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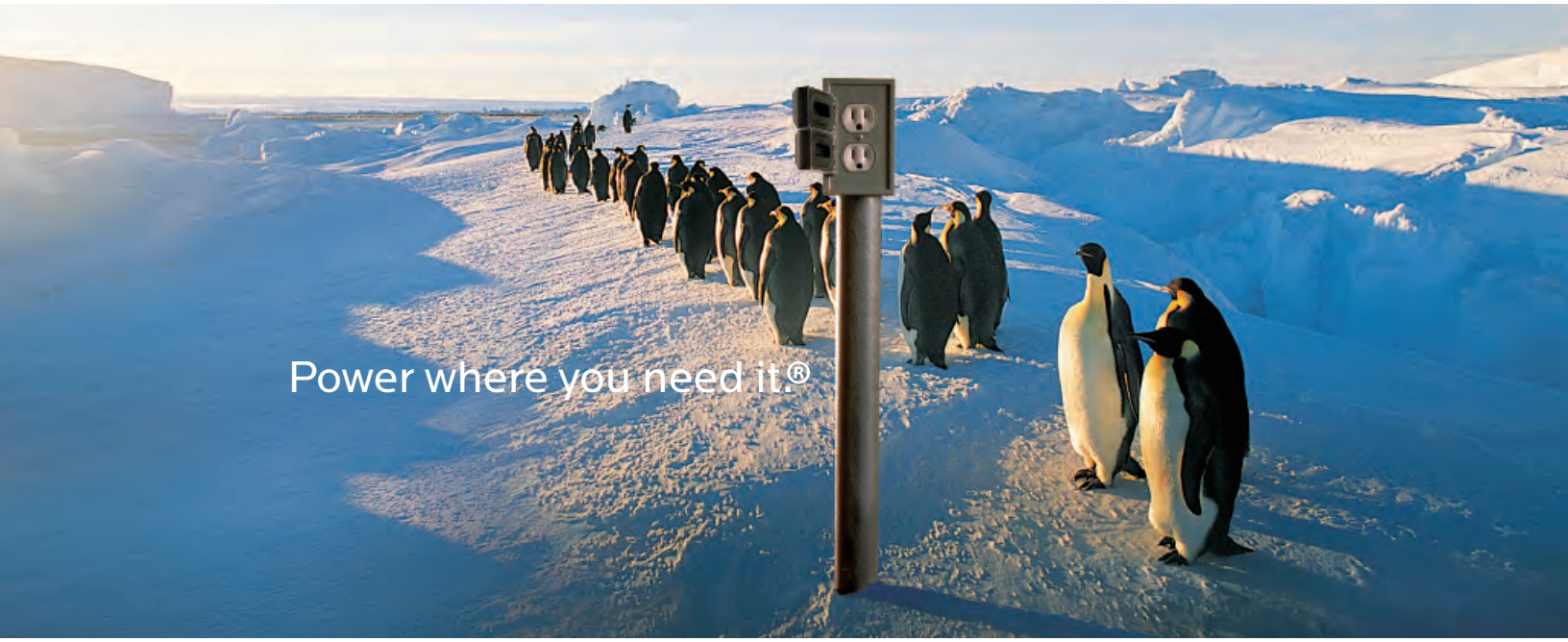
GLOBAL POWER TECHNOLOGIES



Customer Success Story: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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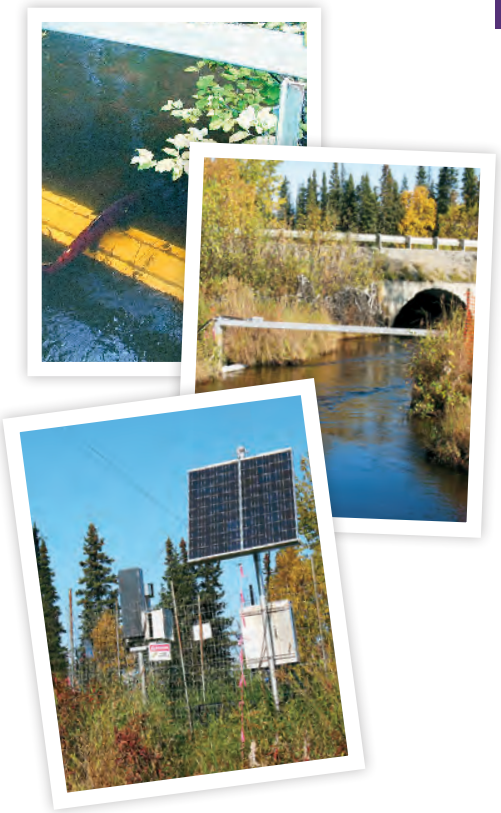

The Situation

The Kenai River Drainage, south of Anchorage, Alaska, is a proverbial big fish in the minds of anglers the world over. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is serious about protecting its salmon fisheries, one of the state's most valued natural resources. Currently, the department is conducting a study of Slikok Creek, a tributary of the Kenai, to determine spawning and rearing habitats of Coho and Chinook salmon, the state fish that's known as the "king salmon" in the Land of the Midnight Sun.

The Challenge

The department has set up sites along Slikok Creek with in-stream, pass-through antennae and electronic transceivers, which record the travels of adult and juvenile salmon tagged with transponders. Clearly, remote power is a critical ingredient to the department's research in this far-flung region of untamed wilderness and potentially bitter temperatures. "When I'm running a project like this year-round," says Mary King, a fisheries habitat research biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, "the last thing I need to be doing is troubleshooting problems during an Alaskan winter."

The Solution

In June 2008, GPT (Formerly Global Thermoelectric) began supplying three sites along Slikok Creek with Global*SolarHybrid* remote power systems, which combine Global's superior Thermoelectric Generator (TEG) technology with solar panels and photovoltaic PV batteries to offer a greener solution with greater reliability. During periods of below-average insolation values, a sensor mechanism turns on the propane-fuelled Model 5060 TEG, which provides power and recharges the batteries until they are again able to take over operation of the transceivers.

Results

The salmon research operation has been going very well, thanks to GPT's steady supply of remote power. "I'm tickled pink with them," says King. "The Global*SolarHybrid* systems have cut the fuel expense by more than half. I would say that by the time I complete this two-year project, the equipment will have paid for itself, and then we can go forth to other projects, with the only cost being about $1,000 a year in propane." Because of Alaska's long days of summer sunlight, "the TEGs are basically non-operational come April, but the switch back and forth to back up the battery has been smooth," says King. "It's low-maintenance. Really, I should say no-maintenance."

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— Mary King, fisheries habitat research biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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