



IBSTOCK

Their site in Ibstock, Leicestershire, which is also their head office, dates back to the early 1800s, with brick making starting at the beginning of the 1830s. Today Ibstock produces over 450 different brick types and is the UK's largest manufacturer of brick, clay and concrete building products. Its product range includes some of the building industry's most trusted brands; Ibstock, Glen-Gery, Ibstock-Kevington, Supreme, Forticrete and Anderton.

adi TEGG Service provides:

- A program of energised electrical maintenance and testing that does not require system shutdown
- A detailed, comprehensive report submitted after every testing program, including a searchable database, broken down into area and machine, with clear identification of any faults found
- Full compliance to BS7671:2008 (2015) and the Electricity at Work Act (1989).

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The Opportunity

As part of an insurance initiative, Ibstock regularly undertook fixed wire testing but unfortunately this did not cover every electrical installation that required testing on the site. Following an initial discussion, adi TEGG Service was asked to complete work on the site's energised and untested electrical installations. This is because adi TEGG Service can provide both an alternative or complementary testing to traditional methodology.

This work allowed Ibstock to assess adi TEGG Service's proficiency, capabilities, cost effectiveness and particularly the benefits of doing energised supply testing, without any supply interruptions. The tests included: ultra-sonic analysis, thermal imaging surveys, power quality analysis, phase balance and load measurements, earth loop impedance and prospective fault current tests.

During the testing in early 2016, adi TEGG Service found a number of faults in an electrical system on the production line, which conventional testing would not have picked up.

The Solution

If undetected, the faults could have resulted in a costly production shutdown of several days. Instead, the fault was rectified via a maintenance repair, during scheduled operational downtime. The adi TEGG solution delighted the customer as should an unscheduled shutdown occurred, the potential cost to the site was stated as being in the region of £500k.

Subsequently, adi TEGG Service has been commissioned to undertake an annual full site electrical maintenance programme of energised supply testing, which will both save time, compared to the previous method, as well as provide a detailed, auditable report. Discussions are now ongoing regarding the possibility of providing the annual energised supply testing programme for other Ibstock sites.

The Benefits

- Energised testing is significantly quicker and is achieved without any supply interruptions, maintaining business operational continuity.
- Opportunity for significant operational cost savings in manpower, resources and time compared to the conventional way of testing.
- No out of hours or premium rate working required.
- Risk management improved if previously undetected critical faults are found.
- Large site fixed wire testing process can be substituted by a program which is completed in months rather than years.