CASE STUDY FAST-TRACK PEAKER PLANT CONSTRUCTION REQUIRES QUALITY MATERIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES





SUMMARY

Customer

Power utility

Challenge

Fast-track construction of two peaker plants

Solution

READY![™] To Install eAnixter

Results

- Properly cut, tagged and spooled cable delivered on time
- Minimal remainder inventory
- Specific reel ordering to minimize product touches
- Real-time order modifications through integrated ordering platform
- On-time completion of project within budget

Customer Challenge

For more than 100 years, a southern U.S. energy company has supplied power to a growing customer base that now includes nearly 667,000 consumers and covers more than 2,000 square miles. With 4,000 megawatts of generating capacity that will power nearly 500 homes for a year, the company is poised to meet the needs of its customers. As the area population continues to grow, the company needed to confirm it had enough capacity to meet future demand and get through peak uses of consumption.

To address these concerns, the company decided to fast-track construction of two peaker plants, which are auxiliary power plants to be used during periods of peak electrical demand. The plants were designed to use six gas turbines to generate electricity that would provide additional power to approximately 65,000 homes in the surrounding area and needed to be completed within a year. To finish the build-out at the two sites, the company needed a supply of bare copper, control cable, medium voltage and building wire of specified and verifiable quality. In addition, the company's engineers needed to be assured that the cable they received met their standards for quality and performance. A significant component for the sourcing of this material included a review of quality control procedures and inspection of warehouse operations where the cables would be stored and processed.

Anixter Solution

The company chose Anixter as their distribution partner for this project. Upon beginning the project, Anixter and the customer's engineers conducted a thorough review to get everyone involved in the tightly scheduled process upfront and to meet expectations for quality and deployment. Anixter helped to specify the types of products and manufacturers and arranged a factory inspection for the company's engineers. This allowed the company to review the manufacturers' production techniques and quality control procedures. By conducting the walkthrough with the company, Anixter was able to maintain a transparent sourcing process that confirmed the products met the company's quality specifications.

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Anixter worked with us to get the material we needed from its warehouse to the site at the right time in the correct quantities and configurations. That helped minimize our concerns about on-site security for the material and it gave us greater functionality in the field.

Contractor

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The company also wanted to confirm Anixter's distribution center operations could guarantee the integrity and quality of the cable. Because numerous issues can affect the performance of cabling, Anixter invited the company to its local distribution center to observe the receiving, staging and delivery areas. As part of this visit, Anixter began to make preparations with the company to use large cable reels, which helped to maximize cable deliveries while offering greater flexibility to make cuts that met required lengths. The reels also minimized cable handling from the distribution center to the construction site. Because of space limitations at the site in addition to security issues involving valuable copper stock, the company required the cut cable to be tagged and delivered to exact locations at the construction site at the right time. To speed deployment at the job site, Anixter suggested its READY!SM To Install cable management solution to the company. With READY! To Install, Anixter cut, tagged by circuit ID to identify where the cable goes and shipped the cable to the job site. Once on-site, the cable was readily identifiable and only had to be pulled and installed with no on-site measuring or cutting. The company's on-site project superintendent only needed to select the reels for release and their designated cable cuts through Anixter's Web-based ordering platform.

Anixter provided training to the customer's project and materials managers on the use of eAnixter, a Web-based system that enables customers to enter and track orders electronically and to view reports at any time. Through the system, the project manager for the company was able to order material as it was needed and have it shipped according to the build-out schedule. eAnixter allowed the company to streamline its purchasing and gain real-time access to Anixter's inventory, which helped to minimize invoicing and paperwork while driving overall cost savings.

Project Results

According to the contractor, it was Anixter's willingness to work with the contractor and to understand their needs that helped make the project a success. "The unique constraints due to the space and time limitations relative to the construction site, which was narrow and constrained, dictated how the construction could be done," the contractor said. "Anixter worked with us to get the material we needed from its warehouse to the site at the right time in the correct quantities and configurations. That helped minimize our concerns about on-site security for the material and it gave us greater functionality in the field."



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Anixter Inc. World Headquarters 2301 Patriot Boulevard Glenview, Illinois 60026 224.521.8000



READY![™] Deployment Services by Anixter map our distribution

and Supply Chain Solutions to the construction or deployment process of any technology project. We combine sourcing, inventory management, kitting, labeling, packaging and deployment services to simplify and address the material management challenges at the job site(s). READY! Deployment Services by Anixter will help you improve the speed to deployment, lower your total cost of deployment and deliver your product specifications as planned.

ANIXCES

This project called for:



READY![™] To Install is a customized fullservice wire and cable

management and delivery program.

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