# WUI Fires in Oregon

## Complexity & Response

# TYPE 3 TYPE 4 TYPE 5 THE VAST MAJORITHM TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF All incidents

# Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System





1. Local Response Initial attack by AHJ or nearby agencies



Local Mutual Aid
 Local agency agreements used to
 bring in partners from neighboring
 iurisdictions



3. Expanded Mutual Aid
Local agency agreements which may
be county-wide or inter-county used
to bolster capability

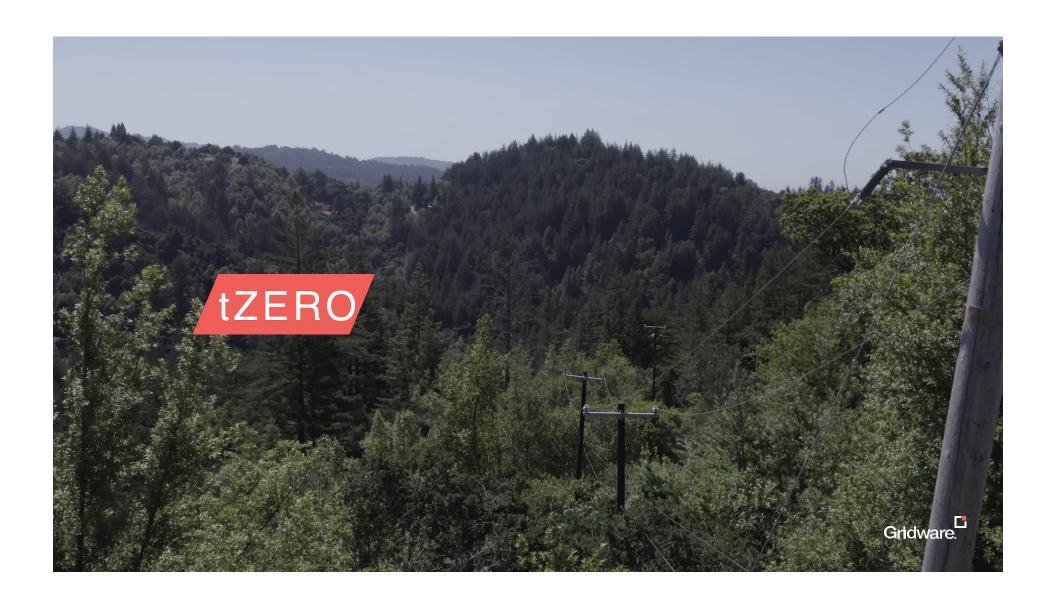


4. Statewide Mutual Aid Conflagration or other state-level response by resources mobilized by State Fire Marshal



5. Interstate Mutual Aid State-level agreements allowing resources from other states to respond

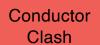
# Changing the Way You See the Grid.













