WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A subsea system comprising:

an electrically powered control system for controlling the subsea system;

a reserve battery electrically coupled to the control system to power the control system when the reserve battery is activated, the reserve battery remaining inert until activated;

a container that houses the reserve battery, the container having a first coupling; and

a second coupling, the first and second couplings being detachably connectable to each other and including electrical connections so that the reserve battery is replaceable while the subsea system remains below sea-surface.

2. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the subsea system is a blowout preventer for sealing a pipe.

3. The subsea system according to claim 2, wherein the blowout preventer includes:

a housing including a bore therethrough for receiving the pipe;

a pipe sealing device movable within the housing along a first direction toward a pipe-sealing position; and

an actuator coupled to the pipe sealing device to move the pipe sealing device within the housing, wherein

the control system controls the actuator to move the pipe sealing device from a stored position to the pipe-sealing position at which the pipe sealing device seals the pipe.

4. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery is a lithium alloy/iron disulfide thermal battery.

5. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery is a molten salt high temperature thermal battery.

6. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery is a silver zinc battery.

7. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery is a lithium/oxyhalide battery.

8. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery includes an electrically-activated activator.

9. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery includes a mechanically-activated activator.

10. The subsea system according to claim 9, wherein the mechanically-activated activator is a striker pin.

11. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the container is a high pressure, thick-walled container integral to the reserve battery.

12. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the electrical connections of the first and second couplings are water-proof, high-pressure resistant connectors.

13. The subsea system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a primary battery electrically coupled to the control system,

wherein the reserve battery is a backup battery connected to the primary battery such that the reserve battery is only utilized when the primary battery is not able to support power requirements.

14. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the subsea system is at least one of a point of load electrical power distribution, a hybrid power system, and a critical system.

15. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the subsea system is disposed on a seafloor.

16. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the container of the reserve battery includes a handle configured to be grasped by a robotic gripper.

17. The subsea system according to claim 1, wherein the reserve battery includes active ingredients that remain segregated from each other until the reserve battery is activated.

18. A method of providing power to a subsea system having a control system for controlling the subsea system, the method comprising:

replaceably electrically coupling a reserve battery to the subsea system so that the reserve battery powers the control system, the reserve battery remaining inert until activated, wherein the reserve battery is housed in a container having a first coupling, and the subsea system includes a second coupling; and

detachably connecting the first and second couplings to each other and include electrical connections so that the reserve battery is replaceable while the subsea system remains below sea-surface.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the reserve battery includes active ingredients that remain segregated from each other until the reserve battery is activated.