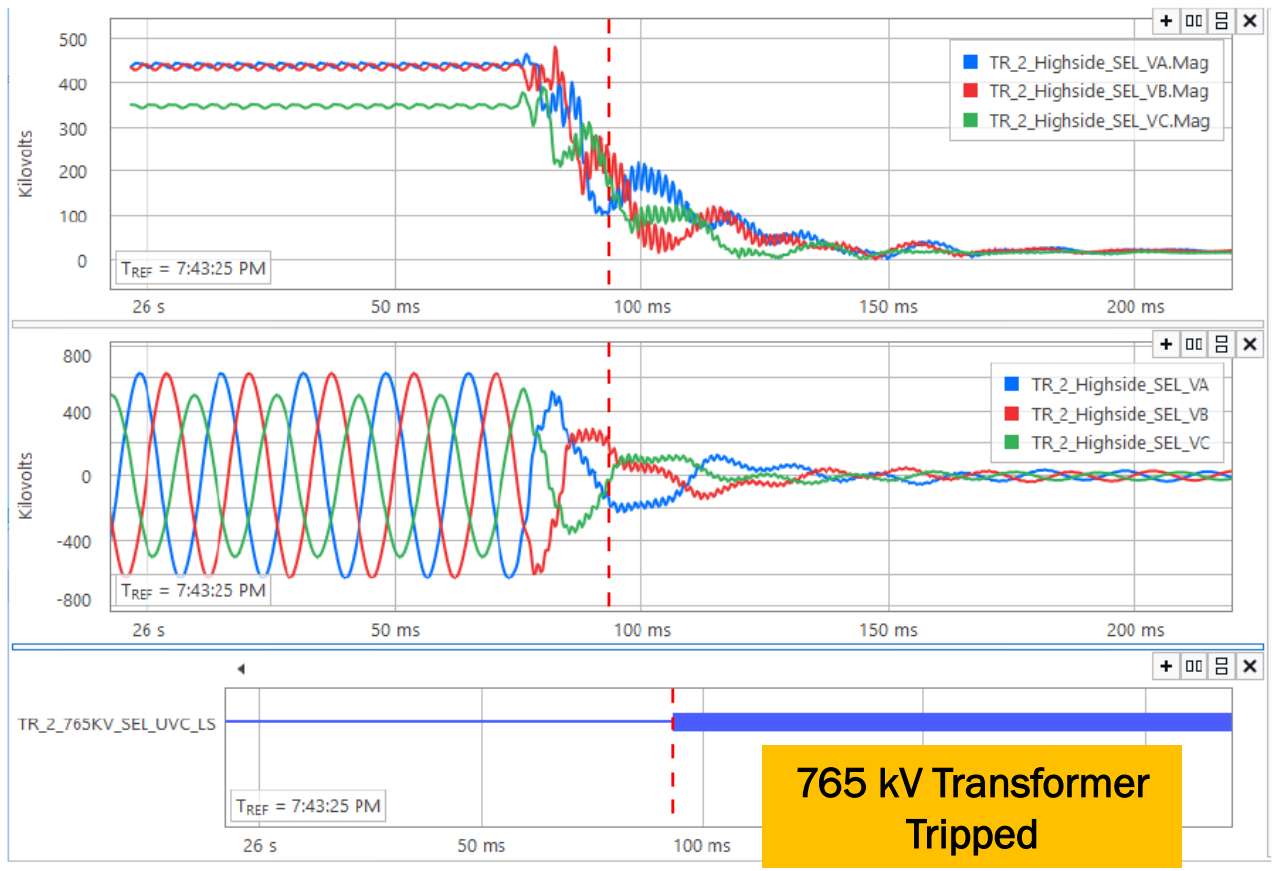
# AEP EXAMPLES – CCVT FAILURE CAUSED 765KV LINE TRIP AND TRANSFORMER TRIP

Capacitor failure in high voltage stack of CCVT



Precursors Observed ~ 5 Hours Ahead

Capacitor failure in low voltage stack of CCVT



Precursors Observed ~ 5 Days Ahead

Source: Qiushi Wang et. al, 'CCVT Modelling Failure Mode Investigation and Impact on Relay Operation', CIGRE-US, 2020.

