

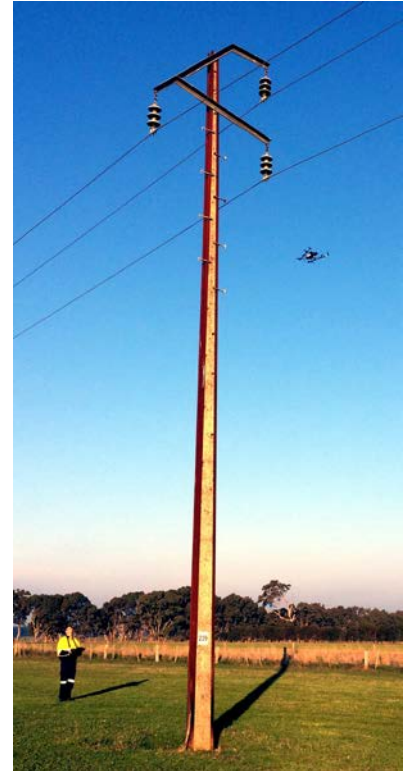
## Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Services

**Date:** June 2016  
**Client:** SA Power Networks (SAPN)  
**Location:** Lower South East of South Australia, Millicent, Mt Burr, Penola  
**Contract:** 42 assets of 33kv Suspension Insulator Poles

### DESCRIPTION

In May 2016 Electrix were approached by SA Power Networks (SAPN) to inspect a number of sites that were unable to be inspected previously by helicopter due to difficult location or hazards at the time. The project involved the inspection of 42 poles at selected sites provided by the client. The sites were spread across 6 feeder segments.

Electrix hold a Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) UAV Operators Certificate, which allows Electrix to operate a high performance AscTec Falcon 8 UAV. The Falcon 8 is an eight rotor (Octocopter) UAV manufactured by Ascending Technologies. The unit has in-built magnetic shielding for safe operation when in close proximity to electricity infrastructure and utilises a Sony NEX-7 camera with 19mm prime lens with upto 24 Mega Pixel resolution.



### SCOPE

The scope of works included the provision of Field Inspection resources that included:

- Qualified UAV Pilot, AscTec Falcon 8 and Toyota Landcruiser 4WD;
- Inspection and condition assessment of distribution pole top structures,
- insulators and attachments
- The Final Assessment Report.

### VALUE TO CLIENT

Out of the 42 sites inspected, 5 required follow-up maintenance work; one defect was identified to be a priority one. This information was loaded straight into SA Power Networks, Enterprise Asset Management System (EAMS) for scheduling and issue to line crews.

The feedback from the client was very positive regarding the quality and timeliness of the work.

Please refer to the Asset Service Business Unit Capability Statement for further information regarding other capabilities and services the AscTec Falcon 8 can provide.

