



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Conducts In-Depth 3-Day Training on Gas Turbine Operations



Image: Plant operators at the Randolph Harley Power plant during the in-house training session.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (October 9, 2024) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or the “Authority”) recently concluded a three-day in-house training session led by Cyril Andrew, Electrical Engineer III, Data and Auto Electrical, for ten plant operators, including second-class operators, trainees, and instrument engineers at the Randolph Harley Power Plant on St. Thomas. The training focused on gas turbines and their associated auxiliary systems, equipping participants with essential knowledge to enhance plant operations.

The program covered the combustion process within the turbine, with a detailed focus on the fuel atomizing air and igniter. Participants also received hands-on instruction regarding the turbine’s auxiliary systems, such as the hydraulic system and the propane and diesel delivery system, and how these elements contribute to the overall turbine operation. The hazardous gas detectors and the flame detectors were also included within the training.

The training emphasized both theoretical knowledge and practical applications. The operators gained an understanding of how the entire gas turbine system operates, ensuring that safety protocols are followed.

This comprehensive training underscores WAPA’s dedication to ongoing development and safety, ensuring that our operators are well-equipped to maintain and improve plant operations. Cyril Andrew’s expertise and dedication to fostering knowledge among his colleagues exemplify the spirit of collaboration and continuous improvement that drives our organization forward.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication’s department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.