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WAPA to Install Treotech's Modular Temperature Monitor System

Apr 1, 2008 12:46 AM

The Western Area Power Administration has selected Treotech's Modular Temperature Monitor System for new builds and retrofit transformer projects. Treotech, a Brazilian company, underwent appraisal and was approved as a qualified provider WAPA.

Treotech's international trajectory gained momentum in 2006, when WAPA decided to replace the mechanical thermometers installed on its transformers with digital temperature monitors. The utility service was looking for reliability in supplying energy, which entails operation and maintenance of a high number of transformers whose temperatures, since they are variables of the highest importance, must be monitored.

WAPA markets and transmits energy produced by 57 hydroelectric generation plants, whose aggregate installed capacity is approximately 10,395 MW. In 2006, the company sold 35.3 billion kWh, for Gross Operating Revenue of US\$ 1.2 billion. With an asset base of 296 substations and over 27 thousand km of transmission lines, WAPA addresses the largest territorial extension in the US, covering fifteen states, and is the technology leader in its segment of activity.

Treotech was the only foreign company to participate in the evaluation of electronic temperature monitors undertaken by WAPA in 2007. At the end of this process, the utility company recommended the deployment of Treotech monitors on transformers manufactured by large multinational companies, such as Hyundai, Waukesha Electric, Toshiba and Siemens.

One outcome of this assessment was that, in October 2007, WAPA Rock Mountain Region appointed Treotech as its Sole Source for temperature monitors. By doing this, WAPA no longer needs to set up public tenders for the acquisition of this device that, given its exclusive technical features, is produced by only one manufacturer. As a result of this decision, an order has already been placed at Treotech for a set of 27 monitors.

In the comparative evaluation, WAPA took into account the easy and simple process of replacing existing mechanical thermometers by the new electronic equipment. In this aspect, because Treotech monitors are miniaturized (96 x 96 mm), they had a competitive advantage. Flexibility, which facilitates parameter setting and operation, in addition to ensuring effectiveness in operator training, was also an important evaluation item.

A few of the features of Treotech TM1 and TM2 temperature monitors that contributed significantly to WAPA's decision are shown below:

- Because of their reduced dimensions, monitors occupy less space than the previous equipment and free up space in transformers;
- Totally universal, the devices are fully user configured for deployment in any transformer model, enabling standardized and reduced stock inventory levels;
- Extended operating temperature for more safety (-40 to +85°C);
- New 4-key design for higher flexibility in navigating between Menus;
- Extended supportability, addressing the most stringent and exacting testing and assay procedures performed by transformer manufacturers;
- Ideal for application with new NOMEX vegetable oil insulation technologies: adjustable temperature scale from -55 to +200 °C;
- Open communication protocols, like Modbus and DNP 3.0, with 1 ms accuracy Time-Stamp support;
- Actuation of shut down contacts with dual-processor technology (double Trip safety);
- Exclusive self-diagnostic and auto-calibration system;
- Special operation, protection and maintenance functions.

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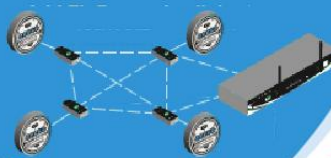
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