

Halifax Stanfield International Airport Installation of Parallel Switchgear

CLIENT

Halifax International
Airport Authority

LOCATION

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Project Description

Halifax Stanfield International Airport (airport code: YHZ) is Atlantic Canada's principal full-service airport providing passengers and cargo clients with access to markets across the globe. The airport offers non-stop flights to more than 40 destinations in Canada, the U.S., the Caribbean and Europe and serves on average, almost 12,000 passengers every day. This air access provides options for local travellers and exporters, while also creating opportunities to attract visitors to the beautiful Atlantic Region of Canada. YHZ is home to more than 5,600 full-time-equivalent jobs, contributing \$355 million annually in direct income.

To maintain high service standards and its status as the hub for Atlantic Canada, the Halifax International Airport Authority (HIAA) embarked on a multi-year Airport Improvement Program (AIP). When it needed to install new equipment vital to powering the operation of the airport, HIAA called Black & McDonald (B&M) to apply its expertise to ensure its power system remains fail-safe.

B&M Scope of Work

B&M was responsible for the installation of the new 4,160 volt switchgear in the new addition for the main substation for YHZ, along with all 4,160 volt electrical and controls between the new switchgear and the generators and existing switchgear. The project produced challenges for B&M, but its team of construction professionals were able to spot them, address the problems and complete the project on time and on budget.

Benefits to Client and Problems Solved

The project posed challenges for the B&M team on-site, such as having to run in parallel with the generator installation project so that it completed both projects at the same time and to meet the commissioning requirements. B&M performed multiple after-hours shutdowns to run all the associated control wiring inside the existing 4,160 volt switchgear. Therefore, the new and existing systems worked simultaneously. B&M successfully turned over the complete operational system to the HIAA in the summer of 2017 to ensure the airport had a reliable back up emergency power system to run the entire terminal.