# EMERGENCY POWER PLANNER

# YOUR PRACTICAL GUIDE TO RESTORING ELECTRIC POWER AND PROTECTING YOUR BUSINESS DURING UTILITY OUTAGES.

When the power goes down, you want it back – fast. Preparation for power failure is a must, and a contingency plan is an essential tool. With a solid contingency plan in place, you'll know what to do and whom to call to restore your power as soon as possible, to keep your business functioning and your revenue stream flowing.

This Emergency Power Planner will guide you and your team through the basic steps of building a contingency plan. The checklist format will help you cover the key elements quickly and easily. To fill in the details, consult with an established supplier of rental power generating equipment, supplies and service. Sooner or later power outages affect everyone. Don't wait for the inevitable to happen. The time to plan is now, and Thompson Power Systems is ready to assist you.

#### **THOMPSON POWER SYSTEMS**

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North Alabama: 205-849-4361 South Alabama/NW Florida: 251-626-5100

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### STEP 1 DETERMINE YOUR POWER REOUIREMENTS.

IN A UTILITY OUTAGE, YOU CAN PROVIDE POWER FOR YOUR ENTIRE FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT, OR FOR CRITICAL LOADS ONLY. YOUR EMERGENCY STANDBY GENERATOR POWERS ONLY LIFE-SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIRED BY CODE. AFTER THAT, YOU MUST CHOOSE WHICH LOADS ARE CRITICAL AND WHICH ARE NOT:

Production machinery	kW	Pumps	kW
Computers and servers	kW	Other	kW
Process controls	kW	□	kW
Plant and office lighting	kW	□	kW
Heating, ventilating, air conditioning	kW		
Compressed air systems	kW	TOTAL	kW

## **STEP 2** PLAN FOR THE LOGISTICS OF DELIVERY AND OPERATION.

# YOUR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER MUST BE ABLE TO DELIVER AND PARK THE GENERATOR SET, SO THAT IT IS EASILY ACCESSIBLE FOR CONNECTING, OPERATING, SERVICING AND FUELING. PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS MUST INCLUDE:

ld Id	lentification of connection points	Opening for cable	e access to the building
	nvironmentally sound location away from drains, work	Location away fro	om traffic, trees and obstructions
	reas and residences	Planned route for	cable inside the building
	esignated access route for delivery	Level, paved area	ı for parking
Lc	ocation with adequate surrounding open space	Security fencing	

# STEP 3 SELECT APPROPRIATE GENERATOR SET FEATURES.

#### CHOOSE FROM A VARIETY OF FEATURES TO SUIT YOUR SITE'S SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING:

#### CHILLERS

C		<b>Sound attenuation:</b> Ask for ratings below 92 db(A) at full load. Ratings as low as 70-72 db(A) are available.
C		<b>Auto start-stop capability:</b> Automatically starts a rental unit if a standby unit goes down.
C		<b>Vertical radiator and exhaust discharge:</b> Directs discharges up and away from buildings and people. Important in populated or high-traffic areas.
		<b>Electronic governor:</b> Necessary for critical loads that cannot tolerate frequency fluctuation (computers, motor-driven equipment, machines backed by UPS).
		<b>Charging alternator:</b> Ensures that batteries are charging when the unit is operating.
		Sight gauges: Simplify monitoring of fuel and critical fluid levels.
		<b>Security features:</b> Lockable doors, interior-mounted oil/water drains, and hidden exterior fuel drains help prevent tampering.
C		<b>Distribution panel labeling:</b> Helps inexperienced operators safely identify output voltages.
C		<b>Output bus bars:</b> Spacing of bus bars for multiple output cable hookups allows one generator set to run several loads.
C		Fuel priming pump: Facilitates startups after transport.
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**EPA and local emissions certifications:** Ensures compliance with emissions regulations.

### STEP 4 IDENTIFY REQUIRED ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES.

# YOUR INSTALLATION MAY REQUIRE A VARIETY OF ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT. CONSIDER WHETHER YOU NEED ANY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW. IF SO, DETERMINE THE REQUIRED QUANTITIES.