# TYPES OF FAILURES IN CCVT'S THAT CAN BE DETECTED

CCVT Failure type	Detected with physical inspection?	Detected by EPG Solution
Loose fuse connections in CCVT safety switch	✓	✓
Capacitor failure in high voltage stack of CCVT	✗	✓
Capacitor failure in low voltage grounding stack	✗	✓
Failure in voltage transformer and series reactor in CCVT	✗	✓
Filter circuit failure and spark gaps	✗	✓
Ferroresonance suppression circuit failure	✗	✓

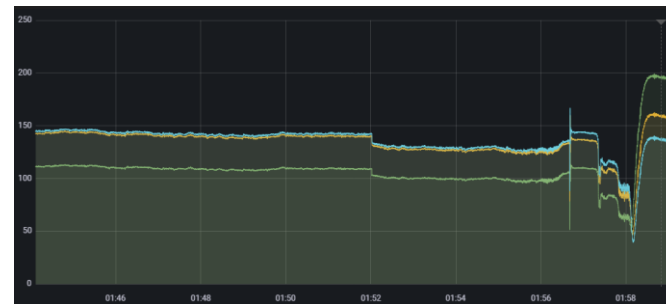
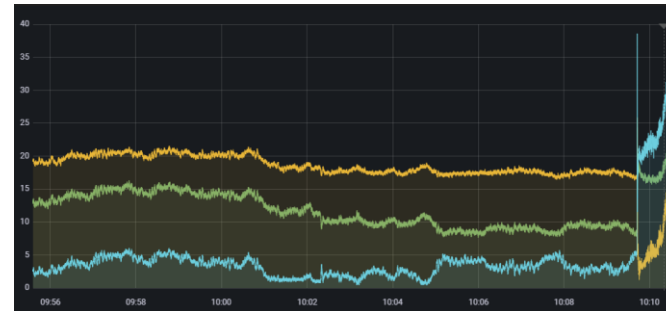
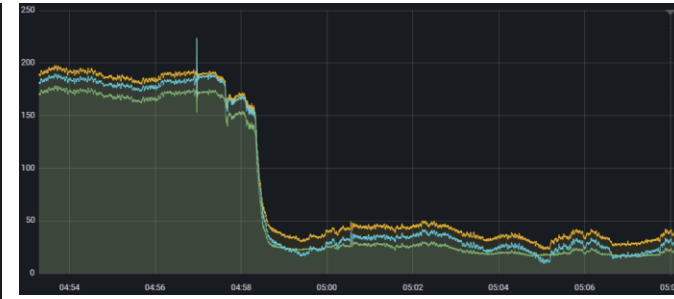
# TYPES OF FAILURES IN CT'S AND PT'S THAT CAN BE DETECTED

CT Failure type	Detected with physical inspection?	Detected by EPG Solution
Polarity error	✓	✓
Loose or corroded connections	✓	✓
Open CT secondary	✓	✓
Turn-to-turns shortage within same coil	✗	✓
Turn-to-ground shortage	✗	✓
Turn-to-turn shortage between different coils	✗	✓
Ratio setting error	✗	✓
Saturation of CT core and dielectric breakdown	✗	✓

PT Failure type	Detected with physical inspection?	Detected by EPG Solution
Blown Fuse	✓	✓
Loose connections	✓	✓
Primary winding issues	✗	✓
Secondary winding issues	✗	✓

# DEPLOYMENT AT NYPA

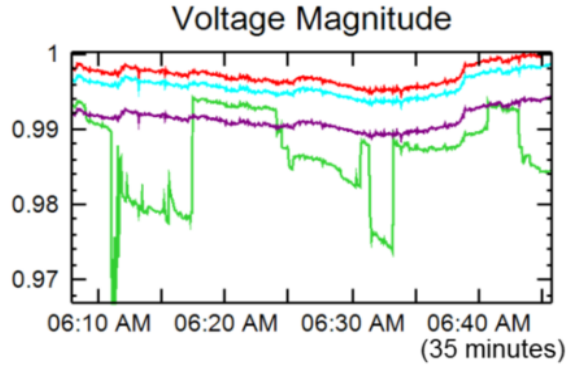
- Deployed at a major 345 KV substation
- Monitoring 21 voltage transformers (CCVTs and PTS) and 27 CTs
- Alarms sent to NYPA personnel by email and includes screenshot of event/alarm with signatures
- Quick visual inspection before performing further investigation
- Used as supplementary Information along with other sources of information



