



Electrical Power Systems

A Top Export Prospect for Haiti

September 2014

Overview

	2011	2012	2013
Total Market Size	325	162	167
Total Local Production	0	0	0
Total Exports	0	0	0
Total Imports	325	162	167
Imports from the U.S.	47.8	39.6	53

** : Not available

Figures are in million USD. All figures derived from the U.S. Census Bureau and Trade Map - International Trade Centre.

In 2011, Haitian imports of U.S. electrical generating products reached USD 47.8 million. Local demand for U.S. electrical systems increased 33 percent to reach 53 USD million in FY 2013. The 2010 earthquake caused significant damage to existing power supply networks, including those of the national electricity company (EDH/Electricite d’Haiti) and other local producers. In 2012, EDH provided about 14 hours of electricity per day throughout the country, up from 11 hours on average per day in 2011. Port-au-Prince itself gets 17 hours of electricity per day.

There is an urgent need to repair and expand existing power plants throughout the country. Haiti has an installed capacity of 313 MW but only 60 percent of the installed capacity is firm, as many generation units need rehabilitation and repair work. The current supply fails to meet demand due to poor maintenance and obsolescence. Total unmet demand for residential and commercial electricity in the country is estimated at approximately 500 MW per day. Only 25 percent of Haitians have access to electricity, with an average annual consumption of just 21 KWH per inhabitant. As of March 2013, total electricity generation approximated 1,124 million KWH. 506 million KWH produced from two private companies using diesel fuel; 284 million KWH generated from EDH power plants including 226 million KWH produced from a hydro-electric plant located outside in the Artibonite; and 334 million KWH produced from three heavy fuel oil power plants developed under a Cuba-Venezuela-Haiti tripartite agreement. The government hopes to modernize EDH and improve its

performance. To initiate the process, it launched in June 2014 an international call for tenders to grant a concession to a strategic investor for the production distribution of electricity in the South-East region.

Sub-Sector Best Prospects

According to Haitian suppliers, 50 percent of power generators come from the U.S. Other suppliers include Japan, France, China, and South Korea. U.S. electrical companies, including those that supply generators, parts, and service, may find opportunities in Haiti due to a severe electricity shortage. Electrical blackouts are a daily occurrence in Haiti. There is a market for U.S. firms interested in contracting with EDH to repair existing equipment and install additional electrical equipment at Port-au-Prince power plants. During FY 2012-2013, private companies were invited to submit proposals for the acquisition of equipment for the maintenance and repair of EDH's automobile fleet. Low cost electrical generation equipment is in demand by some residential owners. There is also an increasing focus on solar power generation equipment and appliances.

Opportunities

The unreliability and lack of centrally-supplied electrical power from EDH continues to drive demand for power generation equipment, such as new electrical power systems, generators, inverters, batteries, and maintenance. With Haiti's tropical climate and high percentage of daily sunlight, the country could be a prime candidate for wind and solar power generation. Recent studies also indicated that Haiti may have "abundant renewable energy sources."

A lack of electrical generation capacity and distribution has caused a rise in tender opportunities in long- and short-term power generation. For additional information, please contact Electricite d'Haiti (EDH) directly. (Refer to Chapter 9: Contacts, Market Research and Trade Events for contact information).

Web Resources

Electricite d'Haiti (EDH)
Angle Rue Chareron et Boulevard Harry Truman Cite de l'Exposition
B.P. 1753
Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Tel: (509) 2813-1641 / 2813-0157/ 2813-0197/ 2223-0837 / 2212-2212
Fax: (509) 2223-8750
E-mail: info@edh.ht
(Mr. Jean Errol Morose, Director General)
<http://www.edh.ht/>

E-Power

Hinsa Free Zone Park, Rue Lisius, Drouillard

Port-au-Prince, Haïti
Tel: (509) 2813-0015
Fax: (954) 323-4315
E-mail: admin@epowerhaiti.com
(Mr. Carl-Auguste Boisson, CEO)
<http://www.epowerhaiti.com>

Sogener S.A.
30, Boulevard Toussaint Louverture,
Route de l'Aéroport
Port-au-Prince, Haïti
Tel: (509) 3707-0000 / 3708-0000
E-mail: sogeneradmin@sogener.com
<http://www.sogener.com>

HayTrac (Haitian Tractor & Equipment Co S.A.)
51, Blvd. Toussaint Louverture
Route de l'Aéroport
Port-au-Prince, Haïti
Tel: (509) 2814-8000
E-mail: haytrac@haytrac.com
<http://www.haytrac.com>

For More Information

Economic/Commercial Officer
Ms. Skye Justice
U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince
Tabarre 41, Route de Tabarre
Port-au-Prince, Haïti
Tel: 011-509-2229-8000
Email Address: papecon@state.gov

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