Woodward’s EM-80 Electric Actuator Operates Power Barge in Panama

Retrofitted to Estrella del Mar in 2003, EM-80 still going strong after 90,000 hours

The 72MW power barge, Estrella del Mar, was put into service in 2000 to supply power to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. At that time it was owned and operated by Seaboard/Transcontinental Capital Corporation. The power barge contains seven Wärtsilä 18V38 engines driving generators. In 2003, diesel-generator set number 7 was having vibration issues with the original actuator configuration. Our channel partner, Governor Control Systems, retrofitted the engine with an EM-80 electric actuator—which has now operated for 90,000 hours without any problems.

The Estrella del Mar was acquired by AES Panama in 2014 and supplies its full capacity to the Panamanian national grid. It is currently moored at Bahia Las Minas, Panama.

EM-80 actuator installed on Estrella del Mar’s Wärtsilä engine

EM-80 driver unit