

Centralized power protection solutions for clothing retail chains



The client

Cisalfa Sport, leading retailer of sports apparel

Cisalfa Sport SpA is the top Italian retail group dealing in sports clothing and equipment. With sales revenue of 450 million euros and a work force of 2,300, the group runs a nationwide retailing operation through 170 stores, mainly under the Cisalfa and Longoni Sport brands.

The requirement

Centralized electrical protection for sensitive in-store equipment

Cisalfa Sport needs to be sure of a steady and stable electrical power supply, given that a failure could result in the point of sale grinding to a halt, unable to trade.

Power cuts or electrical disturbances can put computers and cash registers out of action completely, and any prolonged downtime will impact seriously on the business activity of the store. In terms of hard cash, the cost incurred when systems go down can be calculated at around €1,000 per hour.

Besides the inability to trade, stores are exposed to other risks from power problems: corruption of data, premature degradation of electronic components, delayed response of electrical protection devices, or worse still, irretrievable loss of data and irreparable damage to hardware.

Hence the need to ensure that all essential items of electronic equipment in Cisalfa Sport stores (cash registers, PCs, printers) are made operationally secure, in this instance adopting a centralized priority power distribution line protected by a single static UPS.



The UPS must also have a high level of electromagnetic immunity. In effect, the interior of a clothing store is particularly sensitive to the risk of electrostatic discharges, caused by the presence of synthetic or woollen fabrics, and insulating floors (parquet).

The facility of managing multiple UPS units from a central location is a pivotal element in enabling CISALFA SPORT to monitor and control all of its UPS systems remotely - and therefore conveniently - so that staff working in the store are spared the difficulty of dealing with technical issues.

The solution

ITYS: On-line double conversion uninterruptible power supply.

The equipment installed typically in a Cisalfa Sport retail store will consist of three PC/Workstations, two cash registers and a printer.

Each of these computerized appliances is a critical load and must therefore be protected continuously against electrical power failures and disturbances.

With this in mind, Cisalfa Sport selected the **ITYS** 3000 VA, an on-line double conversion voltage and frequency independent (VFI) system with sinusoidal input.

This technology is compatible with all IT and industrial applications and operating environments, installations with generator sets included.

The **ITYS** guarantees permanent regulation of output voltage and frequency, so that the load is supplied with an uninterrupted electrical power input of high quality, whatever the status of the utility mains supply.

A wide tolerance on input voltage ensures that switchovers to battery mode are infrequent, significantly prolonging battery life.

An automatic bypass device switches the loads direct to the utility power source instantaneously in the event of an overload or failure, guaranteeing continuity of the supply while also safeguarding the UPS.

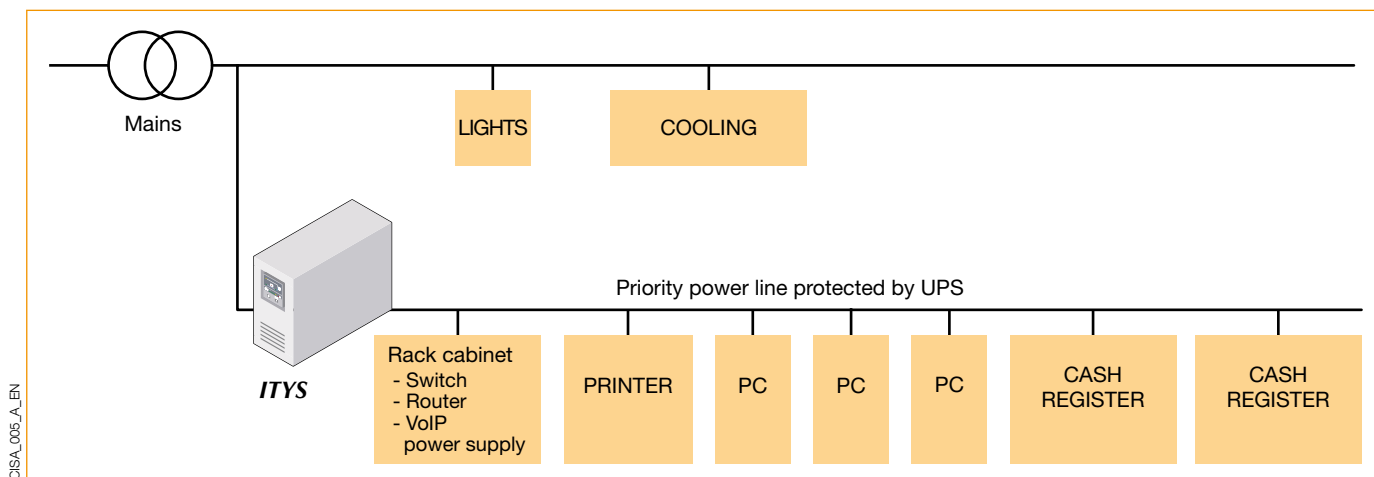
With an ethernet network adapter installed, the status of the UPS can be monitored directly from any computer within the organization, either over the Local Area Network (point of sale) or remotely over the Wide Area Network (administrator).

