



Whilst carrying out a helicopter overhead power line inspection for a local distribution network operator, (DNO) we found a broken strand on one of the tension tower droppers (275kv)

This was visible from over a span away using the corona camera but would have been easily missed on a normal visual patrol.

As you can see from the pictures included the discharge is coming from two main areas, one is the longer strand on the left, and one is the shorter one on the right (see close up)

These types of faults are easily detectable using the corona camera in a gyro stabilised pod, mounted onto a helicopter such as the AS350 pictured to the right from PDG Helicopters.

What is also practical about this type of patrol is the amount of kilometers that can be patrolled in a day and the type of faults that can be found. If this type of inspection was carried out by a standard video camera, you would probably be hovering at each tower for approximately 5 mins to give enough time to find faults such as this.

for information on the DayCor II corona camera please click [here](#) to be transferred to Ofil Ltd. the manufactures of the camera, or contact us using the details at the bottom of the page.



Helicopter overhead power line patrol using the DayCor II corona camera



Broken conductor strand on 275kv dropper



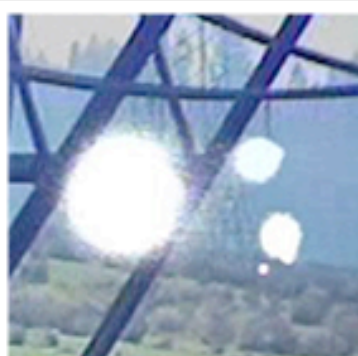
Corona discharge visible from broken conductor strand

### Other faults detectable using the DayCor II corona camera

- Loose / Worn Spacers
- Insulator Degradation
- High Noise areas
- and much much more



One of the strands now visible to the naked eye



Close up of broken strand

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