



Galing Pinoy showcases the triumph of the Filipino spirit—the Filipino's innate perseverance to rise above. A double entendre, **Galing Pinoy** literally translates to both coming from (or brought to you by) the Filipino and Filipino ingenuity.



Nilo Villarín Power for all

by CYNTHIA DE CASTRO / AJPress

IMAGINE yourself in an airplane getting ready for landing. You look through the cabin window and see the lights of the city of Los Angeles below you. As the plane descends slowly towards the runway, the pilot follows the airport's precision approach path indicator (PAPI), a light system positioned beside the runway. The PAPI consists of boxes of lights that provide a visual indication of an aircraft's position on the glide path for the associated runway. Suddenly, the lights go out. Blackout! Can you imagine the horror that would be for the pilot to land without any lights on the runway to guide him?

To ensure that this would not happen, the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) uses an innovative high reliability critical power distribution systems using state-of-the-art power monitoring and control systems.

This breakthrough invention has been implemented in five major US terminal radar approach control facilities in Atlanta, Boston, Honolulu, Southern California and St. Louis, and virtually eliminated system power outages. And

the inventor and designer of the system who has integrated it for the FAA is a Filipino from Washington, Engineer Nilo Villarín.

Villarín was granted a US patent for the switching device that detects failure in series connect-



ed lamps and automatically restores power to the remaining lamps for visual guidance of landing aircrafts. The Federal Aviation Administration has been

successfully using Villarín's invention for their precision approach path indicator, deemed essential for ensuring aircraft

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