



SAP Business Transformation Study | Utilities | SA Power Networks

How Is Smart Software Helping Make South Australia the Epicenter of Energy Innovation?

South Australia is a world leader in the use of renewable energy, with wind farms, solar collectors, and cutting-edge battery technology all part of the mix. The state's 1.7 million residents rely on just one company for dependable electric service. SA Power Networks needed to streamline daily operations so it could focus on keeping its network, spread across a service area of over 178,000 km², in top shape.

The utility turned to technology such as SAP® Mobile Platform and SAP Business Suite powered by SAP HANA® to help simplify its business processes. Now field crews have more time to maintain a distribution network that includes thousands of miles of power lines, countless transformers and electric poles, and 400 widespread substations. And SA Power Networks can direct its energies toward introducing even more innovation and keeping pace in a fast-changing industry.



“Having more information on hand for people in the field and in the offices enables them to make **quicker and more accurate decisions.**”

Chris Ford, Chief Information Officer, SA Power Networks

Innovation helps SA Power Networks meet the demands of a changing energy market and the challenges of a huge service area. Mobile applications improve the efficiency of the entire organization by getting the right information into the hands of 2,000 employees. And, advanced analytics on live data enable the utility to be more effective in managing the network and choosing which jobs to focus on.



36%

Of South Australia's electricity from renewable sources



178,000 km²

Service area



850,000

Customers across the state



Delivering High-Energy Data with SAP® Solutions



SA Power Networks
Adelaide, Australia
www.sapowernetworks.com.au

Industry
Utilities

Products and Services
Electricity distribution network

Employees
2,000

Revenue
\$A986 million
(US\$784.7 million)

SAP® Solutions
SAP® Business Suite powered by SAP HANA®, the SAP Work Manager mobile app, and SAP Mobile Platform

SA Power Networks is driving innovation in the energy sector with mobile technology and real-time analytics. By using SAP solutions to streamline daily operations for remote personnel and the home office employees who support them, the utility can focus on its core activity – operating and maintaining the electricity distribution network for the entire state of South Australia.

Before: Challenges and Opportunities

- Ensure network availability across a large service area
- Simplify daily operations for personnel who often work remotely
- Enable all employees to make quicker and more accurate decisions

Why SAP

- Longtime SAP customer and early adopter of many SAP solutions
- Mobile technology that dovetails with SA Power Networks' overall IT strategy
- Support for advanced analytics

After: Value-Driven Results

- Greater efficiency of field crews, with less time spent on administrative tasks, faster completion of asset inspections, and reduced travel times
- Better asset and infrastructure management, with improved scheduling of preventive maintenance and faster turnaround times from vendors
- More-effective responses to emergencies such as brushfires and storms

“Our goal is to empower our people to do their best work by giving them the right tools. SAP solutions help us do just that.”

Darren Smith, Chief Financial Officer, SA Power Networks

30%

Increase in field crew efficiency for reclosure inspections

5%

Faster processing on 30,000 purchase orders a year

99.97%

Network availability



Watch this video to learn more about innovation at SA Power Networks.

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