

Case study: Harvesting robots



# Rugged, reliable, and efficient power modules maximize uptime in harsh environments



**Customer's challenge** 

Harvesting robots are machines designed to perform various tasks on farms, often autonomously. They are equipped with sensors, cameras, and GPS systems to navigate and understand their environment. These large robotic vehicles or equipment are typically powered from a high-voltage DC source of 400V or more. The key goals were:

- Increase productivity
- High power density to support higher voltage inputs
- A robust and reliable design to maintain continued operation



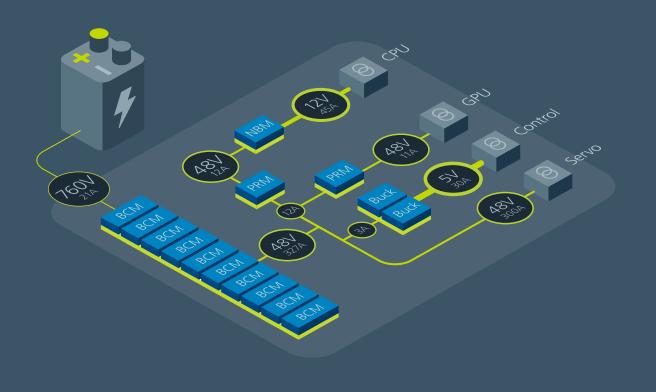
The Vicor solution

Vicor fixed-ratio power modules enable safe conversion of 400V or 800V batteries typically used in these applications to 48V SELV and reach more than 1,600W of power. The high efficiency of these modules, along with downstream Vicor PoL converters and regulators, greatly reduces power losses and simplifies thermal management, increasing productivity and reliability. Key benefits were:

- Safely convert high-voltage power to SELV
- Rugged, highly integrated power modules for high reliability
- Higher efficiency reduces power losses

#### The Power Delivery Network

In this type of design, the Vicor BCM® converter series can provide high-voltage battery conversion to a safe, nominal 48V. One example is the BCM4414 capable of more than 1,600W at greater than 97% efficiency from its 111 x 36 x 9mm package. The BCM is a fixed ratio converter with an output voltage 1/16 of the input voltage. Fixed ratio or regulated point-of-load converters such as Vicor NBMs<sup>TM</sup>, PRMs<sup>TM</sup>, ZVS Buck and ZVS Buck-Boost regulators power individual, downstream, lower-voltage rails as needed.





#### BCM4414 bus converter

Input: 500 - 800V

Output: 31.3 – 50.0V

Current: Up to 35A

110.6 x 35.5 x 9.4mm

vicorpower.com/bcm



### PRM buck-boost regulators

Input: 48V (36 – 75V)

Output: 48V (5 – 55V)

Power: Up to 600W

Efficiency: Up to 97%

As small as

22.0 x 16.5 x 6.73mm

vicorpower.com/prm



#### NBM2317 DC-DC converter

Input: 40 - 60V

Output: 10 – 15V

Current: Up to 65A

22.8 x 17.3 x 5.2mm

vicorpower.com/nbm



## ZVS buck regulators

Inputs: 12V (8 – 18V), 24V (8 – 42V), 48V (30 – 60V)

Output: 2.2 – 16V

Current: Up to 22A

Peak efficiency: Up to 98%

As small as

10.0 x 10.0 x 2.56mm

vicorpower.com/zvs-buck

