



420 kWh microgrid energy storage

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Material handling equipment and intralogistics provider Raymond Implements is celebrating the deployment of a solar and battery storage microgrid at its distribution warehouse in midstate New York.

The behind-the-meter energy storage and renewable combo includes a new energy management system at the Raymond facility in Greene, New York. The project also includes a forklift-to-grid charging system.

“With the implementation of behind-the-meter storage at our distribution center, we have gained insights into the benefits of the system in material handling applications specifically related to alleviating increased demand associated with charging of advanced power solutions including lithium,” said Jennifer de Souza, vice president of energy solutions, procurement and leasing at parent Raymond Corp., in a company statement. “We are excited to continue to demonstrate a new energy storage process and solution for warehouse energy management that will reduce utility costs for warehouse owners.”

Raymond has been working on development of the microgrid, electrification and energy management project for nearly five years. The project began as an energy storage collaboration with Binghamton University and was partially funded through a \$1 million award from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.

The generation side of the microgrid is comprised of a 200-kW solar photovoltaic array and 250-kW/420-kWh battery energy storage system.

The later stages of project development focused on installing advanced lithium-ion battery chargers to balance grid and microgrid charging, with a priority placed on the renewable generation, the company said.

Raymond is optimistic enough about the success of the microgrid project that it is now installing a front-of-the-meter solar rooftop system at its Syracuse, New York, parts distribution facility.

“The energy storage system can transform warehouses into controllable energy hubs or virtual power plants, which can be optimized to support the power grid during normal and peak grid conditions while improving sustainability and carbon neutrality,” de Souza added.

Raymond Corp. is owned by Toyota Industries. It manufactures material handling and intralogistics solutions such as forklift trucks and pallet jacks.

Binghamton University, meanwhile, is developing research and innovation projects for energy transition sectors. One of those is BU’s new program called ChargeUp, which supports and provides some seed funding to battery innovation startups.



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For Microgrid Knowledge editorial inquiries, please contact Managing Editor Rod Walton at .

I've spent the last 15 years covering the energy industry as a newspaper and trade journalist. I was an energy writer and business editor at the Tulsa World before moving to business-to-business media at PennWell Publishing, which later became Clarion Events, where I covered the electric power industry. I joined Endeavor Business Media in November 2021 to help launch EnergyTech, one of the company's newest media brands. I joined Microgrid Knowledge in July 2023.

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