MABS™

AIRPORT MONITORING AND BILLING SYSTEM FOR FIXED ELECTRICAL GROUND POWER INSTALLATIONS

Power hook-up to the aircraft will automatically be recorded by time and/or power usage for billing purposes
Photo © Powervamp 2011

Already either in use by, or raising huge interest at, major international airports, Powervamp's new 'MABS' interface package brings the real-time interfacing of solid state frequency converters and power usage to airport logistics software allowing the billing of ground power by time and kilowatt. Although developed for Powervamp's own converters, the system is designed to be adapted to other makes of converter.

Building on its international reputation for single source solutions as part of its growing market in 400Hz and 28 volt DC ground power, Powervamp developed its converter software interface package for its converters. 'MABS', an acronym for 'monitoring and billing system', is designed for airports and ramp service providers under increasing pressure to maximise revenue and accurately apportion costs against each airline and aircraft using fixed electrical ground power (FEGP).

MABS enables airports to generate revenue based on the aircraft connection time to Powervamp's 400Hz converters.

This can be attractive where airport operators seek to recover the cost of their capital investment in FEGP. For the airline and airport operator it records accurately the on/off ground power connection.

While other companies have attempted to produce a similar system to Powervamp's MABS, key to the success of the Powervamp system is its simplicity which is critical for accuracy and reliability.

Any ramp input data function is time consuming and proven to be prone to input error thus invalidating the data and creating subsequent billing issues. Powervamp's MABS operates seamlessly in the background, monitoring the usage of the FEGP and reconciling the data with an airport's logistics software, such as the popular 'Manageair' system. Powervamp's MABS system connects the FEGP with the airport IT network via an ethernet connection, eliminating the need for installation of a proprietary network.

Up to 255 individual FEGPs can be connected in a single system. The monitoring software is installed on a server within the terminal building which stores the usage data in an SQL database in a format reconciled with the airport logistics software. Powervamp would normally liaise directly with the logistics software provider.

In addition to the normal billing data, Powervamp's MABS incorporates an automatic error reporting facility, instantly alerting the reporting centre should a specific FEGP unit develop a fault, thereby ensuring aircraft can be diverted to a serviceable stand on arrival.