



Encorp Ensures Sweet Solution for Maui Pineapple Company, Ltd.



Power System Failing. In July 1999, management of Maui Pineapple Company, Ltd., learned the company's power-control system—which produces 6 megawatts of power—wasn't Y2K compliant and could go sour in just six months. "A Y2K shutdown would have crippled our production and closed Maui's largest shopping mall, which receives its electricity from us," said Wayne Sakamoto, head of Maui Pineapple Company's power plant. "So we called several companies to help. The only one with the expertise we were looking for was Encorp."

According to Dave Bishop, application engineering manager at Encorp, Maui Pineapple Company's four Wartsila gensets hadn't been updated for nearly 10 years, even though the power demands of nearby Kaahumanu Shopping Center had grown substantially.

Time for a Change. "It was time for Maui Pineapple Company to modernize its power equipment," Bishop said. "They needed a system with automated controls that allow the generators to run in parallel with the utility."

Quick Installation and No Interruptions. In just few months and without interruption to the company's day-to-day operations, Bishop and the Encorp team replaced 60 percent of the old equipment with new Encorp generator power controls. Encorp equipment included one Encorp enpower™-UPC utility control, four Encorp enpower™-GPC generator controls and Encorp's intelligent®-VMM (Virtual Maintenance Monitor) alarming and paging software. In addition, the team installed four new Basler voltage regulators, Heinzman electronic governors and actuators, new engine sequencing and monitoring controls and five Cutler-Hammer 3000 Series Panelmate screens used to display all operating parameters of the upgraded system.

The Encorp solution allows Maui Pineapple Company to parallel its four generators with each other as well as interconnect with the grid.

Alarming and Paging Simplified. Before Encorp installed its alarming and paging software, a Maui Pineapple Company employee had to watch the generators for trouble or rely on an outdated alarm system that issued a warning if it detected something wrong but didn't diagnose the problem.

Today, Encorp's alarming and paging software installed on the equipment instantaneously alerts power-plant employees and provides information on any one of 700 potential problems. "The Encorp equipment has paid for itself," Sakamoto said. "Our four generators now run as one, which makes the system much more efficient."

Encorp Speed. Sakamoto notes that Encorp was the one company with the technical expertise and speed of execution to fix Maui Pineapple Company's problem. Only three months after the first meeting with Maui Pineapple Company to discuss the project, Encorp had completed the first phase of the project.

"It was unbelievable the scope of work Encorp completed without the power plant shutting down," Sakamoto said. And as Sakamoto notes: On Jan. 1, 2000, Maui Pineapple Company's power plant ran without any problems — thanks to Encorp's equipment and support.



Maui Pineapple: before



Maui Pineapple: after