

Client requirement

Dependable generator control switchgear for platforms along a 390-mile offshore pipeline in the Gulf of Mexico.



Point Eight Solution

Rely on its expertise in Automated Generator Control and providing assistance to the end of the project.

The Automated Generator Control for the Cameron Highway Oil Pipeline (CHOPS) project consisted of generator control switchgear for the Ship Shoal 332b and High Island A5C platforms. Each platform had two 940kw gas generators and one 275kw diesel generator. The switchgear along with all three generators has paralleling capability, and the generators can be manually or automatically started.

With generators supplied by Reagan Equipment Company, 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 along with a field-service technician – provided startup and commissioning assistance on the platform. Working on the PLC and touch-screen system, the Point Eight Power staff refined several automation points to assure optimum operating conditions.

Controlnet was used to communicate the remote flex Input/Output 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 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 that is used for starting/stopping the generator and monitoring its status; a shutdown display; alarm display; and the metering display that monitors the winding and bearing temperatures and other parameters. This screen also has the capability to change the set points 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, Lloyd's of London or DNV standards.

All design and construction stages conducted at Point Eight Power's Belle Chasse, La., manufacturing facility follow a strict ISO certified quality management system. Currently, it is certified in engineering design, manufacturing and service of industrial, oil field, 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 ANSI C37.20.2 (medium-voltage switchgear) and IEC 298 (medium-voltage switchgear), Point Eight Power's priority is to provide a solution that not only will meet, but also exceed its clients' expectations with regard to quality, delivery and service.

Point Eight Power. Controlling the Power You Generate



Point Eight supplied an Automated Generator Control System that included the following: 480V generator control switchgear with high-resistance ground system and Cutler-Hammer MCC (Motor Control Centers). The MCCs included Emergency Shutdown (ESD) and Control Flex I/O wired and installed by Point Eight Power. Nema 4X, Class 1, Div. II, 316 Stainless Steel Generator Skid-mounted Junction box with Flex I/O for remote communications, Nema 3R, 316 Stainless steel cable termination box for generator cables.