"We are seeing cable failure rates of less than 1 percent. Through cable rejuvenation, we are significantly improving SRP’s bottom line."

- Richard Hudson
Engineering Supervisor Salt River Project

THE COMPANY AND SITUATION
Based in Tempe, Arizona, the Salt River Project (SRP) serves more than a million customers across the southern Phoenix metropolitan area.

In the mid 1990’s, SRP used the same three-strike replacement criterion for both feeder and URD cable. This approach failed to factor in the far greater impact that feeder cable failures have on system reliability. Recognizing this shortcoming, and striving to improve system reliability, SRP began to focus their attention on feeder cables. This caused another unwelcome consequence: an increase in URD failures.

SRP’s long-term asset management plan called for replacing all their feeder and URD cable over a 30-year period. Yet in the short-term, SRP knew it had to address the reliability of both its feeder and URD networks within budget limitations.

EVALUATION PROCESS
To maximize cost-efficiency, SRP began implementing a new plan in the mid-2000’s. While feeder cable replacement was still the priority, they also began rejuvenating URD cable. SRP determined that for them, rejuvenation’s financial break-even point is five years.