

The company has “a team of a dozen of highly experienced electrical and mechanical designers tasked with improving their facilities.”

In this never ending quest for continuous improvement, they encountered Active Power and have since deployed more than 40 of the company’s flywheels.”

Improved Safety, Reliability and Financial Performance

## CASE STUDY

### International Brewer – Background

The company is the third largest brewer in the world with 167 different production facilities in 70 countries. Many of the company’s plants are located in areas with unreliable national grids. Specifically, various facilities in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe have created production challenges for the organization.

The company’s highest priorities include ensuring its employees’ and contractors’ safety, delivering the highest level of product quality and protecting its reputation.

### The Challenge

One of the company’s production facilities is located in Saint Denis, Réunion, an island off the west coast of Africa. The facility’s power source is unreliable, causing micro-outages and other electrical disturbances that impact performance. Each day of downtime costs the

brewer more than \$170,000 in operating loss, and product quality was decreasing due to frequent power fluctuations.

To combat these power quality issues, the company had UPS equipment in many of its operations facilities. However, the existing static and rotary systems did not meet expectations. Battery-based UPS solutions proved unreliable, expensive to maintain, and created a safety hazard for employees. Diesel rotary UPS systems were also hard to maintain and extremely costly.

The brewer recognized the need for a rugged critical backup power solution insensitive to ambient temperature changes that could be deployed right on the production floor. They wanted to minimize financial risk through better reliability, lower costs, and reduced employee exposure to toxic chemicals.

## The Solution

The company chose to deploy an Active Power CleanSource 750 kVA UPS to protect its operations in Réunion from its unreliable power source. The system was custom installed on the facility's production floor without the need for cooling equipment or additional design because of its rugged, electromechanical design. Active Power technicians assisted with the design process and custom installation on-location in Réunion and have done so with all subsequent deployments.

The CleanSource UPS functions as a power filter 24/7, eliminating power harmonics and providing clean power to their production equipment. In the event of a utility power outage, the UPS provides a smooth transfer to their generator or, in some operations, supports equipment through a graceful shutdown.

## Results

Since the initial UPS placement, the brewer has deployed more than 40 Active Power CleanSource Flywheel UPS systems in 10 countries, with more projects on the horizon. The systems protect PET molding lines, bottling lines and washing lines, with an average power load of 750kVA.

The savings they've experienced due to Active Power's reliable power sources have resulted in a 12-24 month ROI. Brewery managers have been especially excited about having a solution that vastly improves the efficiency of their operations.

*Brewery managers are very pleased with the results after putting the Active Power UPS in front of their production lines. They have experienced increased production without the risk of equipment breaking down due to power quality issues.*

### 1-2 Year ROI

Based on performance of that first unit in Africa in 2012, 40 units have been deployed in 10 countries, with more on the horizon.

### Objectives Met:

- » Reduced Waste
- » Improved Quality
- » Increased Efficiency
- » Improved Safety

### Requirements Met:

- » Rugged
- » Remote Monitoring
- » Reliable
- » Relatively Inexpensive to Maintain

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