<complex-block>

BENEFITS

- » The boom operation is electric, running off batteries.
- » Reduced carbon footprint and emissions.
- Electric boom allows lineworkers to perform tasks while truck engine is turned off, resulting in reduced operating costs through fuel savings and less maintenance; estimated 40 percent reduction in maintenance costs.
- » Noise is reduced to 0 decibels when lift is operating from an average of 82 decibels (comparable to the sound of a lawn mower) when truck is idling.
- » Quieter operation benefits the neighborhoods in which Minnesota Power works.
- » Improved crew member communications due to quieter operation.
- Cab temperature is controlled by batteries meaning the engine doesn't need to idle when heating or cooling the cab.

OTHER

- » Purchased from Altec Inc. with an operations and service center in Duluth, Minn.
- » Part of a commitment by utilities nationwide to devote 5 percent of their annual fleet acquisition budgets to purchasing plug-in electric vehicles and sustainable technologies.



