

Hospital energy storage helsinki

The Meilahti Hospital Area in Helsinki, operated by the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS), is responsible for delivering healthcare to more than half a million people annually. But to keep these operations powered, the Hospital Area requires the same amount of electricity a year as a small town. For HUS to continue providing dependable service, it has committed to creating a reliable and safe power supply.

To help accomplish this mission, the Meilahti Hospital Area, in partnership with ABB, has upgraded its electrical system to maximize uptime, eliminate the use of SF6 - a potent greenhouse gas - in the medium-voltage (MV) switchgear, extend the life of electrical equipment, and optimize hospital operations.

One upgrade included a turnkey MV circuit breaker retrofit, which replaced SF6-insulated models with next-generation VD4 vacuum circuit breakers. These new devices clean potentially harmful short-circuit failures in tens of milliseconds, preventing severe damage to the hospital's electrical infrastructure and minimizing the risk of downtime.

Another upgrade included replacing the aging relays in the switchgear with ABB's REF615 protection relays. These relays offer extensive protection and control functionality to ensure an uninterrupted power supply.

Sixten Holm, Business Development Manager at ABB in Finland, said, "For service providers such as HUS, one of the greatest opportunities for improving reliability and reducing carbon and costs is by modernizing outdated components, rather than replacing the entire switchgear. Replacing aging circuit breakers and protection relays can also be done quickly with minimal downtime."

This overhaul has given the HUS a technologically driven and environmentally friendly solution that improves reliability, security, and safety. To continue reducing operating costs in the long term, the HUS also decided to integrate ABB's Ability Energy and Asset Manager system to optimize the hospital group's maintenance activities.

The manager system remotely monitors assets and provides HUS personnel with real-time information on the condition of the equipment, such as temperature. This predictive maintenance system delivers early warnings of any potential failures, providing crucial information employees can act on to prevent unplanned downtime.

Jari-Pekka Korhonen, Operations Manager for HUS Kiinteistö Oy, the organization that manages real estate services for HUS, said: "What matters most is that in our hospitals, the healthcare professionals can perform surgeries and treat patients safely - and that the power supply won't cause any problems for them."

Finland's largest hospital area has future-proofed its life saving power supply thanks to a modernization program with electrification partner ABB. The Meilahti Hospital Area in Helsinki, which is operated by HUS,



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upgraded its electrical system to maximize uptime, eliminate the use of SF6, a potent greenhouse gas, in the medium-voltage (MV) switchgear, extend the life of electrical equipment and optimize hospital operations.

The Meilahti Hospital Area uses the same amount of electricity a year as a small town, and delivers healthcare to more than half a million patients annually, so having a reliable and safe power supply is critical to providing a dependable service where lives are at stake.

Jari-Pekka Korhonen, Operations Manager for HUS Kiinteistö Oy, the organization that manages real estate services for HUS, said: "What matters most is that in our hospitals, the healthcare professionals can perform surgeries and treat patients safely - and that the power supply won't cause any problems for them. We're well-prepared to face any problems with the power distribution. This is all down to the reliable, high-quality products and solutions ABB provides."

The upgrades included a turnkey MV circuit breaker retrofit, where SF6-insulated models have been replaced with next generation VD4 vacuum circuit breakers. These new devices clear potentially harmful short-circuit faults in tens of milliseconds, thereby preventing severe damage to the hospital's electrical infrastructure and minimizing the risk of downtime.

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Web: <https://sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

