

Powering irrigation and the Goondiwindi economy

INDUSTRY PRIMARY INDUSTRY LOCATION GOONDIWINDI, QLD

Nestled on the banks of the Macintyre River at the junction of the border with New South Wales lies one of one of Queensland's fastest growing rural communities. Goondiwindi – derived from an Aboriginal word Goonawinna meaning 'the resting place of the birds' – is surrounded by farmlands of cotton, olives and other primary produce. The area's strong reliance on agriculture is driven by a mix of grazing, dryland farming and irrigation and while Goondiwindi is very reliant on the annual wheat crop, cotton is the main crop grown when water is available.



The Client

Goondiwindi's numerous primary producers are very well supported by renowned local family business – McGregor Diesel who provide repairs and maintenance to earthmoving equipment, irrigation pumps and engines, and agricultural machinery. Together Shane and Amanda McGregor bring more than 50 years of combined experience in earthmoving, construction, irrigation and the mining industry to power the livelihood of local primary producers by keeping them operational 24/7 with reliable service and support. And behind every great business is a powerfully supportive partner – and since 2008, for McGregor Diesel, this has been Energy Power Systems Australia (EPSA).

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The Background

McGregor Diesel specialise in repairs and maintenance to a wide range of earthmoving and industrial equipment providing all onsite support and equipment, including repairs, diagnostics and servicing, and infield planned maintenance and breakdown maintenance for all types of equipment, including the many powered by Cat®. In fact, founder Shane McGregor has been partnering with Energy Power Systems Australia (EPSA) since 1991 where he began his working relationship with the company through a previous employer.

When McGregor Diesel started in 2008, Shane and his team began servicing and repairing all Cat engines in the region and subsequently bought the first of many Cat engines rising to a peak of seven in 2020 alone. Shane says that they now mainly service and repair Caterpillar machines due to the “high demand” of Caterpillar engines and parts in the region.

“The product and parts support through EPSA and their Cat Dealer Partner Hastings Deering are always outstanding. The products are reliable, available for good prices, with second-to-none-quality, and quick delivery with superb freight and shipping service. The customer support is always helpful, professional with the team’s expert knowledge complemented by their honest ‘care-factor’ about our business.”



The Solution

McGregor Diesel’s long-term customer, Brooklyn Farms have seven main holdings in the region conducting both irrigated and dryland farming. During a pump site management review, they decided to undertake an engine restructure utilising the different engine brands they had installed and they required various different sizes of engines due to their irrigation system network.

“They needed different Cat engine sizes (from C4 to C15) and as we mainly use Caterpillar parts, knew that EPSA was the best choice to cover all their irrigation system needs. Since August 2020, Brooklyn Farms have since installed six Cat engines – one C7.1, three C13s, one C9 and one C4”, says Shane McGregor.



Ultimately, EPSA’s personalised support stands alone. They have reliable staff with high expertise and deliver world-class Cat product in a timely manner. They meet our business needs and I’m proud that our relationship has truly developed on a personal level over the years too.



Shane McGregor – Founder, McGregor Diesel

The Results

“Our customers are reliant on us providing good quality products and service,” says Shane. “It underpins our reputation, so in turn, we need the same – we are heavily reliant on word-of-mouth. Goondiwindi is farming country. It provides the main income for most of the local population. They need to ensure their machines are operating and they can access parts that are easily available and reliable – with fast service. We provide that service and as such, our relationships with the EPSA and the wider Cat Dealer Network is a critical link in the process.”

The relationship to support Brooklyn Farms with a cohesive and seamless Cat solution is just one such example of the McGregor Diesel and EPSA story. “Just recently, McGregor purchased a Cat 3054TA industrial diesel engine intermittent ‘C’ with a duty rating of 127 HP, 95 kW @ 2200 RPM; and Cat C9 industrial diesel engine, heavy duty ‘B’ with a rating of 375 HP, 280 kW @ 1800-2200 RPM. The 3054TA is for an oil well pump located west of Thargamindah while the C9 is for another irrigation engine in the local Goondiwindi area.”

This is such a magnificent story of the power of a great relationship and keeping Australia’s rural heartland fighting fit.



ENERGY POWER SYSTEMS AUSTRALIA

As the authorised supplier of Cat® engines and power solutions in Australia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands; Energy Power Systems Australia (EPSA) provides technically superior Cat® power systems. From off-the-shelf low-cost engines and generators to full turnkey solutions, EPSA supplies engines and generators for the broadest range of industries.

EPSA is a full turnkey provider offering Rental, New, Used and Engineered Solutions – partnering with your business operation to find the best through-life cost benefit solution to suit your application.

EPSA will find the optimal power, air or temperature control solution to drive your business, managing the project from start to finish – front-end engineering and design, and designing, constructing, connecting, commissioning, owning, operating, servicing and maintaining.

Other key power solution advantages from EPSA include:

- Integration of renewable systems with traditional gas and diesel power generation to deliver efficient and reliable eco-friendly power.
- Reliable hybrid energy solutions that include purpose-built fully integrated hybrid products include Cat® Battery Energy Storage Systems and Cat® Microgrid Master Controller.
- Remote monitoring to provide live equipment telemetry and remote-control functionality, now allowing you to accurately view performance data of rental equipment in real time.
- Financing options
- Extended Service Coverage
- Servicing and maintenance backed by our Cat® Dealer Network.

We’re experts in standby power during a mains outage, prime power when utility supply is not available, continuous power for mission critical applications, and temporary power hire in times of unexpected shutdowns or emergency.

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