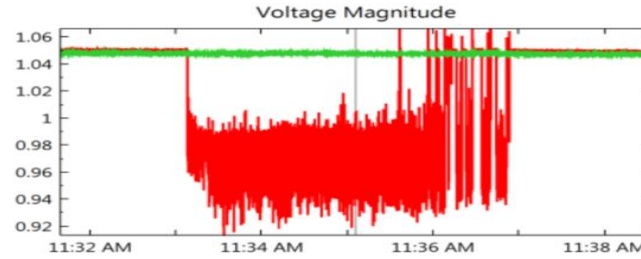
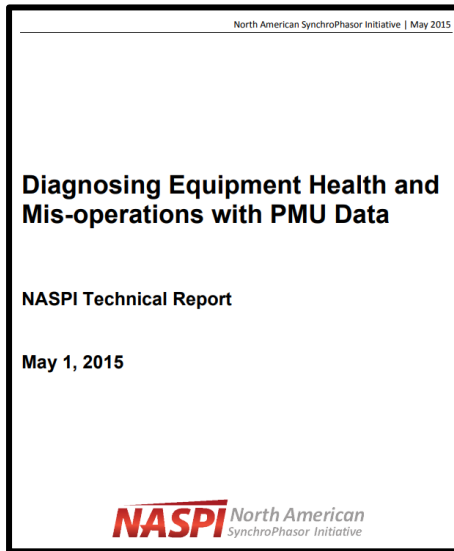
# EXAMPLES OF INSTRUMENT TRANSFORMER FAILURES IN PMU DATA

## LOOSE CONNECTIONS, WINDING ISSUES, BLOWN FUSES, ETC.

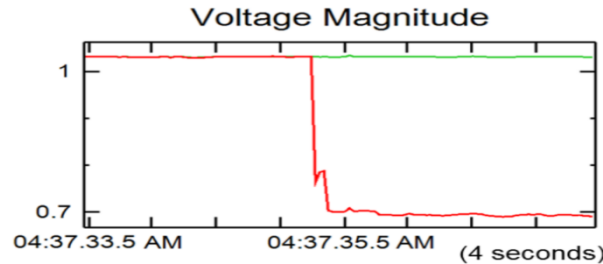
Loose Fuse Connections in CCVT Safety Switch – OG&E



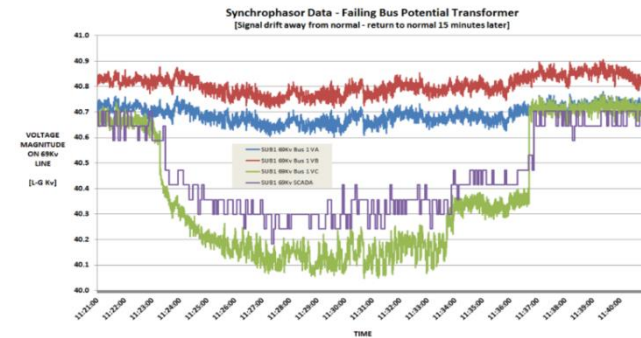
Source: NASPI Technical Report, “Diagnosing Equipment Health and Mis-operations with PMU data”, May 2015



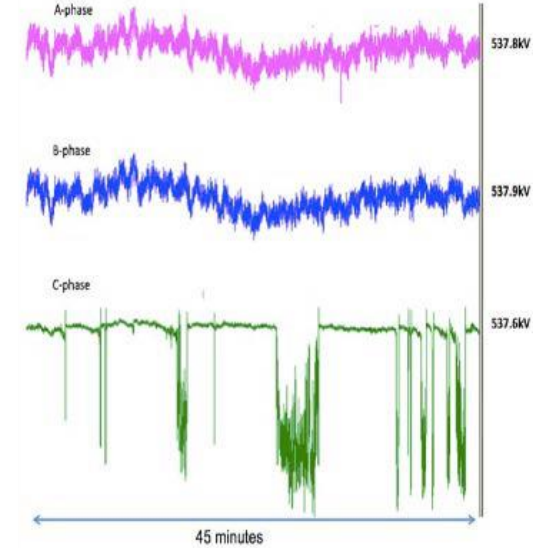
Loose Connection at PT feeding the PMU – OG&E



