



WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY MORGANTOWN, WV

■ **Project:**

West Virginia University Emergency Rental Installation

■ **Project Completion:**

March 2001

■ **Project Description:**

Ware provided an Emergency Installation of (2) 75,000 pph rental boilers and all auxiliary equipment at two separate locations on the campus of West Virginia University. A temporary shelter also had to be built.

Six tractor trailers and a task force headed for West Virginia University and 60 men were put on the job and worked several shifts 24 hours a day. The units were available to provide backup steam within 72 hours. Ware then continued to operate the boilers seven days a week, 24 hours a day with four operators working two 12-hour shifts.

Interestingly enough, all the work was accomplished in this time frame despite facing cold weather, rain and snow.



Case Study: West Virginia University Emergency Rental Installation
Morgantown, WV

Rental Installation – (2) 75,000 pph boilers and all auxiliary equipment installed and operating in 72 hours

Crisis In West Virginia Town Sets Ware's Response Team In Motion

LOUISVILLE, KY – April 2, 2001 – In the early morning hours of Thursday, March 1st, a worker at Morgantown Energy Associate, West Virginia power plant was fatally injured when the internal structure of a coal silo gave way. The fuel handler had been in the bottom third of a 130-foot tall silo when a funnel collapsed causing some 1,400 tons of coal and machinery to fall into the area he was working. The plant had gone 727,610 man hours without a lost time accident, an amazing achievement by any standards.

The MEA facility, which employs 52 people, is a 66-megawatt operation that produces electricity for Allegheny Energy and steam heat for West Virginia University buildings, which include a hospital and student dorms.

With the coal-fired units essentially shut down after the structure failure; the plant has continued to provide steam for heat to the university and its medical center through auxiliary gas-fired boilers.

When it became readily apparent the auxiliary boilers would be required to heat the building for at least 30 days while the fuel silo was being repaired, mechanical operations manager, Gary Boyd sprang into action. He could not take the chance on having the auxiliary boiler be the only backup. There would always be the risk of having to do a temporary shutdown to perform repairs. Obviously the hospital was a major concern as well as protecting the students.

Crisis In West Virginia Town

Boyd turned to the Internet in search of a website for a qualified company who could provide the support required. By early Thursday morning he was in contact with Steven Taylor, operations manager at Ware in Louisville. "Our emergency situation was explained to Steve with specific emphasis on our needing someone who could go full bore to get their equipment in place," explained Boyd. "They would also have to monitor the situation "around the clock."

It was shortly thereafter Ware was given the okay to start shipping equipment. Six tractor trailers and a task force headed for West Virginia. The final piece of equipment was shipped that evening.

"We put 60 men on site and worked 24 hours a day," states Taylor. "The first of two 75,000 lb. per hour complete boiler systems was set in place Friday, March 2nd. A second system was then set in place on Saturday. Test firing took place on Monday and on Tuesday both units were available to provide a backup system if the need arose." Interestingly enough, all the work was accomplished in this time frame despite facing cold weather, rain and snow.

"The equipment will remain until the coal-fired units are back online," Taylor commented. "We're here for however long it takes." Ware continues to operate the boilers seven days a week, 24 hours a day with four operators working two 12-hour shifts. A technician is also on hand should any problems arise. "Ware's ability to provide a turnkey operation was obviously a big plus when it came to choosing a company to handle the job," Boyd points out. "It seems like Steve Taylor and I were spending about 18 hours a day together working on the project. But the job got done and done properly. That's all that counts."