Animal Contact



Vegetation Contact



Severe Weather



Compromised Pole

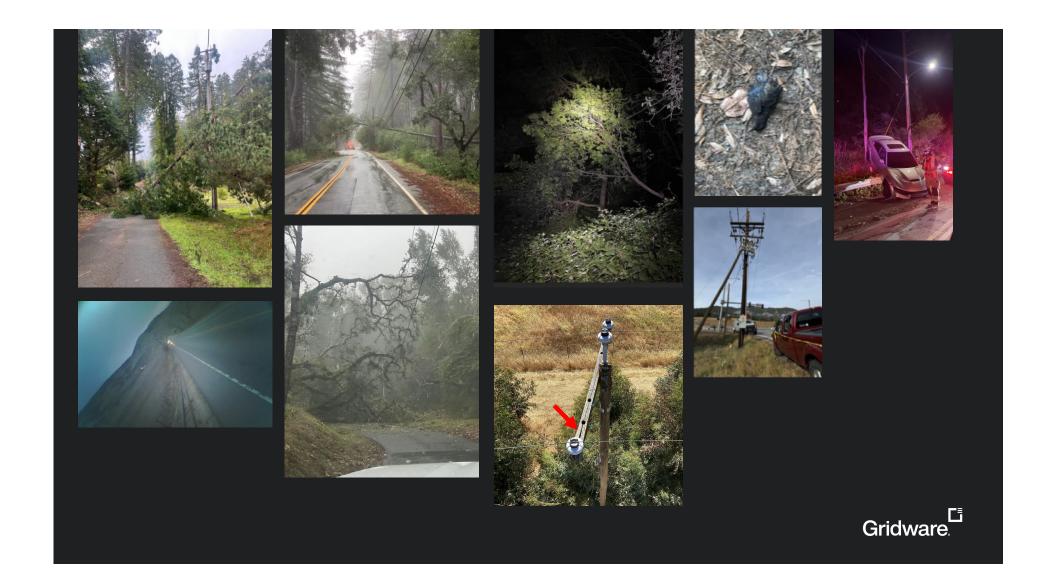


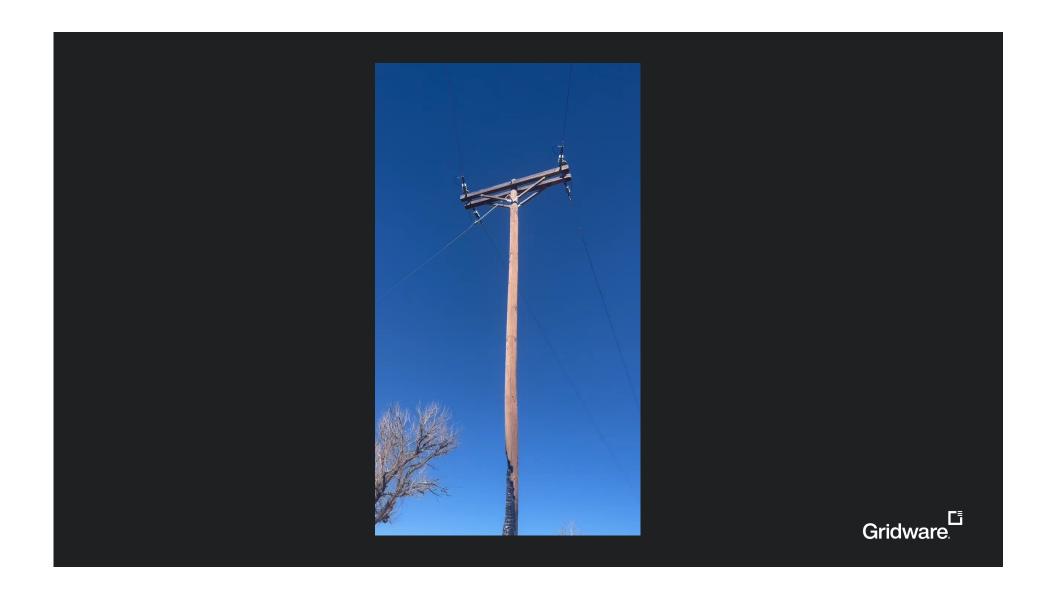
Asset Overload



Line Break







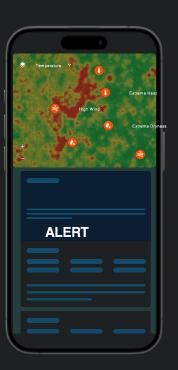
# Hazard Awareness Delay

Immediate Precise Detailed Detection. Location. Identification.

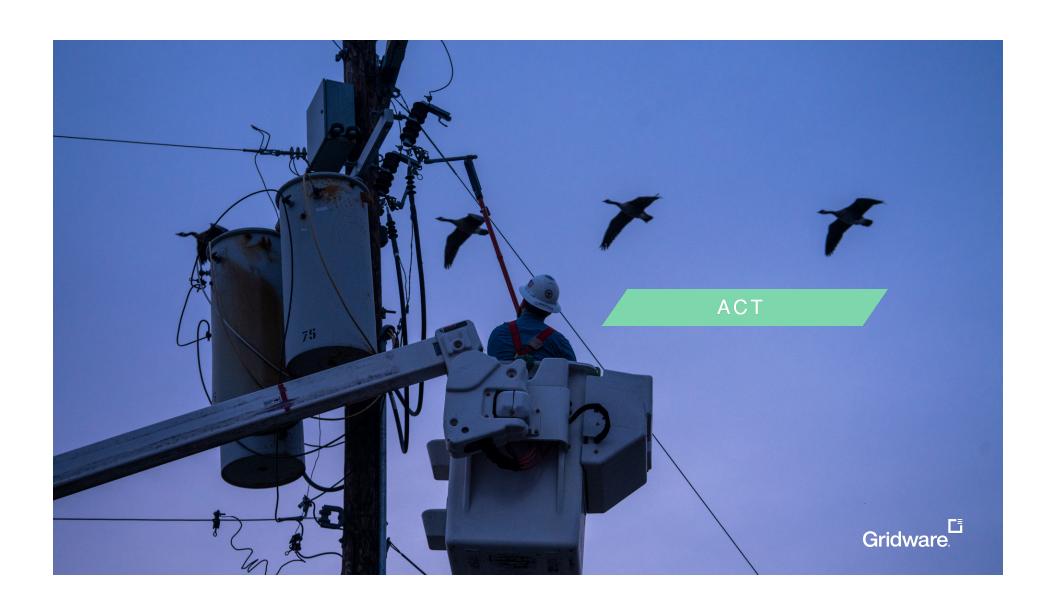
Always Active. Even During Outages.