Blown fuse on One Phase of PT – OG&E



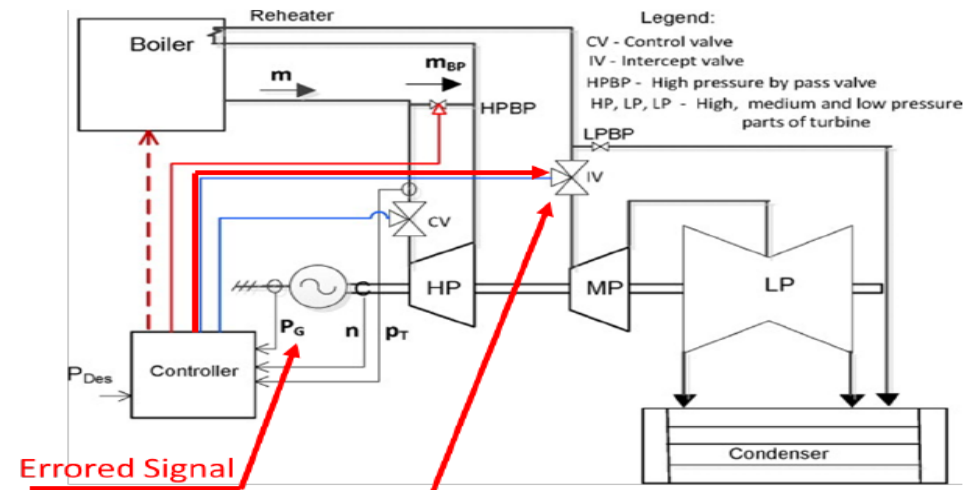
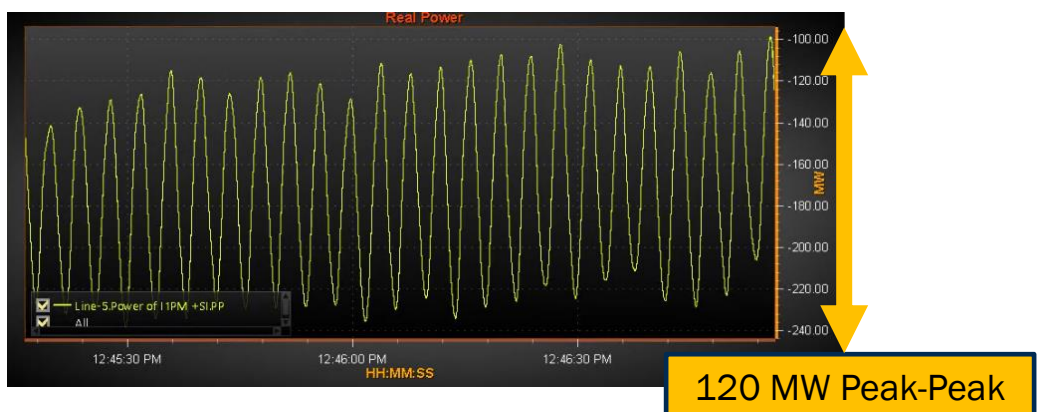
Internal Primary Winding Issue - ATC



CCVT Failure example from Dominion – PMU Data showed precursors 4 days before alarms from SCADA system

# JAN 11, 2019 - EASTERN INTERCONNECTION OSCILLATIONS

- NERC findings point to failure of PT connection that triggered Interconnection Wide Oscillations
- Forced Oscillation at a plant caused eastern interconnection wide oscillations with large amplitudes (> 150 MW peak-peak)
- Important to identify oscillations and locate source
- Important to identify and address root-cause to prevent system wide impact



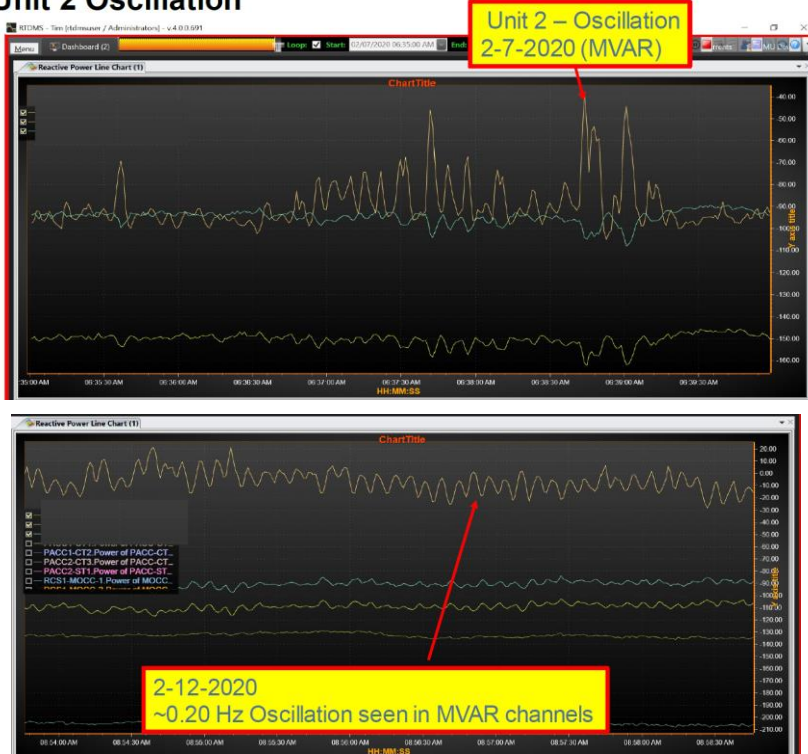
Upon inspection, failed wiring in PT cabinet

