

## The Manila Hotel: All Powered Up for the Next Hundred Years



### Reliable power slices power costs.

Few hotels in Asia can brandish such a rich, historic lineage. It was once the command post of General Douglas MacArthur at the height of World War II and his home for six years. Through the years, countless luminaries have walked down its halls, including King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain, the former U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton, Dwight Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, and John F. Kennedy, Ernest Hemingway, Marlon Brando, and John Wayne.

Last year, the “Grand Dame” celebrated its 100th anniversary, welcoming visitors to suites that have been luxuriously renovated and restaurants fully refurbished. But as the hotel marched on towards its next century, it was clear that its power supply had become grossly inadequate. Manila Hotel President Atty. Joey Lina put his faith in Meralco to solve the hotel’s growing powersupply needs.

Previously, to complement its power requirements, the hotel had relied on a battery of generators. To come up with better and more practical solution, Atty.Lina explains, “We requested Meralco for an additional supply of 1 megawatt power, and it responded very quickly to our request.” Since Meralco started providing the hotel with more power last year, the establishment’s electricity supply has become stable, sufficient, and reliable.

The hotel also leverages on the engineering expertise of Meralco’s subsidiary, MServ, for transformer testing and load side power quality concerns. The switch from the generator arrangement to the Meralco supply line has brought significant savings of roughly PHP 694,000 a month for the hotel. With that, Lina says, “We are looking into the continued improvements here in the hotel.” Fortunately, their efforts have not been all for naught. The Manila Hotel is the hotel of choice of three of the world’s top airlines according to the 2012 Conde Nast Traveler Readers’ Choice Award for Best Airlines. The hotel also made it to Conde Nast Traveler’s Readers’ Choice Awards for the Top 20 Hotels in Southeast Asia last year. Atty. Lina was understandably ecstatic over this, but quickly added, “But, of course, our vision is to make it to the Top Five in the world!” With its facilities fully amped, its staff psyched up, and its power capacity all the way up, the Manila Hotel is more than ready for the next hundred years.