



Deploying a Digital Energy Network to Manage Emergency Power Supply Systems

Emergency power supply systems (EPSS) literally play a life or death role in hospital and healthcare campuses that rely on these systems in the event of a disruption in power. While extended power outages at a hospital are rare occurrences, an aging utility power grid, extreme weather conditions and unforeseen circumstances contribute to under-reported power outages of shorter duration with surprising regularity.

Healthcare executives and facility managers alike know all too well that nothing is more vital to patient care and safety than the persistent generation and distribution of emergency power during a disruption. But historic best practices in managing these vital power resources calls for a dramatic shift in thinking.

The Challenge

To date, with rare exceptions, the inspection and management of emergency power supply systems used in healthcare campuses is performed manually by individual facility managers. In the case of an extended power disruption, critical hospital assets – from the equipment that exists to protect patient safety to the IT network and Data Center – are put at risk because facilities personnel have no way of knowing the status of disparate EPSSs. This extends to other important factors, such as how much fuel is on hand to power them, without physically inspecting individual EPSSs.

Even with stringent Joint Commission and EPA compliance requirements in place, this manual approach to EPSS management has been acceptable to date in the absence of viable automated alternatives. Healthcare CFOs, COOs and facility managers now have that alternative to significantly reduce risk to patient safety and revenue streams.

“Historically, the manual management of EPSSs has proven to be a dirty, dangerous and laborious job.”

– Ken Sutherland, Vice President of Engineering Services, Construction and Design at Tenet Healthcare Corporation

“Deploying Blue Pillar’s solution for Tenet’s energy fleet will help us minimize our overall energy spend, streamline our day-to-day energy management operations and make a meaningful contribution to the stability of the power grid. Blue Pillar’s packaged software solution scales and each campus can be deployed quickly, which gives Tenet a faster path to achieve savings.”

– Ken Sutherland, Vice President of Engineering Services, Construction and Design at Tenet Healthcare Corporation

Blue Pillar’s Packaged Digital Energy Network Solution

To alleviate healthcare facilities from the considerable risk and significant inefficiencies of manual EPSS management, Blue Pillar provides the industry’s only turn-key Digital Energy Network. This packaged “system of systems” consolidates and centralizes the command and control of disparate energy assets. By combining all backup power components into a consolidated Digital Energy Network, healthcare organizations can maintain around-the-clock visibility into the readiness of disparate emergency power supply systems from any browser-based device. This breakthrough approach provides essential information to manage - as opposed to simply monitor - emergency events caused by power disruptions.

Because Blue Pillar’s Digital Energy Networks connects all distributed energy assets across a campus, facilities managers can now fully automate the remote monitoring, management, testing, and compliance reporting of their EPSSs. This provides critical and real-time situational awareness to make informed decisions in lockstep with emergency protocols.

In addition to supporting EPSSs, Blue Pillar’s Digital Energy Network has a proven track record of helping healthcare organizations lower the total cost of energy asset ownership, improve regulatory and environmental compliance, and enable or increase levels of asset reliability, business continuity, operational efficiency and cyber-security. Plus, it greatly simplifies participation in the cost-saving and revenue-generating opportunities enabled by demand response programs and the smart grid.



Blue Pillar, Inc.
9025 North River Road, Suite 150
Indianapolis, IN 46240
P: 888-234-3212
F: 317-663-2218
info@bluepillar.com

www.bluepillar.com

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