Texas A&M University Gains Economical Power Management Capabilities During WCDC Expansion

A Vertiv Case Study

Background

Located in the heart of the Houston-Dallas-Austin triangle, Texas A&M's main campus in College Station is home to more than 69,000 students with another 5,200 at branch campuses. Through its 400 academic programs, Texas A&M aims to set the standard as the world-class university of the future by combining knowledge, research, and innovation to create solutions that few institutions have the depth and breadth to achieve.

Challenge

Often at the top of the list for the largest public university campuses based on enrollment for the academic year and having an emphasis on research and learning, Texas A&M generates a lot of data. In fact, the campus can experience more than 45 terabytes of data transfer across its network each day during the spring and fall semesters. With its continued growth, the university needed an expansion within its 50,000-square-foot West Campus Data Center (WCDC) that has 30,000 square feet dedicated to computing and called on E+I Engineering, a Vertiv company, to develop the open track busway system to power the critical facility.

Solution

E+I Engineering manufactured, and working with an installing contractor, deployed 120 feet of Vertiv™ Powerbar iMPB with a power capacity of 400 amps with 150% neutral. This busway system included branch circuit monitoring with an active/live status digital display in the cable end feed units, giving Texas A&M enhanced visibility for more economical power management.

Communication of busway status was simplified as each plug-in unit was assigned an individual IP address. Additionally, the E+I Engineering team ensured availability of critical applications during the commissioning of the busway system by supplying the needed load banks.

Outcome

Having an open channel busway system gave Texas A&M the flexibility and reliability the university required to support its current data requirements with the ability to efficiently adapt the system to meet future demand.

Working with E+I Engineering ensured the project was completed within a eight-week timeframe. The team's experts on power distribution solutions fully supported the installing contractor and assisted with troubleshooting of communication issues during commissioning to ensure all busbar was installed safely and correctly.

Company Profile

The state's first public institution of higher learning that today is a research-intensive university dedicated to preparing leaders to take on the challenges of tomorrow

Industry

Education

Region

Texas, United States

"The West Campus Data Center was built to meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards for silver certification, and this busway solution with advanced metering technology can help that facility's operators maintain that certification by managing power as efficiently as possible."

— Marc Dawson, Vertiv™ Powerbar iMPB Global Product Manager, E+I Engineering

CH-00128 (R08/22)