Challenge
A U.S. power company needed to achieve full NERC CIP compliance for over 1000 Cyber Assets across multiple plants on an accelerated schedule. Once the December 31, 2009 deadline passed, the company would need to ensure that they remained compliant. At the time, fines for non-compliance were up to $1 million per day.

Solution
The power company partnered with Industrial Cyber Security to develop a comprehensive solution:
- NERC CIP compliance strategy
- Cyber Asset inventory
- Cyber security design and implementation for over 60 different control system platforms
- Compliance documentation (over 50 documents, including policies, procedures, technical standards, forms and checklists)
- Compliance management software

Advantage
The power company was able to draw on Industrial Cyber Security core strengths:
- Expertise gained from years of working in the process industries
- An experienced and flexible team of close to 40 people drawn from multiple offices in North America
- A multidisciplinary skill set including information systems security, process control network design and implementation, technical writing and software design
- Innovative technical solution

Industrial Cyber Security is Powered by Matrikon, which represents vendor neutrality. This product works with third-party control systems and applications.

Understanding NERC CIP Compliance
When a U.S. power company needed to achieve full North America Electric Reliability Corporation Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC CIP) compliance for multiple plants on an accelerated schedule, they partnered with Industrial Cyber Security to develop a compliance program that fit their timeline, their existing processes and their available manpower.

With its expertise in information systems security and process control networks, Industrial Cyber Security worked hand in hand with the power company’s corporate compliance and risk departments to interpret the NERC CIP standards and develop a strategy for achieving compliance.

Industrial Cyber Security began by performing a detailed inventory of nearly 2000 Cyber Assets at the power company’s plants. Industrial Cyber Security then worked with the company to identify the Cyber Assets subject to CIP compliance and, later, determining the cyber security features to be implemented. When the power company needed help implementing specific cyber security features and performing compliance-related tasks at each plant, Industrial Cyber Security mobilized over 20 staff from several of the North American offices.

Documenting Compliance
A key part of achieving full compliance is having the documentation in place to demonstrate this compliance. Industrial Cyber Security worked with the power company to produce three bodies of documents:
- Procedural documents that addressed specific NERC CIP standards and detailed how the power company would meet these requirements.
- Forms that standardized the collection of evidence to demonstrate that compliance has been achieved. These forms document NERC CIP-mandated processes, including change management, cyber access management, security control testing and security patch management.
- Technical documents that recorded existing network infrastructure and user accounts, and provided a baseline of security controls in place.

Industrial Cyber Security also supplied training and support as the power company implemented these new processes and paperwork.
Achieving Compliance
The U.S. power company achieved compliance by the December 31, 2009 deadline. The multidisciplinary team of close to 40 people provided the full range of knowledge and skills required to reach this goal:

- leadership in information systems security and NERC CIP
- network and cyber security design and implementation
- development and documentation of compliance policy, processes and forms to standardize the performance and collection of evidence for NERC CIP-driven tasks

Sustaining Compliance
Having helped the power company to achieve compliance, the partnership continued by providing innovative technical solutions to maintain compliance. Compliance Manager, Advanced Solutions software, will be deployed at three of the power company’s sites. It centralizes compliance-related information and automates compliance-driven tasks to streamline the work of maintaining compliance and significantly decrease the associated costs and risks.

The Security Solution

`'Powered by Matrikon' symbolizes that this product/solution is system and application independent.