

Hubbell Storm Response Team Reinforces Service Reputation after Gustav, Hanna, Ike & Northeast Ice Storms

Hubbell Power Systems decisively responded to supporting electric utilities and Hubbell distributors with needed material in the wake of Gustav, Hanna and Ike and the 2008 Northeast ice storms.

Hours before the first calls for products, the 370,000 sq. ft. HPS distribution warehouse in Centralia, MO was abuzz with activity. Staging hardware, connectors, insulators, arresters, cutouts, switches, anchors and tools, among other products, was quickly completed to cover the initial hurricane orders.

Hurricane shipments to customers from the Centralia warehouse were joined by shipments from other HPS plant locations. The shipments included more than 2.5 million connectors, fittings and hardware, 195,000 cutouts and fuse links, 78,000 insulators and arresters. Almost 10,000 tools and more than 33,000 anchors, fiberglass construction products and overhead switches following the hurricanes were also shipped. In response to the recent ice storms, HPS shipped these items from various categories: Hardware 400,465; Connectors 132,136; Fuse Links 53,660; Guy Strains 2,490 and 2,168 other products.

While immediately reacting to fill storm orders, we continued to manufacture products and did not experience any significant supply interruptions from our suppliers. By early November we were back in a normal stock position on most products.

Ability to quickly respond to storm emergencies is standard Hubbell Power Systems procedure. At Hubbell, we maintain emergency material stocks that are regularly monitored to ensure we can quickly react to support our customers in their response to storm emergencies. As storm warnings are posted, the Hubbell team monitors potential storms by satellite and projects landfall. Carriers are alerted 48 hours prior to projected damage areas and in-transit products are expedited to delivery points before storms hit.

Hubbell shipping, production, purchasing and factory management are placed “on call” as the Company gears up to support the impacted areas. Critical production levels are increased. Product volumes are coordinated with Hubbell distributors and territory managers. Key contact information consisting of names and phone numbers of personnel at the Hubbell central distribution center is updated on an ongoing basis to help with expediting shipments.

Throughout any storm emergency, Hubbell remains geared to getting product where and when it is needed. We entered last year's storm season with strong inventory and the ability to quickly fill orders and rapidly replenish stocks to return inventories to normal levels.

Supporting our customers remains the top priority at Hubbell Power Systems and last year's major storms proved our resolve and commitment in responding to storm emergencies. ■

153 Trucks Used to Get Material into Impacted Areas