

## The Company and Project

### High-volume manufacture of complex control panels for Global Energy Company, Centrica

Centrica Business Solutions helps organisations to balance the demands of planet and profit. They build, operate and maintain onsite, large-scale energy assets like Solar PV and Combined Heat and Power - to help organisations to decarbonise and save money. They also deliver a range of zero carbon and renewable gas and electricity supply options that are tailored to their customers needs and budget, to help lay the foundation for a low-carbon future.

Centrica Business Solutions partner with 1,800+ organisations in the UK and 7,000+ businesses globally to help solve their energy challenges and harness new opportunities.

A large part of Centrica Business Solutions business is focused on delivering energy-efficient Combined Heat and Power (CHP) technologies.

Bensons was the single source of control panels used in Centrica CHP Solutions. As one of Bensons' largest customers, they worked in close collaboration with Centrica Business Solutions to build control panels in line with their designs. Most of Centrica Business Solutions systems required some degree of customization to their end application, meaning there were many different configurations required to optimise the operations of their CHP solution.

## The Challenge

### Managing the production and cost-effectiveness of complex control panels

Each system that Centrica Business Solutions deploys features some degree of customisation, meaning an individual design is required for each control panel. Due to the large physical size and high-capital value of Centrica Business Solutions systems, each CHP solution has an individual plan for the delivery of sub-systems. One such sub-system is the control panel, which has to arrive at a specific point in the system production to optimise the effectiveness of the manufacturing process.



The challenge for Bensons was to effectively manage our supply chain and manufacturing resources to deliver on all requirements for Centrica Business Solutions whilst ensuring the control panels remained highly cost-optimised to withstand the cost competitive market.



## The Solution

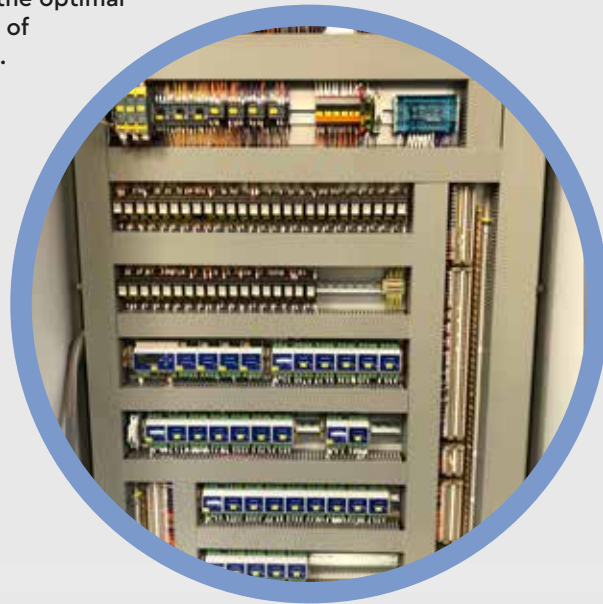
### Expert Manufacturing - Interpretation of Designs

Bensons' expertise, combined with their manufacturing capability and capacity allows for the effective delivery of a design for manufacture service.

Bensons' engineers worked closely with Centrica Business Solutions to interpret their schematic designs into a control panel layout that could be manufactured in as cost-effective a manner as possible. They also advised on the optimal components required in order to achieve the highest level of performance and reliability for Centrica Business Solutions.

Additionally, in order to meet Centrica Business Solutions' capacity requirements, Bensons created standardised, reference panel layouts and Bills of Materials (BOMs). This gave a reference point for any design customisation, and also allowed Bensons to maintain stock levels of all key components, allowing them to respond to changes in requirements and priorities in a timely manner.

In addition, Bensons has automated production processes wherever possible to ensure a high-quality and cost-effective solution.



## The Result

### Collaborative working - Complex control panels

Due to the collaborative approach and successful delivery of 5 main product lines with panels ranging from £150 to £35,000, Centrica Business Solutions valued Bensons as a reliable, consistent and forward-thinking partner who supported their wider CHP manufacturing and system deployment activities.

