

# WellPoint Northeast Headquarters Facility Improvements & Emergency Power System Design-Build

North Haven, CT



This project represented part of WellPoint's continuous improvements to its expansive 100 acre facility in order to create a state-of-the-art working environment for its employees.

The project encompassed full electrical, mechanical, and fire protection code upgrades. Furthermore, offices, bathrooms and conference rooms were demolished and redesigned for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The project presented a challenge due to the fact that all work was completed while the facility was fully occupied and in normal operation. The renovations took place in the heart of the office facility, and tolerance for noise and safety disruptions was non-existent.

The work also involved a great deal of coordination, as the installation of the fire pump control panel and transfer switch was carefully coordinated with the timing of a separate project. All work was conducted during normal business hours, with the exception of multiple power shut-downs, which were coordinated during off-hours.

Under a separate contract, Banton was retained to perform the design and construction of an emergency generation system configured to provide on-site dual electrical generation for the facility's five commercial buildings.

The project's goals also included the following: providing electrical capability for the site to operate independently of the utilities electric grid in the event of a power outage, increasing site electrical reliability, meeting all requirements in order to qualify for the Independent System Operator-New England Program, which provides incentives to utility customers who agree to reduce their electricity load when needed.