Cable	 Fuses	
Switchgear	 Outlets	
Controls	 Spider boxes	
Circuit breakers	 Cable ramps	
Transformers	 Other	
Load banks	 	
Bus bars	 	

## STEP 5 CHOOSE YOUR RENTAL GENERATOR SET SUPPLIER.

# TO IMPLEMENT A SUCCESSFUL PLAN, LOOK FOR A RENTAL DEALERSHIP THAT OFFERS THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS AND CAPABILITIES:

<ul> <li>Well-maintained and pre-tested equipment</li> <li>Rental units in-stock that meet your load requirements</li> <li>Modern, emissions-compliant equipment designed for rental use</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Staff qualified to deliver turnkey service and technical support</li> <li>Experience in your industry</li> <li>Capability to train your staff</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Complete ancillary equipment in-stock</li> <li>Ability to deliver to meet your time constraints</li> <li>Quick, efficient delivery and pickup</li> <li>Spare parts inventory in-stock</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Flexible financial options that include weekly and monthly rental contracts; Rental Purchase Option</li> <li>Pre-approved credit arrangements.</li> <li>24-hour response including weekends and holidays.</li> </ul>

## STEP 6 PROVIDE FOR FUELING.

A RELIABLE FUEL SUPPLY IS ESSENTIAL FOR EMERGENCY OPERATION. YOU SHOULD ARRANGE FOR FUEL SERVICE IN ADVANCE, IDEALLY THROUGH YOUR RENTAL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER, OR THROUGH ANOTHER SOURCE IF NECESSARY. CONSIDERATIONS INCLUDE:

- **Tank capacity:** Determine the fuel consumption rate of the generator set. The unit should be able to operate for at least eight hours between refuelings.
- Auxiliary fuel: Having an auxiliary fuel tank enables longer runs between refuelings.
- **Delivery access:** Make sure you can provide a clear and easily navigable access route for fuel delivery vehicles.
- **Spill containment:** Regulations typically require containment equal to the tank capacity.
- **Credit approval:** Prior credit approval from the fuel supplier is essential to keep emergency operations on track.

#### STEP 7 CONDUCT A DRY RUN.

# PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. IF YOU WANT YOUR PLAN TO WORK IN A REAL EMERGENCY, YOU MUST PRACTICE ITS EXECUTION BEFOREHAND. STAGE A DRILL IN WHICH YOUR TEAM AND, IDEALLY, YOUR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER RUN THROUGH THE PLAN STEP BY STEP, JUST AS IF AN EMERGENCY WERE REALLY HAPPENING.

- Make sure that each person fully understands his or her role in the event of an actual power outage.
- Estimate how long it takes from the time the power fails until your emergency power supply is online.
- Verify the voltage from the transformer breakdown. Knowing the voltage from the transformer breakdown is essential to the safety of people around the generator and will allow the service provider to fit the generator with the right size connections.

# STEP 8 DESIGNATE EMERGENCY PERSONNEL.

# MAKE A LIST OF THE KEY EMERGENCY CONTACTS WHO WILL BE IN CHARGE DURING OUTAGES. MAKE THIS LIST ACCESSIBLE TO YOUR TEAM MEMBERS AND KEEP IT UP-TO-DATE. BE SURE TO INCLUDE A PRIMARY CONTACT AND ALTERNATE FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING JOB FUNCTIONS:

In-house operations / maintenance	Electrical engineer or contractor
Electric utility representative	IT, security, data recovery
Generator set operation	Generator set hookup
Rental equipment representative	Fuel supplier

NAME & FUNCTION	E-MAIL	<b>OFFICE PHONE</b>	<b>MOBILE PHONE</b>	HOME PHONE

#### **A FINAL WORD**

We are a supplier of complete generation systems for emergency power. Our engineers and field technicians are experienced in applications of every size, in every sector. We are prepared to answer your questions about electric power contingency planning and to be your business partner in the next power emergency. For more information, please contact us.



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