

Spectra Energy

LOCATION:

Baytown, TX

APPLICATION:

Gas processing plant, back-up power generation

ENGINE/COMPRESSOR:

Roiline L3460

DISTRIBUTOR/REP:

Ignition Systems and Controls, Katy, TX
Ed Carr

ALTRONIC PRODUCTS:

CPU-95

OVERVIEW:

This generator is key to keeping power to critical parts of the gas plant when commercial power is lost due to natural disasters and other failures. Spectra Energy wanted the increased reliability of the CPU-95 and the online diagnostics. There is an existing Altronic III solid-state ignition in service.

When power was supplied to the new CPU, the fuse blew as it was placed into the line. A second fuse suffered the same fate. It was discovered that the case of the engine was connected to the positive side of the battery. There was a twenty-four volt DC difference between the case ground and the ignition ground.



A second power source, totally isolated from the generator's power, was located in a PLC panel next to the generator. Protected by a fuse, the PLC negative lead to the generator case and CPU ground were attached with no problems. The CPU positive lead to the PLC source was connected and the CPU powered up normally.

On the first start attempt, the CPU faulted on "Ring Gear Count". It was determined that the customer had supplied the wrong flywheel tooth count. Using the new CPU-95 USB display, the CPU was reprogrammed using the tooth count provided by the CPU-95 diagnostics.

The unit started immediately and operated flawlessly.

Asked to comment, the customer stated, "I am installing this CPU-95 system because of its proven reliability for this critical generator. I also plan to monitor the online diagnostics to insure this generator is ready in the case of a power failure."

