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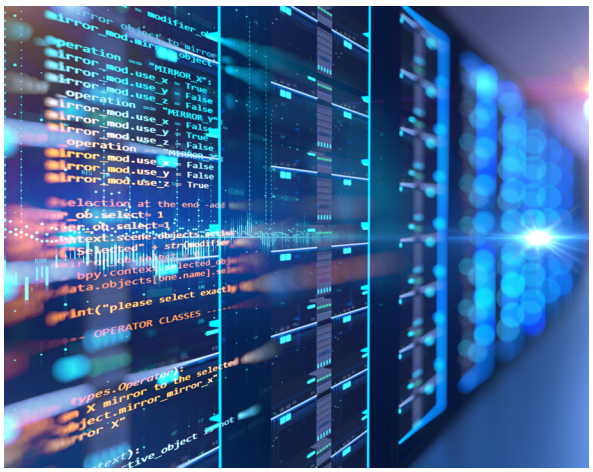
Case Study
Rittal & Eplan Australia / Proboards

From Design to Delivery: Eplan ProPanel and Rittal Enclosures Power Proboards' Data Centre Project



Introduction

Proboards, a specialist in manufacturing Mechanical Services Switchboards, recently completed a large-scale data centre project requiring high-performance enclosures and advanced digital engineering support. Working in partnership with APS Industrial, a national distributor of Rittal and Eplan, Proboards selected AE Compact Enclosures to align with their use of Eplan ProPanel, a 3D electrical design tool. With Rittal's enclosures and accessories integrated directly into Eplan's data portal, the team could design, visualise, and plan every detail with confidence.

Rittal AE Compact Enclosures provided the flexibility to accommodate the electrical components within the physical space constraints. By using EPLAN ProPanel to configure and integrate the systems, Proboards streamlined the 3D design, laying the foundation for efficient manufacturing of the system. During the engineering process, Proboards used the Eplan software to select, plan and design the enclosure, creating a digital twin of the real-life product in the form of a consistent data model.

Project Overview

- Industry: Data Centres / Mechanical Services
- National Distributor: APS Industrial Pty Ltd
- Client: Proboards Pty Ltd
- Duration: Ongoing (multi-phase)
- Featured Products: Rittal AE Compact Enclosures, Eplan ProPanel

Why Rittal

Rittal's AE Compact Enclosures were already specified for this project due to their quality and flexibility, which make them ideally suited to electrical switchboard and control applications for mechanical services. What set Rittal apart was the seamless compatibility with EPLAN ProPanel, enabling precise planning and faster execution.

Solution: The Rittal Advantage

The project called for an enclosure solution that could support detailed switchboard construction, maintain performance in demanding data centre environments, and align seamlessly with Proboards' digital design processes. Rittal's AE Compact Enclosures were selected to meet these needs.

Rittal AE Compact Enclosures were chosen for their:

- High protection rating (certified to IP66/NEMA 4): Ensures dust and water ingress protection in sensitive environments
- Flexible mounting: Various mounting options to enable fast and effective mounting on site.
- Quick cable access: Standard gland plates and flexible gland options for simplified cabling
- Simple assembly: Fast installation of mounting plates and accessories
- Validated CAD data: Digitalisaton in both Rittal's free RiPanel configurator and Eplan ProPanel software enables faster error-free design.

Integrated Engineering with Eplan ProPanel

- Virtual 3D design: Allowed Proboards to fully model enclosure interiors using accurate Rittal component data.
- Automated machining outputs: Generated CNC-ready data to streamline panel modifications and assembly.
- Reduced design errors: Improved accuracy and coordination from design through to manufacture.
- Enhanced documentation: Created digital layouts, parts lists and as-built documentation, supporting faster handover and future servicing via Rittal's free ePOCKET digital wiring plan pocket, enabling rapid fault-finding and troubleshooting.

"We've been really impressed with the Rittal enclosures - the quality, the way they're built, and the range of accessories available. Everything we needed was there, and integrating the system with Eplan ProPanel made the whole design and build process much easier. It's streamlined things for us, and we're now well positioned for future projects."

Chris Robertson, Director, Proboards Pty Ltd

Together, these solutions delivered a consistent and efficient enclosure infrastructure that supported the project's design complexity, streamlined the build process, and positioned Proboards to scale for future data centre projects.

Outcome

Rittal's AE Compact Enclosures, combined with Eplan ProPanel, allowed Proboards to design and build with confidence. The compatibility between Rittal's physical systems and the digital tools used in planning and assembly resulted in a smoother delivery, stronger quality control, and faster project turnaround.