

CASE STUDY

Securing a Global Power Generation Network



Enel improved the reliability, efficiency and cybersecurity of its power generation plants and networks.



Customer Profile

- A global energy company, operating in 30 countries across four continents
- One of the world's leading integrated electricity and gas operators



Goals & Challenges

- Improve reliability, efficiency and cybersecurity
- Eliminate manual, time-consuming OT and IoT monitoring, troubleshooting and correlation work
- In-depth support for SCADA protocol IEC 60870-5-104



Results

- Improved productivity, availability, and cyber resiliency
- Centralized monitoring, troubleshooting and securing of the industrial control network
- Reduced troubleshooting and remediation efforts



Through this partnership, we have made a substantial improvement in our Remote Control System. Nozomi Networks' Guardian is now a fundamental element of our network infrastructure and an essential tool for our daily activities.

Nozomi Networks proved to us, through an extensive production pilot in Italy, that their non-intrusive in-depth technology was able to substantially improve the reliability, efficiency, and cybersecurity of our Remote Control System.

Federico Bellio

Head of Power Generation,
Remote Control System, Enel

Guardian

Proves Its Value and Is Implemented System-wide

The Challenge: **Enhancing Security Profile While Increasing Operational Efficiency**

Electric energy operators around the world are working to increase the reliability and cyber resiliency of their systems. This includes Enel, a global power company that manages and monitors the Italian power grid.

This grid:

- Serves 31 million customers
- Has a net installed energy capacity exceeding 31 gigawatts
- Includes more than 500 power generation plants, including hydroelectric, thermoelectric, and wind
- Is managed and monitored by Enel 24/7/365
- Is operated by Terna, the Italian Transmission System Operator (TSO)

Enel is responsible for the availability of the grid's underlying OT, IoT, and industrial networks. It also manages Regional Control Centers and Interconnection Centers which connect with the TSO. The TSO manages the flow of energy to the grid plus controls and remotely regulates the power generation of power plants, increasing and decreasing power production as required. The complex system of interaction and cooperation between Enel and the TSO has strong security implications as well as operational and business challenges.

Enel's Goals: **Improved Efficiency, Reliability, and OT and IoT Security**

Initially Enel was using standard networking tools to manage, monitor and troubleshoot the ICS and the control network. However, operations were manual and time-consuming.

Information was difficult to gather and required human knowledge to be understood and correlated. Enel wanted to improve efficiency as well as reliability and security with another approach. Plus, it required in-depth support of SCADA protocol IEC 60870-5-104, used for power system monitoring and control and support for the security requirements of IEC 62351.

"This project benefited from the combination of Enel's extensive experience operating distributed power production control networks and our unique, patented technology for non-intrusive in-depth analysis of Industrial Control Systems. Together we have improved the reliability, efficiency, and cybersecurity of Enel's power generation system in Italy, a national critical infrastructure."

Moreno Carullo
Chief Technology Officer of Nozomi Networks

Central Management Console

Consolidated OT Monitoring

Guardian: **Proves its Value Throughout the Project Roll-Out**

Working together, Enel and Nozomi Networks deployed Guardian™ at one Regional Control Center first. Following extensive testing and fine-tuning the deployment proceeded to full-scale roll-out.

As a first step, Guardian sensors were installed at all Regional Control Centers to monitor the Italian operational network. They were also installed at Interconnection Centers to monitor the connection between Enel and the TSO.

Next, the Central Management Console™ was installed to operate, monitor, and update the sensors, with a single CMC monitoring over 10,000 assets. Finally, Guardian portable P500 sensors were introduced to monitor and analyze segments requiring investigation and troubleshooting.

The Results: **Improved Productivity, Availability and Cyber Resiliency**

Post deployment Enel uses the Nozomi Networks solution to monitor, troubleshoot, and protect its industrial control network from a central location. Gathering information has become an automated process and one that delivers correlated and meaningful information. This has improved efficiency and allowed Enel's staff to focus on protecting operations.

Tangible benefits include:

- Full visibility and monitoring of the Enel control network. Includes sites at remote, isolated locations as well as the connections between Enel and the TSO.
- Enhanced operational insight such as detecting misconfigurations, anomalous activities, critical states, and standard and advanced security attacks. Supervision utilizes in-depth understanding of Enel's ICS and supported SCADA application level protocols such as IEC 60870-5-104.
- Automatic real-time notification of industrial events of interest, including alerts triggered by custom-designed rules and constraints.
- Traffic analysis for current and future investigations thanks to Guardian's unique features.

"Enel power plants are strategic assets we are committed to protect. Malfunctions or damage to this infrastructure would be a threat to our national security. With Nozomi Networks' Guardian we can now detect and collect operational and cybersecurity issues in real time, and take corrective actions before the threat can strike."

Gian Luigi Pugni
Head of Cybersecurity Designs, Enel

The Nozomi Networks Advantage



Securing the World's Largest Organizations

Accelerating your digital transformation by reducing cyber risk.



Unifying Cybersecurity Visibility

Innovating visibility and threat detection across your OT, IoT, IT and cyber-physical systems.



Partnering to Accelerate IT/OT Convergence

Deeply aligned with the OT, IoT and IT partners you trust.

Take the next step.

Discover how easy it is to identify and respond to cyber threats by automating your IoT and OT asset discovery, inventory, and management.

[Learn More](#)

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About Enel

With more than 61 million users worldwide, Enel has the largest customer base among European competitors and figures among Europe's leading power companies in terms of installed capacity and reported EBITDA.

Enel manages a highly diverse network of power plants: hydroelectric, thermoelectric, nuclear, geothermal, wind, solar PV and other renewable sources. More than 47% of the electricity Enel produced in 2014 was free of carbon dioxide emissions, making it one of the world's major producers of clean energy.

Nozomi Networks protects the world's critical infrastructure from cyber threats. Our platform uniquely combines network and endpoint visibility, threat detection, and AI-powered analysis for faster, more effective incident response. Customers rely on us to minimize risk and complexity while maximizing operational resilience.

