

BLACKWOODS CASE STUDY

STANWELL



Blackwoods
INVENTORY SOLUTIONS

THE CUSTOMER AND THE CHALLENGE

Delivering an unmatched range of specialist industrial and safety products to more than 600 personnel demands a dedicated and experienced team that understands the importance of safety, productivity and reliability across mining operations and power generation facilities.

Stanwell Corporation is a diversified energy business owned by the Queensland Government. It owns an extensive range of coal, gas and water assets used to generate electricity, and also sells electricity directly to business customers.

As the largest electricity generator in Queensland, Stanwell have a generating capacity of more than 4,100 megawatts, and an ability to supply more than 45 percent of Queensland's peak electricity requirements through its coal, gas and hydropower stations.

THE CHALLENGE

Issuing over **69,000 line items**, and processing more than **12,000 transactions** during a site shutdown is no easy feat. Stanwell were looking for a business partner with the technical expertise to meet their maintenance programs and strict shutdown deadlines, ensuring streamlined distribution of product to employees and nominated contractors onsite.

With hundreds of transactions completed daily by contractors, and demand for a comprehensive product portfolio to suit a variety of applications, Stanwell needed a system capable of processing and tracking a high volume of stock, and deploying products quickly and accurately to maintain high productivity and meet project deadlines.

THE SOLUTION

Blackwoods understands the challenges associated with operating high generating power stations. It has undertaken a number of major shutdowns across Stanwell's two major electricity generation assets – Stanwell Power Station in Central Queensland, and Tarong power stations located in the South Burnett region of Southern Queensland.

After evaluating Stanwell's strict regulations and compliancy requirements, Blackwoods proposed a unique service offering – the delivery of specialised purpose-built mobile warehousing containers that house a diversified product range available 24/7 to personnel across Stanwell's multiple sites.

In order to achieve this, Blackwoods offered a dedicated site facilitator that formed part of the Stanwell team, with a focus on boosting reliability and serviceability across the operation. This facilitator supported Stanwell in the management and planning of their consumables, utilising state-of-the-art scanning equipment to provide clear visibility in the tracking of daily spend patterns, spend versus budgets, and monitoring of consumables at an individual user and cost centre level.



THE BENEFITS

Following a comprehensive evaluation of Stanwell's power generation sites, Blackwoods identified several areas where tailored solutions could be implemented to help drive efficiencies in Stanwell's account processes and onsite productivity.

The ability to mobilise assets effectively has a direct impact on improving productivity and reducing downtime among personnel onsite. According to Darryl Otto, Centralised Procurement Coordinator for Stanwell, the mobilisation of assets across Stanwell's sites proved a seamless process.

"The Blackwoods team demonstrated a high level of technical expertise during the setup process and integrated well with our team to ensure there was no impact to our operation."

1 Improved Productivity

"Productivity is an integral part of our shutdowns," said Darryl. "We are reliant on the Blackwoods team to distribute product quickly and ensure our teams maintain a high level of productivity. When you are catering to the needs of up to 600 personnel, it is crucial we keep all areas of the operation running smoothly. There is constant pressure applied to the Blackwoods site facilitator, who was able to manage increased demand efficiently allowing contractors to get back on the job faster, which in turn improved our productivity without impacting site productivity."

2 Dedicated Resource

"Our onsite facilitator is a high performer, building credibility among our broader team, and supporting all facets of our complex operation. From ensuring the onsite store runs smoothly and meets inventory demands, to streamlining our invoicing processes, his all-round performance during our shutdown program allowed us to concentrate on other unplanned aspects of our job."

3 Technical Expertise

"Our operations are governed by strict regulations and product compliancy standards. Having Blackwoods as a supplier with unique industry knowledge gives us confidence that our teams have the right products for the right applications. The Blackwoods team have an extensive knowledge of the available products utilised in our maintenance programs and are proactive when it comes to providing advice and information as required."

4 Inventory Management

"With thousands of line items in stock and a high volume of transactions completed daily, cost control, visibility on consumable spend and invoice management are key considerations. After the shutdown schedules are completed, Blackwoods provide a single consolidated invoice for ease of account payment, and remove any Blackwoods-owned unused stock from site, eliminating the risk of unplanned inventory becoming obsolete onsite."



EVERY DAY, WE HELP MORE PEOPLE TO BUILD A BETTER AUSTRALIA

Blackwoods is the largest operating unit of Wesfarmers Industrial and Safety, a division of the Wesfarmers group which is an ASX listed company and one of the largest employers in Australia.

Blackwoods is proud to provide products and services that are essential to the economic growth and prosperity of our country.

With origins extending back to 1881, Blackwoods is wholly Australian owned and operated, and specialises in the supply of industrial and safety equipment to Australian businesses of all sizes in a wide range of industries.



Blackwoods, along with Wesfarmers, are founding members of Supply Nation since its inception in 2009. We engage with a number of Aboriginal businesses as contractors to Blackwoods.



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