



HOW SNOWY HYDRO BOOSTED OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY FOR THEIR 16 POWER STATIONS

Industry

Utilities

"Our digital transformation is about making that information available to all of our employees, anywhere, at any time."

– Greg Falconer, Manager Engineering Systems and Support

200HRS
SAVED EVERY
MONTH

28%
DUPLICATE
REDUCTION

20
MONTHS
ROI ACHIEVED

THE COMPANY

Snowy Hydro Limited is an energy provider located in the heart of Kosciuszko National Park, Australia. Established in 1949 with the construction of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme, Snowy Hydro now operates 16 power stations, delivering over 5,500MW of generating capacity across New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. As a key player in the Australian energy sector, Snowy Hydro is dedicated to providing reliable, on-demand energy and spearheading advancements in renewable energy.

Snowy Hydro's diverse portfolio includes hydroelectric power and renewable energy from wind and solar projects, supporting the nation's energy needs while promoting sustainable development. Their commitment to innovation and sustainability drives them to continually enhance their energy solutions for a cleaner future.

THE CHALLENGE

Snowy Hydro has been providing on-demand, reliable energy to Australia for almost 70 years. It began in 1949 with the construction of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme. Since then, the organization has grown into an end-to-end, integrated energy provider.

Based in the heart of Kosciuszko National Park, Snowy Hydro manages 16 power stations and has more than 5,500MW of generating capacity across New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. They have also recently expanded with a renewable portfolio to include contracted energy with ten wind and solar projects.

Snowy Hydro had a vast collection of old, complex assets with a lot of critical legacy asset data stored and duplicated across a number of different systems.

Engineers, operators and maintenance crew struggled to find the information they needed, when they needed it. And, often when they did find it, could not be certain they had the latest version. This created operational inefficiencies and left the organization open to safety risk.

The energy provider sought a solution that would streamline its asset management practices, and be the catalyst for digitizing key business workflows as part of its digital transformation.

THE SOLUTION

Snowy Hydro selected RedEye, to help launch their digital transformation implementation project which aimed to centralize thousands of its previously paper-based asset artifacts.

The process involved digitizing the asset drawings and data and then making it available across the organization, and to contractors who needed it, in order to reduce search time and improve operational efficiency.

Consolidating key drawing data and information into one location, created a single source of truth which was more accessible and usable to Snowy Hydro's mobile workforce.

By continuing to ensure metadata is kept up to date as new drawings are added, Snowy Hydro is building value into its data assets and trust in RedEye. This ensures the system remains up to date, accurate and trusted by all users.

"RedEye came along at just the right time. We had some old systems in place for the best part of 20 years. We had a huge drawing collection which is a critical cornerstone for pretty much all of our technical staff.

What we've been able to do is have the people that are working with that asset quickly markup a drawing. The turnaround time for that drawing to be visible for the rest of our Snowy population is very important."

– Nick Skobelkin, Asset Management and Engineering

THE BENEFITS

By adopting RedEye, Snowy Hydro moved from a paper-based system to a digital platform, creating a solid foundation for its digital transformation.

Today, more than 1,000 users employed by and contracted to Snowy Hydro, rely on RedEye to manage approximately 115,000 asset-related artifacts.

The launch of the system also saw the introduction of new drawing and digital engineering standards. This adds ongoing value to Snowy Hydro's engineering drawings, by ensuring information is kept up to date in a consistent way.

New workflows which supported new business processes were also introduced to ensure ongoing integrity of the information captured within RedEye. As a result, field crews can find drawings more quickly than before - and can be confident they have access to the latest versions wherever they are based.

Supporting a Diverse Workforce to Embrace Change

With contractors forming a large proportion of Snowy Hydro's workforce, RedEye ensures that the most current drawings can be shared securely with them. This empowers everyone who accesses the system to make better informed decisions - and stay safe - while ensuring Snowy Hydro maintains the integrity of its drawings and data.

Another key driver for implementing RedEye, was to reduce the dependencies on tacit knowledge as a new generation of workforce joins the business. Digitized workflows within RedEye bring new starters up to speed with asset management tasks quickly. They no longer need to "pick the brains" of someone who has been doing that task for decades.

In its quest to create a workplace environment that best leverages the competencies and expectations of both the current and next generation workforce, Snowy Hydro continues to adapt its use of RedEye to align to the needs of its business.

Snowy Hydro, and other energy generators, transmission services, distribution networks and retailers, play an important role in supporting economic growth and enriching lifestyles across the country with power. RedEye supports power utilities to more easily manage assets, deliver projects and maintain networks efficiently and safely.

"One of the great components of our software as a service contract is the fact that we both share each other's business values. That sets the foundation of expectation for that partnership."

– Greg Falconer, Manager Engineering Systems and Support

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