

# HVM Assists Research Center with Overdue Maintenance Testing without Business Shutdown

*More than a decade without maintenance testing on their power systems, this research center turned to HVM to assess breaker functionality without disrupting their ongoing operations.*

## Background

A major research center had gone over ten years without performing maintenance testing on its power centers, raising concerns about the condition and reliability of its electrical equipment. Recognizing the risk of aging infrastructure, HVM recommended comprehensive testing to evaluate whether the facility's breakers and bolted pressure switches were operating within proper parameters. The approved scope included testing 11 low-voltage breakers and 2 bolted pressure switches, both essential to safe and uninterrupted operations. Because of the research center's continuous, mission-critical environment, HVM knew that careful planning and proactive solutions would be necessary to complete the work without disrupting daily operations.

### Company Profile

This U.S.-based research center operates a critical facility with continuous power needs. Focused on long-term reliability, the organization seeks proactive solutions to maintain its electrical infrastructure without disrupting operations.

### Industry

Research and Development

### Location

USA

## Benefits

- HVM provided a full-service solution tailored to a live, mission-critical environment
- Alternative power supply allowed testing without disrupting operations
- Retrofit recommendations offered a cost-effective alternative to full replacement
- Clear communication and leadership kept the project on track and on budget

# Challenge

The customer's facility could not undergo a power shutdown, which meant the testing had to be completed without interrupting operations. This required identifying, supplying, and monitoring an alternate power source to keep the facility running safely during service. Additionally, the project required collaboration across multiple stakeholders, including facility managers, engineering teams, external vendors, and internal decision-makers, making scheduling and communication key. With testing involving sensitive infrastructure, timing each phase precisely was essential to avoid delays or operational risks. Budget limitations added another layer of complexity, as the customer sought a solution that would improve equipment reliability without requiring costly full replacements. These combined factors made the project both logistically and technically demanding, and the customer needed a knowledgeable partner to manage the entire process from start to finish.

# Solution

HVM stepped in as a hands-on project leader, providing both technical guidance and logistical support. To meet the facility's strict uptime requirements, HVM sourced and monitored an alternative power supply, allowing maintenance testing to proceed without disrupting operations. The team managed all phases of the project, from planning and scheduling to on-site execution and stakeholder communication. After testing, several breakers were found to be outside the recommended trip curve. Instead of full replacement, HVM recommended retrofitting the breakers and making targeted switchgear modifications. This cost-effective, non-invasive approach addressed reliability concerns without removing equipment from service, helping the customer stay on budget and in compliance. The project's success strengthened the customer's trust in HVM and led to additional opportunities across other facilities.

# Results

- ✓ Maintenance testing completed without operational impact
- ✓ Underperforming breakers were addressed with targeted retrofits
- ✓ Cost-effective solution extended the life of aging switchgear
- ✓ Compliance maintained without removing equipment from service
- ✓ Customer trust strengthened, leading to additional projects



**HVMcorp.com | HVM Headquarters, 5100 Energy Drive, Dayton, OH, 45414, USA | 1-866-HVM-TEAM (486-8326)**

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