

ARTICLE

# Three month payback for pharmaceutical manufacturing giant

Apotex Inc. is the largest Canadian-owned pharmaceutical company and is a trusted member of Canada's healthcare community. The company's pharmaceuticals can be found in virtually every pharmacy and healthcare facility across Canada and are exported to over one hundred countries across the globe.



Apotex's Signet drive facility is the cornerstone of solid dose production and operates 24 hour. However the large, modern, multi-product facility had been experiencing frequent power quality events due to extreme weather conditions and older utility infrastructure.

Voltage sags and short interruptions are, by far, the most common types of power quality disturbances and the most frequent causes of disrupted operation of many industrial processes, particularly those using power electronics equipment. Pharmaceutical manufacturing is a highly sensitive process that involves a number of precisely controlled steps, as well as the prerequisite to comply with the stringent sterility standards set by various drug regulatory bodies.

Therefore the requirement to source a suitable power protection solution to produce a continuous production output without any interruptions was critical.

### The solution

A large 4.8 MVA Active Voltage Conditioner was supplied to Apotex through ABB's Canadian partner, Omniverter. The highly efficient technology of the PCS100 AVC system means that voltage sags and swells are corrected whilst providing continuous voltage regulation and load voltage compensation.

Since the commissioning date in March 2015, the pharmaceutical manufacturing giant has seen an exceptional change in performance on their production processes. The AVC unit corrected voltage fluctuations almost immediately. Within six weeks of commissioning, the PCS100 AVC compensated for forty-two events and the total installed cost was paid back within three months. All of this has been provided with a system with extremely high electrical efficiency and resultant energy savings when compared with alternative legacy solutions.

To find out more about ABB's power protection solutions:

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