



An HVM Customer Testimonial

HVM Implements Preventive Maintenance Program to Improve Reliability and Reduce Downtime for Manufacturing Facility

HVM partnered with a leading powersports manufacturer to implement a multi-year preventive maintenance program that improved reliability, reduced downtime, and supported long-term electrical system performance.

Background

A leading powersports manufacturer partnered with HVM to develop a preventive maintenance program for its medium-voltage facility, which includes several medium-to-low voltage transformers supporting production areas and a nearby office building. Reliable electrical infrastructure is critical, as even brief interruptions can disrupt production, affect employee safety, and create costly operational delays. Given the facility's role in producing high-performance recreational vehicles, maintaining consistent uptime is essential to meet delivery deadlines and protect operational efficiency.

HVM has partnered with the facility for over 10 years, building a relationship grounded in trust, technical expertise, and consistent service. Early in the partnership, HVM was called to repair a leak in a pad-mounted transformer after early warning signs were detected. The quick response prevented potential transformer damage and minimized operational downtime. This experience highlighted the tangible value of proactive maintenance and set the stage for a more structured approach to managing the facility's critical electrical systems.

Company Profile

This company is a global leader in the recreational powersports industry, designing and manufacturing high-performance vehicles and engines for both land and water. Known for their innovation, quality, and strong presence in consumer and enthusiast markets, the company relies on uninterrupted facility operations to meet production schedules and deliver superior products.

Industry

Recreational Vehicles & Powersports

Location

United States

Benefits

- Maintenance aligned with production schedules and budget priorities through a multi-year preventive maintenance program
- Reduced risk of unplanned downtime with routine inspections and early issue detection
- Improved visibility into equipment condition through ongoing testing and reporting
- Extended life of transformers and switchgear with timely preventive maintenance
- Enhanced workplace safety and compliance with NFPA standards

Challenge

Despite the early leak repair, the facility later experienced a surge arrester failure on the main incoming switch, resulting in four hours of unplanned downtime. The outage emphasized how even short-term disruptions can cascade into larger operational issues, impacting equipment performance, production schedules, and workplace safety.

Investigation revealed that the surge arrester failed due to a lack of routine inspections and preventive maintenance. Without regular testing, key equipment had gone unchecked, leaving the facility vulnerable to additional unplanned outages, equipment damage, and potential safety hazards. The incident reinforced the need for a structured preventive maintenance program to improve operational reliability, extend asset life, and provide long-term protection for the facility's electrical systems. It also highlighted the importance of conducting an arc flash study to identify potential hazards, support NFPA compliance, and enhance workplace safety practices.

Solution

HVM addressed the immediate concerns by repairing the pad-mounted transformer leak and replacing the failed surge arrester on the main incoming switch. An arc flash study was conducted to provide actionable guidance on equipment labeling, safe work practices, and potential upgrades, helping align operations with NFPA safety standards.

Building on these corrective actions, HVM implemented a comprehensive multi-year preventive maintenance program. The program includes annual inspections and maintenance for all low-voltage and medium-voltage switchgear and transformers. Inspection frequency is tailored to operational needs and NFPA standards while balancing budget considerations. Planned activities are reviewed with facility management to maintain transparency, minimize disruptions, and support predictable operational costs.

Ongoing preventive maintenance, electrical testing, infrared surveys, and engineering studies help maintain system reliability, optimize performance, and reduce the risk of unplanned downtime. The structured program allows the facility to proactively address potential issues, protect critical assets, and maintain consistent production and operational safety over the long term.

HVM continues to provide ongoing preventive maintenance, electrical testing, infrared surveys, and engineering studies. These services help maintain system reliability, optimize performance, and reduce the risk of unplanned downtime.

Results

- ✓ Unplanned downtime was reduced after repairs to the transformer and surge arrester
- ✓ Early detection of minor issues prevented production disruptions
- ✓ The arc flash study improved workplace safety and aligned with NFPA standards
- ✓ Switchgear and transformers are now regularly maintained, enabling reliable system performance
- ✓ The preventive maintenance program supported better budget and schedule planning while reducing emergency repairs

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