



ABOUT THE COMPANY

Automotive Parts Headquarters, Inc. distributes and markets automotive parts and accessories. It owns and operates a chain of automotive parts stores under the Auto Value brand. The company, formerly known as National Bushing & Parts Company, was founded in 1920.

Background

Automotive Parts Headquarters, Inc. (APH) is a privately-held, family-owned company with a rich history. Today they operate a central distribution center with a network of over 100 company and 35 independent Auto Value stores located in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and Michigan. These stores serve professional service dealers and installers, industrial and agricultural customers, fleets, and retail customers with automotive aftermarket parts and related products.

APH takes pride in providing timely, multiple deliveries to its stores each day. This ensures the stores can offer fast, dependable service to all their customers.

To enable this service, APH depends on cost effective automation and computerization within their supply chain. This, in turn, demands that reliable power is continually delivered to the business systems.

Case Summary

Location: St. Cloud, MN

Products/Services:

- Liebert® eXM™ Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) with Internal Batteries
- Optimized Maintenance Bypass

Critical Need: Reliable, efficient, trouble-free power protection to minimize risks

Results:

- Improved IT availability
- Easy to use intelligent control interface reduced chance of human error
- Greater UPS efficiency reduced room heat, lowering cooling costs and utility costs
- Smaller footprint provided better use of space
- Reduced costs of operation and service from legacy unit

“Not only has our uptime improved, but the excessive heat of the old UPS has vanished ... our room is noticeably cooler and everything seems to work better.”

– DEAN RITTER APH PROJECT MANAGER



Liebert® eXM™ UPS with internal batteries and a slim maintenance bypass fits easily into the APH data center.

The Situation

The weather in the Upper Midwest can be rather unforgiving. In times past, that had affected APH’s ability to process customer orders and receive supplier shipments as planned. They wondered whether the outdated UPS system, which was both costly to operate and not as dependable as required, would continue to meet their needs. “We’ve seen too many spring

and summer storms knock out our power. It appears the weather is becoming less predictable,” stated Greg Jendro, IT Manager at APH. “We needed to be proactive and upgrade our power protection,” he added.

The Solution

The local Vertiv™ business partner, Data Center Systems Inc., worked with APH and determined a 10kVA Liebert® eXM UPS would be the best solution. With 208V input/output, internal batteries, optimized slim maintenance bypass cabinet and the new Unity Intellislot communications card with dual simultaneous protocol capabilities, it met all of APH’s needs.

The total solution created numerous benefits. First, it increased uptime and reliability and smoothed out electrical aberrations. It also offered a seamless synchronization to the natural gas backup generator. Coupled with the long battery run time, APH can withstand those damaging electrical outages and disturbances. In addition, APH realized additional value by leveraging an end of life rebate which was offered on their old UPS.

The Results

APH project manager Dean Ritter summarizes, “Not only has our uptime improved, but the excessive heat of the old UPS has vanished ... our room is noticeably cooler and everything seems to work better.” He continued, “The added footprint savings has been great and we’re excited to explore the new LIFE™ Services option, which allows factory remote monitoring to keep an eye on the system. We think this will make managing our power even simpler, while adding an extra layer of preventative protection.”

“We have the power solution to meet APH’s needs for years to come”, says Ritter.



*Left: Dean Ritter, Project Manager, APH
Right: Greg Jendro, IT Director, APH*

For more information on the Liebert eXM UPS and other infrastructure solutions, please visit www.VertivCo.com