



# Protecting Your Business with Infrared Imaging Technology

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Horticultural businesses that regularly use electrical equipment must take serious safety precautions to prevent injury or damage to their property. Loose connections, overloaded circuits and damaged switches can all cause power outages and fires. You could lose an entire building to an electrical fire and experience a business income loss as a result. Too often the electrical problems are discovered after a fire causes serious damage.

A good preventive maintenance program can help identify and correct potential problems. However, even highly trained experts are unable to identify “hot spots,” which are places where electrical fires are most likely to begin, without specialized equipment.

Thermography uses modern tools that allow trained technicians to use infrared imaging to pinpoint the specific spots where fires can start. Infrared cameras can detect differences in temperatures between hot spots and surrounding areas, identifying situations that could lead to fires or power outages. It can uncover electrical problems in equipment such as faulty wiring, loose connections caused by temperature changes and vibration, crimping or other damage, and overloading.

In addition to electrical problems, thermography can detect non-electrical situations such as excessive friction

in gear boxes and drive belts, leaky steam traps, damaged piping insulation and roof or piping leaks which can create cool spots on walls and ceilings.

Before infrared imaging, this type of analysis could only be done by shutting down all or part of a building. This major inconvenience often left electrical equipment neglected sometimes with dire consequences. With thermographic imaging, inspectors can quickly and accurately identify potential problems, isolate them, and recommend corrective action to prevent the problem from getting worse.

The return on investment on a thermographic scan can be up to 20 times the initial cost of the inspection. Identifying and correcting hot spots can lead to improved efficiency of the electrical system, the avoidance of costly repairs after the fact and ultimately saving thousands of dollars in potential losses.

The Flanders Group can provide this service as part of our suite of solutions to clients who have equipment breakdown coverage through our exclusive Hortica insurance program. Call us at (800) 462-6435 for more information.