Source: NERC, Oscillation Analysis Webinar, September 13, 2019



# FAILING PT CAUSED MVAR OSCILLATIONS AT GENERATING STATION

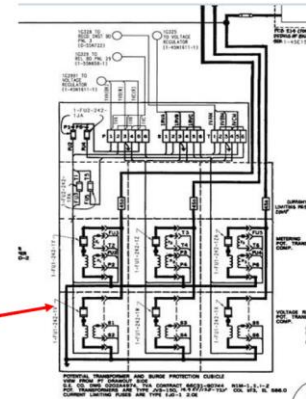
## Unit 2 Oscillation



## Unit 2- Bad PT

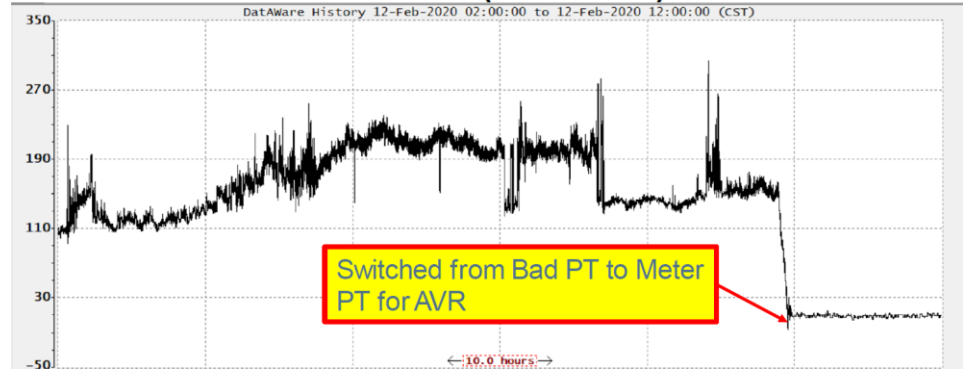
- Actually saw oscillation alarm on 2-7-2020 (**Before Plant was aware of issue**)
- The A-phase Regulating PT was the problem
- Switched AVR to manual and swapped to metering PTs for voltage signal.

Bad PT



TVA TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

## Unit 2 MVAR – SCADA Data (2-12-2020)



Source: Jonathan Sides, EPG Webinar, “Use of Synchrophasor Technology at TVA”, October 2021

Oscillations can reveal issues with asset/equipment

XF1\_Central Voltage

XF1 - Central 765kV Line

# INTEGRATION WITH WAMS - VALIDATION AND VISUALIZATION

- XF1@CENTRAL.Va.VM
- XF1@CENTRAL.Vb.VM
- XF1@CENTRAL.Vc.VM

PM 02:54:30 PM 02:55:00 PM 02:55:30 PM 02:56:00 PM 02:56:30 PM 02:57:00 PM 02:57:30 PM 02:58:00 PM 02:58:30 PM

Central Voltage

East - Central 765kV Line

Failing CCVT - Precursor

- EAST@CENTRAL.VAYPM.VM
- EAST@CENTRAL.VBYPM.VM
- EAST@CENTRAL.VCYPM.VM

02:54:00 PM 02:54:30 PM 02:55:00 PM 02:55:30 PM 02:56:00 PM 02:56:30 PM 02:57:00 PM 02:57:30 PM 02:58:00 PM 02:58:30 PM

HH:MM:SS

M Voltage 3

North - Central 765kV Line

- NORTH@CENTRAL.VAYPM.VM
- NORTH@CENTRAL.VBYPM.VM
- NORTH@CENTRAL.VCYPM.VM

02:53:30 PM 02:54:00 PM 02:54:30 PM 02:55:00 PM 02:55:30 PM 02:56:00 PM 02:56:30 PM 02:57:00 PM 02:57:30 PM 02:58:00 PM 02:58:30 PM

HH:MM:SS

# SUMMARY AND LOOKING FORWARD

- High Resolution Time-Synchronized Measurements can provide significant insights into equipment health and help detect precursors to equipment failure
- Compliment traditional asset management systems
- Further improvements and roadmap items:
  - Use of Machine Learning for categorization and root cause identification
  - Periodic Performance Reports for assisting asset management and preventative maintenance

***Improve Safety, Increase Reliability, Prevent Customer Outages, Reduce Cost***

# THANK YOU



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