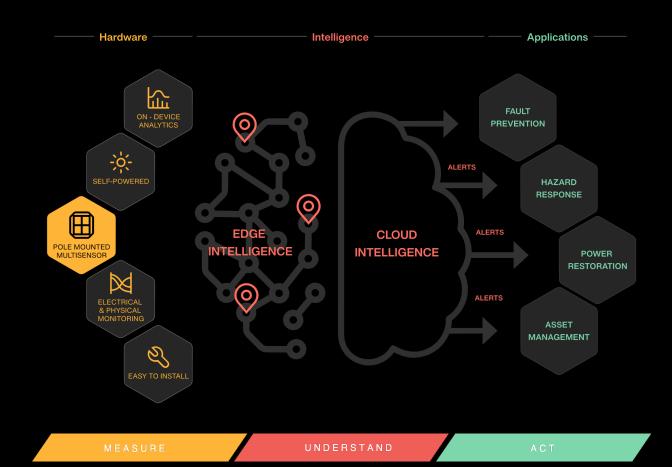


UNDERSTAND









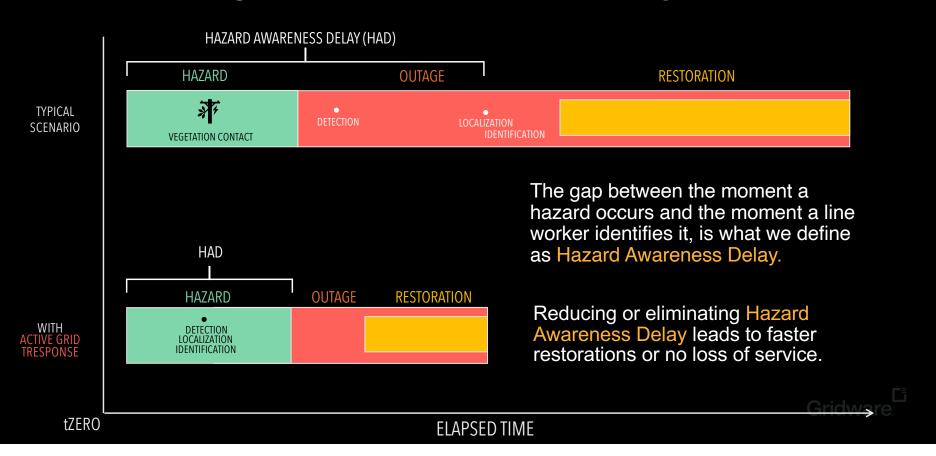
THIS IS

# Active Grid Response.



And it will change how we see the grid.

## **Eliminating Hazard Awareness Delay.**



# Safety & Ignition Risk.



# **Ignition Test.**

Gridware's ARC (Live Test Facility)

#### **Vegetation Combustion Test:**

- Over 2 mins before combustion and flashover arcing
- 100mA fault current during initial stages of combustion

#### Research has shown (EDM):

- Green wood is a poor conductor
- Dry (dead) wood is a very poor conductor
- Carbon or wood char is a good conductor
- Rain speeds up the fault, but does not make a difference between fault or no-fault
- Carbonization leads to low-impedance

Combustion times vary leaving time to respond



### Tree on Covered Conductor.

PG&E

Gridware. 5

07/05/24 @ 8:41:07p



#### Report

Date: 12/13/24 at 07:32:55 PT

Status: Emergent event, energized line

Alert: On 12/13/2024 at 07:32:55 US/Pacific a Gridscope device on Pole XXXXX experienced a vibration indicative of vegetation impacting primary distribution lines. A safety hazard may be present. Lines remain energized.

Date: 12/13/24 at 08:47:46 PT

Status: Resolved

Utility Response: Event entered into system as a "hazard tag" with no associated outage. Crew arrived on site, de-energized, removed tree before it could do damage.

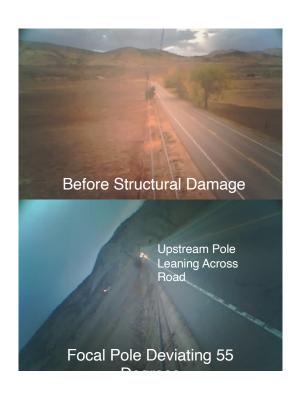
Re-energization occurred 1 hour 15 minutes

after impact.



# Wind-Driven Pole Structural Damage.

3/17/25 @ 6:30p



During a red flag warning wind gusts in excess of 45 mph causing multiple adjacent poles to structurally fail, without making contact with the ground – lines remained energized.

Subsequent **fire spread modeling** on this ignition point had this impacting

3200 ACRES
360 STRUCTURES



## Tree on Line - HIF.

07/05/24 @ 8:41:07p





Tree falls and hangs on energized lines leading to a high impedance fault. EPSS enabled on circuit without a protective function initiated.

When he arrived onsite, he saw a branch had fallen and was burning on our lines – and said if this had not been reported or dispatched it would have surely caused a forest fire.

# Bird Phase-To-Phase Causes Ignition.



9/6/24 @ 12:19p



"

This would have been a major fire today, if we didn't get that alert!

"



# Resilience & Situational Awareness.

# **Tree Takes Down Lines.**

1/06/24 @ 11:48a









Crew was dispatched without T-man, saving at least 1hr 11min.



# **Trees Down 14 Lines in 24 Hours.**

deenergized



02/04/24





X=Tree strikes



# Thank you!

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