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## 2012 Sees Reduction in Collector System Installation Performance

*Renewable energy generators should plan for 14% increased risk of unplanned outages on sites commissioned in 2012*

MANCHESTER, Conn., April 10, 2013 IMCORP, the exclusive provider of the Factory Grade<sup>SM</sup> test for power cable systems, has released the 2012 Annual Cable System Quality Rating for utility-scale renewable energy sites. Based on thousands of new cable systems assessed annually, IMCORP maintains the most comprehensive database of medium and high voltage cable installation performance in the world.

87% of cable systems installed in 2012 at utility-scale US renewable energy sites met the manufacturers' quality control standards on initial test (The Cable System Quality Rating, or CSQR). 2012 was the first time in 5 years that the renewable energy CSQR declined. 2012 was also a record breaking year for capacity constructed. IMCORP believes the fall in CSQR may be attributed to the scarcity of qualified installation personnel needed to meet this increased demand.

The average utility-scale renewable site contains approximately 100 medium voltage cable systems. Therefore, without the Factory Grade<sup>SM</sup> test and pre-energization repairs being made, the average 2012 facility is at risk for 13 cable system failures prior to the end of the design life. This represents a 14% increase of at-risk cables at each facility over sites constructed in 2011. However, renewable energy sites utilizing the Factory Grade<sup>SM</sup> test were able to locate, mitigate and will avoid outages associated with these embedded defects.

IMCORP, an engineering services company, is the technology leader in underground power cable diagnostics. The company's patented technology has been field-proven through the testing of millions of feet of underground power cable all over the world. The Factory Grade<sup>SM</sup> test locates existing cable system defects and predicts future cable reliability. This performance-driven diagnostic solution provides the most effective and efficient way to determine the reliability of new or aged cable systems from 5kV to 500kV. IMCORP has been assisting clients around the world improve cable reliability for over 17 years, and has tested more than 45,000 cables spanning over 65 million feet.

IMCORP's technology improves the quality of life for everyone by enhancing the reliability of electric power delivered to them through underground power cables. Find out more at [www.imcorp.com](http://www.imcorp.com).

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