

Epms electrical power monitoring system

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While power monitoring is beneficial to anyone using electric power -- including residential users -- we typically use the term EPMS to refer to the larger scale management systems required by large operations that consume extensive amounts of power. This can include virtually any business with consumption concerns, but we typically see a special need for EPMS in manufacturing and data centers.

The largest power consumers in the United States are manufacturing facilities, especially those that deal in the production of chemicals, petroleum, coal products and paper. Regardless of industry subset, however, all manufacturing facilities can benefit from energy management systems. Mismanagement of electrical resources can damage the machinery and equipment that enable operations or even result in shutdowns that have major ripple effects down supply chains. The sheer amount of power required for manufacturing, coupled with these consequences, makes careful management essential.

At its core, an EPMS offers insight. Any facility manager -- electrical expert or not -- can use this information to improve operations. Here are a few of the top benefits EPMS provides:

If you have better awareness of where you"re consuming electric power, you can determine where you can reduce your energy use. Some operations might necessitate large power consumption, but you"ll likely discover others that are draining much more than they need to. In fact, the EPA has estimated that most companies waste about 30% of their consumed energy.

A Class A device that delivers utility- and revenue-grade data allows you to compare actual consumption to your electric bills, making bill errors clear. If you can pinpoint exactly where that waste is, you can determine the right fix: cutting usage, replacing equipment for more efficient models and so on.

Understanding the health of your grid is key to avoiding electrical hazards for your equipment and employees. Both power surges and power outages, along with smaller voltage dips and interruptions, can present dangers. An EPMS can identify these issues as they occur and help you take action to stop further damage, but it can also help prevent failures preemptively by showing you the equipment that needs to be replaced soon.

Power quality analysis is a critical component of a good EPMS. Simply tracking usage is somewhat like putting quantity before quality. If you want to truly optimize operations, you need to get the best performance out of your equipment. Understanding exactly where there are quality issues is the first step to ensuring every mechanism in your facility is working to its full potential.

Power shutdowns halt operations, and the resulting downtime is costly. Using an EPMS helps reduce these incidents, keeping your facility functioning longer and more profitably.



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With increasing regulations, consumer expectations and environmental consequences pushing energy efficiency, many companies have sustainability targets to hit. Making progress towards these goals is much easier with the insights an EPMS can provide. In fact, by taking advantage of the other EPMS benefits we"ve already laid out, you"ll be well on your way to hitting your efficiency goals already.

If you're researching energy management tools, you may have seen other solutions like BMS and SCADA surface as alternatives to an EPMS. Before committing to any one solution, make sure you know the distinctions between each system.

A BMS is a building management system, and while useful for automating certain processes and making adjustments to HVAC and lighting systems easy, the capabilities of a BMS are limited when compared to an EPMS.

Building management systems can provide only basic energy data and can"t offer the advanced insights into grid health, usage and quality that drive EPMS benefits.

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