



a supplement to

E&P Oil and Gas Investor **PipeLineandGas**
TECHNOLOGY

Automated Generator Control System Core of Business

Point Eight Power relied on its expertise in automated generator control for the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline System.

“This is the core business that built our company. It’s what sets us apart and what we do so well for the oil and gas industry,” said Project Manager Karl Sheasby.

The Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline System project consisted of generator control switchgear for the Ship Shoal 332B and High Island A5C platforms. Each platform had two 940-kW gas generators and one 275-kW diesel generator. The switchgear along with all three generators have paralleling capability and the generators can be manually or automatically started.

With generators supplied by Reagan Equipment Co., Point Eight Power technicians assisted Reagan personnel with load testing the generator control switchgear once the generators were complete.

When the generators and switchgear were shipped offshore, two Point Eight Power project personnel – an engineer and a field service technician – provided start-up and commissioning assistance on the platform. Working on the programmable logic control (PLC) and touch-screen system, the Point Eight Power staff refined several automation points to assure optimum operating conditions.

“Two points of differentiation made the switchgear unique,” Sheasby said. “The control system utilized a touch screen for operator interface. Additionally, less wiring was involved in connecting the generator control switchgear to the power source due to the communications system thereby reducing the overall cost to the client.”

Controlnet was used to communicate the remote flex I/O on the generator skid to gather all the information regarding the condition of the generator. All the I/Os from the generator were wired to an Allen Bradley Flex Logix system and were brought back to the main PLC via one coaxial cable, eliminating the expensive field wiring usually associated with this type of project.

Various displays allow the operator to monitor and control the engine/generators. They include the main control display, which is used for starting/stopping the generator and monitoring its status; a shutdown display; an alarm display; and a metering display, which monitors the winding and bearing temperatures and other parameters. This screen also has the capability to change the setpoints of the parameters for alarm and shutdowns.

Point Eight Power meets all applicable United States and overseas regulatory standards. Equipment dedicated to marine applications can be manufactured to meet American Bureau of Shipping/U.S. Coast Guard, Lloyds of London or Det Norske Veritas standards.

The company’s talented and experienced engineering staff has designed and coordinated virtually every type of switchgear, PLC control and relay logic from 120 VAC to 34 kV. Additionally, the company’s mechanical department has created a range of power control/distribution buildings with designs from interlocking panel-



A 480-V UL 891 generator control switchgear on Ship Shoal 332B.

type enclosures to crimp-plate steel buildings.

All design and construction stages conducted at Point Eight Power’s Belle Chasse, La., manufacturing facility follow a strict ISO 9001:2000 quality control program. Currently, it is certified in engineering design, manufacturing and service of industrial, oilfield, utility, government and marine generator control switchboards/switchgear, as well as distribution equipment and motor controls for 120 VAC or 120 V DC systems, power control/distribution buildings and associated metal products.

With nine underwriter laboratory listings and KEMA certifications for American National Standards Institute C37.20.2 (medium-voltage switchgear) and International Electrotechnical Commission 298 (medium-voltage switchgear), Point Eight Power’s priority is to provide a product that not only will meet, but also exceed its clients’ expectations regarding quality, delivery and service. ■



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