# **Fluke Commissioning and Troubleshooting Tools for**

# **FLUKE**®

# **Solar Installers**



## Wire Installation

- Check the integrity of insulation after wire installation
- Identify ground faults and potential insulation damage
- Detect issues early to prevent larger problems

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Insulation resistance tester: 1507, 1537, 1587 FC Multifunction tester: SMFT-1000



# **Voltage and Polarity**

- · Identify mis-wired strings
- Ensure proper landing of module home run

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Clamp meter: 393 FC Multifunction tester: SMFT-1000



### I-V Curve

- Identify module/string issues before operation
- Establish a historical record for future comparisons
- Detect issues not visible with Voc testing

FLUKE PRODUCTS

I-V curve tester: PVA-1500HE2, PVA-1500T2
Multifunction tester with I-V curve: SMFT-1000



# **Earth-Bond Continuity**

- Measure resistance/continuity between two points (e.g., module frame to ground rod)
- Ensure bonding of non-current carrying metal parts

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Insulation resistance tester: 1507, 1537, 1587 FC Multifunction tester: SMFT-1000



# **Ground Resistance**

- Measure equipment grounding system resistance to ground
- Prevent safety hazards from ungrounded parts in case of a ground fault

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Earth ground clamp: 1630-2 FC Earth ground tester: 1625-2 GEO

# **Performance**



- Compare expected vs. actual power measurements
- Verify inverter efficiency
- · Ensure proper system operation
- Establish baseline data for future testing

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Clamp meter: 393 FC Multifunction tester: SMFT-1000

# **Thermal Imaging**

- Identify hotspots indicating faults or inefficiencies
- Detect potential issues early, such as microcracks or defective cells
- · Ensure uniform module performance
- · Prevent overheating hazards

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Thermal imager: PTi120, TiS55+, Ti480 PRO

# **Harmonics**



- Troubleshoot and prevent issues in power generation, transmission, and distribution systems
- Conduct load studies to reduce energy usage

FLUKE PRODUCTS

Power quality and energy analyzer: 1770 Series





# What Should Solar Installers be Measuring?

# **Inverters and Transformers**



#### **Inverters and Transformers**

- · DC voltage and current
- · AC voltage and current
- · Fuse continuity
- · Thermal imaging
- · Torque terminals
- · Inverter efficiency
- AC power quality: voltage, frequency, harmonics

#### **Maintenance on Inverters and Transformers**

- · Ensures equipment is operating properly
- · Upholds OEM warranty
- Prevents future failures
- Maximizes system production

FLUKE PRODUCTS Digital multimeters Clamp meters Multifunction testers Thermal imagers

# **Modules**



# Visual inspection on an array is needed to look for any obvious damage or accidental disconnections, including:

- · Damaged modules
- · Compromised insulation
- · Loose or damaged connectors

#### Thermal imaging inspection:

- · Aerial or handheld
- · Modules/cells not operating will be hot
- · High resistance connections will be hot
- · Identify equipment for further testing

#### Voltage and current:

- Vmp testing can identify closed bypass diodes
- Imp testing can identify strings that aren't producing
- Test circuits for current before disconnecting module connectors or opening fuses

Note: Fluke tool must be CAT III, with a voltage rating greater than the array voltage.

FLUKE PRODUCTS Thermal imagers
Digital multimeters
Clamp meters
I-V curve tracers

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