ITYS
from 1 to 10 kVA



The **ITYS** series is a range of compact UPS systems offered in models rated at 1000, 2000, 3000, 6000 and 10000 VA. The 3, 6 and 10 kVA models are also available in the LB version with a more powerful battery charger, to support multiple battery expansions giving 25 to 120 minutes autonomy.

Architecture



Remote View: centralized remote monitoring

These days, a UPS is managed in the same way as any other network peripheral (printer, scanner, etc.), by way of evolved graphic interfaces that can be used intuitively with web navigation programs. Once an ethernet adapter is installed, the UPS can be connected directly to the LAN using a specific network IP address that will allow the user to control the device remotely.

With a Socomec UPS NetVision network adapter integrated into a UPS of the **ITYS** series, communication over LAN/WAN networks is supported:

- using TCP/IP protocol, to monitor the UPS via an internet browser
- using the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) common to all professional IT peripherals

By exploiting these communication channels, and adopting Remote View (a Network Management System application) specifically designed to meet the needs of Cisalfa Sport, it was possible to construct a centralized control facility for all of the UPS systems in use by the company at different locations.

Remote View is installed on a terminal at company HQ in the northern city of Bergamo, and able to monitor more than 70 UPS stations across the length and breadth.



The advantages

Excellent performance/cost ratio

A centralised protection system reduces the purchase cost of the UPS per unit of the protected load.

A stabilized power supply eliminates disturbance from the a.c. mains, guaranteeing a high quality and constant supply of the electrical power to the equipment.

Operational efficiency and adaptability

Thanks to its versatility, the **ITYS** system can be used to protect a wide range of applications, from professional IT to company networks, and mission critical devices in industry.

Easy to install, even for the not-so-expert

No special knowledge of systems is needed to install an **ITYS**, not least by virtue of the fact that the built-in battery comes already charged and connected to the thermal-magnetic breakers.

Simple to use

With just a LED monitoring and control panel and a buzzer providing the user interface, the appliance is genuinely easy and intuitive to use. The graphic indicating the power distribution path shows at a glance whether the system is working as it should, or otherwise. The efficiency of the batteries can be tested by way of the control panel or using dedicated software.

Easily intuitive monitoring and control

Suitable for all network environments, the **ITYS 3000 VA** is easily interfaced with the server (Windows®, Linux, Macintosh).

In situations where automatic power management procedures are required, the communication software can be used to program scheduled start-up and shutdown times.

In the event of lengthy stoppages, in effect, workstation/server systems connected over a network can be programmed and piloted to shut down automatically.



Future needs

The intention of Cisalfa Sport is to connect its 170 points of sale to a single centralised power protection system

The **ITYS 3000 VA** offers a compact and simple-to-use solution, perfectly able to provide the kind of protection required by shops, which is why Cisalfa Sport were happy to extend the co-operation with **SOCOMECS UPS**.



Focus on

CISALFA SPORT

- 170 stores owned by the group
- €450 million turnover
- Leading Italian retailer of sports clothing and equipment

SOCOMECS UPS

- **ITYS 3000 VA**
- Consultancy on system implementation
- Assistance Service

Advantages

- Maximum protection at minimal costs
- Operational efficiency and adaptability
- Centralised protection
- Easy to install
- Simple to use
- Convenient to monitor



"An organisation like Cisalfa Sport needs to be sure that its entire structure, especially its stores, can be guaranteed the highest possible continuity of service. This led us to look at a number of solutions offered by various suppliers, and after careful selection, the choice fell on Socomec UPS: the Socomec offering was the best in terms of quality, performance, cost and reliability."

Riccardo Boccacero

Director of Information Systems
Cisalfa Sport

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