



Six electrical, power findings identify changes, struggles

Respondents to the Consulting-Specifying Engineer 2016 Electrical and Power Study identified six high-level findings impacting the electrical and power industries today.

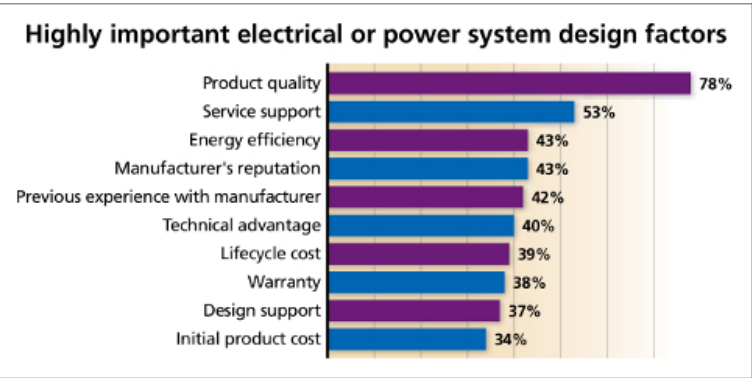
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Respondents to the [Consulting-Specifying Engineer 2016 Electrical and Power Study](#) identified six high-level findings impacting the electrical and power industries today:

- 1. Electrical, power revenue:** The average engineering firm specifies about \$2.8 million annually for electrical and power systems in new and existing building projects; 15% of these firms specify \$500,001 to \$750,000 in these systems, up from only 8% in 2015.
- 2. Systems specified:** Seven in 10 engineers currently specify circuit breakers and fuses, emergency and standby power, transformers, electrical distribution, and cable/wire systems or equipment. Renewable energy systems have gained some popularity, having been specified by 35% of engineers in 2015 to 42% in 2016.
- 3. Selection involvement:** Seventy-five percent of respondents are responsible for determining requirements/writing specifications for electrical or power systems. Another 67% supervise or consult on projects, while 63% research and evaluate options.
- 4. Specifications:** Twenty-nine percent of respondents always write performance electrical or power specifications, and another 52% frequently write this type of specification. The regularity of writing open (proprietary) specifications has declined from 65% to 58% over the past year.
- 5. Building structures:** The top three building types for which respondents specify, design, or make product selections are office buildings (56%), industrial/manufacturing facilities/warehouses (56%), and educational facilities (48%).
- 6. Critical issues:** The constant struggles with budgets/costs, the lack of a



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skilled workforce, designing for energy efficiency, and keeping up-to-date on new technologies are critical challenges/issues affecting the future of electrical or power system design.

[Access the full 2016 Electrical and Power report to view additional key findings.](#)

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