

# Remote Power Racking: Raising This Utility's Safety Profile

*"Using this device along with proper personal protective equipment and safety procedures has become mandated policy in my plant."*

## Customer

Investor Owned Utility

## Situation

The utility had to frequently rack its breakers because of problems the breakers were experiencing. After speaking with an Eaton Sales Engineer, and watching a DVD and [presentation](#) on Eaton's Remote Power Racking Device, the utility became a believer in remote breaker racking.

## Customer's Need

The utility needed a way to safely rack its breakers in and out.

## Eaton's Solution

Eaton provided the utility with one [Remote Power Racking System](#). Eaton's Electrical Systems and Services Division specially programmed the equipment to meet the utility's needs.

*"The Remote Power Racking System is the best thing since a pocket on a shirt."*

## To learn more about utility solutions contact:

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## Story

The utility frequently had to remove and reinstall its aging 4kV breakers in one of its power stations, sometimes more than 20 at a time. The hot environment and heavy safety suits reduced worker efficiency.

The utility was looking for a way to more safely rack the breakers and increase efficiency to reduce worker fatigue. It also needed a way to verify the breakers' status. Having previously seen two other devices, the plant's Electrical Maintenance Planner, with 37 years of experience, was familiar with remote power racking. However, after speaking with an Eaton Sales Engineer and seeing Eaton's remote power racking DVD and presentation he immediately saw the advantages of Eaton's product. The customer liked that the Eaton product did not mount to the switchgear, was portable, compact, self-powered, and user friendly. He was quickly sold on Eaton's solution and bought one remote power racking device to service his 80 breakers.

Eaton's Electrical Systems and Services Division worked with the customer to set up the unit and provided thorough training. The utility was very happy with the outcome; every electrician who had been trained on the device became a proponent of remote racking. The electricians were less fatigued because the device decreased the workload and made it much easier and faster to rack out multiple breakers in a single work session. They also appreciated the indicator lights that show the breakers' status and the built-in torque and travel limits that prevent breaker damage. The steady racking operation pace allows the electricians to actively participate in the racking process.

The customer bought the device with the intention to rack its 4 kV medium voltage breakers, specifically its 3000 A vacuum breakers and 1200 A feeder breakers. Not only does the device work on multiple breaker styles the customer also used it when the racking was not done at a perfect 90° angle and when the floor had small irregularities.

Eaton's remote power racking device increased safety and reduced operator fatigue to such an extent that using the device has become mandated company policy in the customer's plant.

## Customer Benefits

- Increased safety
- Increased efficiency
- Decreased worker fatigue
- Racking status indication

## Take Action

Today utilities are finding an increasing need to improve their safety. Personnel are a plant's key asset and it is important to keep the workers safe. In addition, plants are looking to reduce outage times and worker fatigue. Eaton's Remote Power Racking System can help utilities meet these needs.

This customer is committed to Eaton's remote power racking device and Eaton's reliability and technical leadership. Look to Eaton for innovative solutions that will add value to your business.

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