

SEMBCORP SHARES CURRENT THINKING ON IMPORTANT ELECTRICAL TECHNIQUES

Bright sparks from the electricity industry all over the UK converged on the Tees Valley to share current thinking on high voltage techniques.

Wilton International-based SembCorp Utilities UK staged an 'Effective Management of Electrical Assets' seminar for around 50 industry experts at the Wilton Centre.

As owner and operator of one of the largest private high voltage networks in Europe, SembCorp needs to ensure its HV assets perform as reliably as possible. SembCorp's Electrical Power Services Group (EPSG) maintains this network and has existed at Wilton for over 40 years with an increasing customer base. Recent growth has resulted in the development of another workshop and office facility in Grimsby to enable them to provide tailored solutions to owners and operators of HV assets in the Humberside region and the rest of the UK.

Ian Turford, the Wilton EPSG Operations Manager, said: "We are in a unique position to understand the problems associated with HV assets, because over the years we have had to come up with solutions to keep our own equipment serviceable and reliable.

It has been essential for us to apply the latest technologies and techniques available for condition monitoring and we have invested in such equipment for use on our own assets as well as those of our clients. We were keen to share our experiences and this information with other owners and operators of HV equipment."

Engineers, managers and technicians from around the country were invited to listen to presentations, talk to industry experts, share best practices and view demonstrations of the latest technologies available. These techniques included thermography - presented by FLIR systems, circuit breaker profiling - presented by Kelman Services, partial discharge testing - presented by EA Technology and insulating oil analysis - presented by TJH2B.

Ian said: "Service Location was also able to demonstrate vacuum excavation on a redundant buried cable. This is a technique we used on one of our projects in Humberside that uses water and vacuum suction to excavate to underground services without damaging them."

Kevin Duffy, Dow Chemicals, Predictive and Preventative Maintenance Co-ordinator, said: "I believe the whole concept of bringing together this type of seminar, where electrical specialist companies are available to outline their company profile and explain detailed technical information on a one to one basis, is invaluable to companies like Dow.

From a personal point it was very good to see the new technology available in the fields of excavating, circuit breaker profiling and oil analysis.

I think the day had the right mix of information, practical demonstrations and the knowledge that there is somebody out there to assist and resolve issues."

Russell Clayman, Business Development Manager, of EA Technology said: "We would like to thank Sembcorp for inviting us to the HV open day at the Wilton site.

High voltage engineering is a very specialised and complex subject and we appreciate the opportunity to meet and network with so many engineers from around the region in one place.

We thoroughly enjoyed the presentations from the other speakers which we found interesting and informative.”

Due to the positive feedback received from the event EPSG are hoping to repeat the seminar in the near future in the Humberside area.

Anyone who would like to discuss the range of services available from EPSG can contact Ian Turford on 212584 email ian.turford@sembutilities.co.uk or Paul Walker on 01472 360206 email paul.walker@sembutilities.co.uk

Notes

SembCorp Utilities UK own and operates one of the largest privately owned High Voltage networks in Europe at its Wilton International manufacturing site on Teesside. The Electrical Power Services Group (EPSG), with bases at Teesside and Humberside, maintains these assets on a day to day basis, as well as offering high voltage electrical services to an ever expanding customer base throughout the UK. EPSG also offers expertise in electrical maintenance, installation, commissioning, consultancy, training and design.



EPSG commissioning technician Bob Henry and D&Z senior electrical designer Tom McManners



Kevin Duffy of DOW speaking to Russell Clayman of EA Technology



Kevin Ellis - area sales manager of FLIR systems