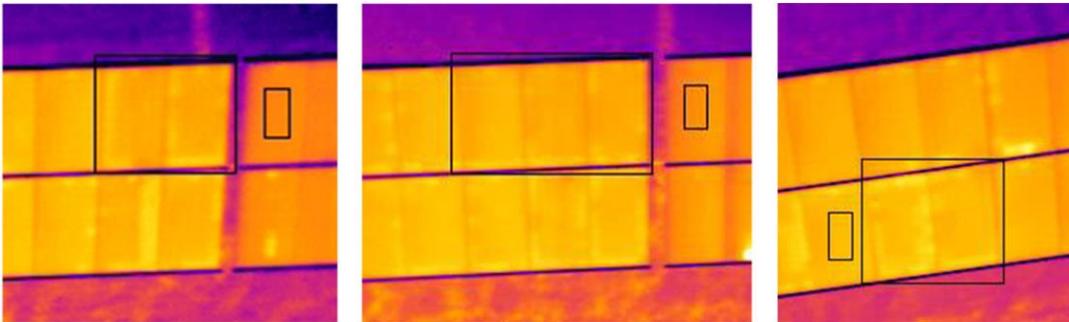


PRESS RELEASE - PADCON / ABOVE

Wednesday, 29 July 2020

PADCON AND ABOVE ARE ENTERING INTO A GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP TO PROTECT PV SYSTEMS FROM PID

This is a very natural combination of Above, the leading solar aerial inspection and data company and PADCON, specialists in the development and implementation of anti-PID solutions (Potential Induced Degradation). The two best in class technologies will combine forces to better identify suspected PID, cure PID and verify that improved system performance persists.



SOLAR PV MODULES IDENTIFIED WITH PID USING AERIAL THERMOGRAPHY © ABOVE

Kolitzheim, Germany: Photovoltaic systems suffer a daily loss of efficiency and yield due to PID – studies show that solar modules lose at least 0.25% of their output per year. Over a period of 20 years, this adds up to a loss of yield of 2.5% per year. Depending on the environmental conditions, such as ambient temperature, irradiance, air humidity level and salt content, a stronger degradation is to be expected, which would result in a considerable loss of yield within a very short time.

PID is very difficult to identify through traditional string monitoring because of the uniformity of how it develops. By the time PID manifests in the Performance Ratio, the solar site will have already experienced significant, permanent yield loss.

Above is the solar industry's leading drone inspection and data analysis company, specializing in IEC-compliant thermographic inspections of large solar installations, as well as other drone-based inspection services spanning the entire solar park lifecycle.

Aerial thermal inspections allow for the fast detection and localization of potential module defects down to a cellular level. Thermographic and high-definition RGB images are captured during the inspection flight. This data can be used to identify yield losses and other potential defects of the solar system, including modules affected by PID at an early stage.

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"Above are delighted with this partnership of two best in class providers to address the continued PID issues in the global solar industry. PID has shown itself to be an issue which is not going away, Above has detected suspected PID on 18% of the plants that we have inspected to date, the most recent at a plant commissioning inspection this month," says Will Hitchcock, CEO and founder of Above.

The equipment of the PV systems with the PADCON Float Controller allows to return the degraded modules to their nominal power and to prevent the development of the PID effect in the future. This keeps the efficiency of the plants at the highest level and prevents an average annual loss of 2.5 %.

"We want to be transparent with our customers. Within the scope of this cooperation we have the possibility to prove the additional yields by increasing the efficiency of the PV systems and thus the added value of our products", says Constantin Wenzlik, Managing Director of PADCON GmbH.

About PADCON GmbH

PADCON GmbH (a member of the HOCH.REIN Group) specializes in developing and implementing PID solutions. Float-controller technology provides a means of both simply and effectively stopping PID on PV systems, and successfully regenerating affected modules. With the help of this know-how, the output of degraded PV systems is able to be restored to its former level.

The float-controller technology has been continuously developed since 2011. And PADCON GmbH's experience in installing over 3,000 anti-PID products has made it a market leader in this segment.

For more information, visit www.padcon.com

About Above Surveying:

Above is the leading aerial inspection service provider transforming the solar industry with innovative software solutions. Specialising in the delivery of IEC-compliant aerial thermographic and ultra-high-definition inspections of utility scale solar alongside drone-based topographical mapping and 3D modelling.

For more information, visit www.abovesurveying.com



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