RELIEF IN THE WAKE OF DISASTER
JAPAN, 2011

On Friday, March 11, 2011 a powerful earthquake hit the east coast of Japan and resulted in a tsunami that reached up to 133 feet high and 6 miles inland. With over 15,000 dead and unfathomable damage, relief aid could not arrive too soon. People reached out from all over the world to help the survivors rebuild. One such relief effort came from the extraordinary coordination of Enercon Engineering, headquartered in East Peoria, Illinois, with design and production assistance from SEMCO.

In the weeks following the tsunami, Japan sourced power generation modules from all over the world, including 80 units from Enercon. In less than seven weeks, Enercon outfitted the 80 CSC (Container Safety Convention) containers with SEMCO acoustic panels and 1500 kW generators for shipment to Japan. The turnaround time was nothing short of amazing, allowing Enercon to beat out suppliers from other countries – including China.
Outfitting these containers for power generation involves careful design and acoustic engineering. Given the time constraints, it was not feasible or even financially viable for Enercon to completely outfit the containers for this type of service. Instead, the company turned to SEMCO to provide custom made pre-insulated panels that install inside the individual containers, providing an acoustically protected enclosure for the generators.

Using drawings provided by Enercon, SEMCO designed and fabricated modular tongue & groove panels to line the modified container and accommodate every air intake and access point. Consisting of dual wall construction, SEMCO’s panels provided the STC rating required.

Once the panels arrived, Enercon employees worked extra hours to get the generator packages assembled in record time. It was a remarkable engineering and coordination effort – without the simplicity of the SEMCO Acoustic Panels, Enercon may have not otherwise been able to meet the demand.

"WITH SEMCO, WE GOT A TOTALLY PREFABRICATED KIT. WE JUST SNAPPED IT TOGETHER AND EVERYTHING WORKS AS ONE, FULLY ENGINEERED PACKAGE. IT SAVED US A LOT OF TIME AND LABOR, AND IT WAS LESS EXPENSIVE THAN DOING IT ALL ON OUR OWN.”

- ENERCON’S MANUFACTURING ENGINEER