NX Navigator™ is a next-generation smart tracker control system that enables PV power plant owners and authorized operators to monitor and securely control their PV systems. This enhanced control system increases production yield and enables reliable operation across a wide range of weather conditions. Severe hailstorms can cause significant damage to solar arrays, and asset owners with power plants in hail-prone areas often incur increased insurance premiums as a result. NX Navigator mitigates this risk with its hail-stow feature, which permits a single operator command to rapidly put the entire solar tracker array into a safe 60-degree stow angle to reduce hail impact losses. Tests conducted at the independent Renewable Energy Test Center (RETC) using a calibrated hail cannon determined that based on historical hail events in the U.S., the hail-stow feature in NX Navigator increases the survivability of PV panels from 81.6% to 99.4%, a 30X increase in survivability. The RETC independent engineer report, “Hail Resistance Testing and Analysis of Results: Evaluation of Nextracker Hail Stow,” is available under NDA to Nextracker clients.

Next-Generation Monitoring System

NX Navigator’s intuitive graphical user interface helps plant managers monitor timely sitewide information of key parameters. Precise array and angular value data are collected at the site, subfield, and individual tracker levels. NX Navigator allows you to easily interpret status and performance charts such as:

- Tracker system availability, indicating the percentage of operational or accessible equipment for a chosen time period
- Tracker usage, showing how the system was controlled or allowed to operate
Risk-Mitigation Control Features

Multiple risk-mitigation features improve safety and reliability, and reduce the cost of ownership and improve feedback on the operability and performance of the system. Preemptive stow features for hurricanes, typhoons, snow shed, and hailstorms through the NX Navigator command prompts are at the fingertips of plant operators.

Granular Visualization

- Visualize and instantly locate the tracker equipment on a digital sitemap
- Select and command PV array(s) into various maintenance modes
- Filter and identify various tracker states on the digital map
- Analyze irradiance and tracker angle heat maps

Security Protocols

NX Navigator is hosted on NX Data Hub, which is located on the site network behind the PV plant’s secure firewall. Asset owners are able to manage NX Navigator’s access in compliance with national and local infrastructure security protocols. This system is designed for authorized personnel to monitor and control the tracker functionality.

NX Navigator Tiers

NX Navigator is available to Nextracker system owners, site operators, and other authorized parties associated with the plant. Ask an NX Global Services team member or sales representative for NX Navigator today: sales@Nextracker.com

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NX Navigator is the latest innovation by Nextracker that we have implemented as a way to add value to several of our solar power plants. Previously, we deployed Nextracker’s TrueCapture system on many of our projects; as with TrueCapture, we are pleased to be an early adopter of these NX Navigator features.

– Chris Clevenger, COO, D.E. Shaw Renewable Investments