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COMPLIANCE 2014

There have been many changes over the years that impact your ability to be in compliance in relation to your generator. While we could never re-cap all the information you need for all areas of compliance on the attached 2 pages, there are over 20 codes that cover thousands of pages, we offer you some guidelines to help.

SYSTEM EVALUATION FOR POTENTIAL WEAKNESSES

1. Do you have a PTO (Permit to Operate) and are you maintaining records?
2. Are you following a documented maintenance program as required by NFPA standards?
3. Do you have a contingency plan?

Call on the experts at CD&Power, to help with compliance matters. What can we do for you?

- Assist with obtaining PTO
- Evaluate for installation of rental generator
- Provide maintenance, load bank testing, fuel polishing
- Evaluate for future generator replacement

Power outages are a reality. We have found that our customers who are more proactive in their planning find power outages to be less stressful. Give us a call today if there are any areas you need assistance in.

Find our services to be professional and knowledgeable? We would appreciate you checking us out on “**yelp**” or “google” review.

Thank you for allowing CD&Power the opportunity to maintain your critical equipment. We have been “Powering your Success” for over 27 years. It is through customers like you, that we have built a reputation in the industry as being “Powered by Integrity”.

Sincerely,

The CD& Power Team



CHECK US OUT!

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AIR QUALITY

Every generator that is over 50hp is required to have a Permit to Operate (PTO). This requirement was implemented over 10 years ago. The PTO needs to be kept with the generator and gives you the conditions under which you are allowed to operate the generator. Check your PTO carefully to determine maximum number of hours for maintenance and testing and if you have restrictions on the hours during which you can run the generator. There are record keeping and reporting requirements that vary by county. A general rule of thumb for emissions is as follows: *The permit holder shall not discharge into the atmosphere from any single source of emission whatsoever, any air contaminant for a period or periods aggregating more than three (3) minutes in any one (1) hour which is:*

- a. *As dark or darker in shade than No. 1 on the Ringelmann Chart; or*
- b. *Greater than 20% opacity. [District Rule 2.3]"*

Visit your local air quality web site to get more information.

NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency)

NFPA 110 is the most common code that references generators. EPSS (Emergency Power Supply System) Class, Type and Level need to be defined in order to understand maintenance and testing requirements. NFPA 110 does not address what facilities or loads within a building require an EPSS. This responsibility lies with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Local authorities should always be consulted to determine local requirements.

Level – There are two Levels defined by NFPA 110 for an EPSS. Level 1 is more stringent and is imposed when failure of EPSS equipment could result in loss of human life or serious injuries. Level 2 is used when failure of the EPSS is less critical to human life and safety. NFPA 110 Annex "A" provides guidelines and examples of Level 1 and Level 2 systems. A system is legally required when any government agency having jurisdiction says it is. The rules that dictate what kinds of emergency loads are legally required are found in the locally adopted building code, such as the International Building Code or NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. Unlike emergency systems, legally required systems do not directly protect the lives of the public at large. They prevent shutting down specific loads — the loss of which would create hazards or impede rescue operations. Article 701 governs the installation, operation, and maintenance of such systems. A standby power system is *optional* when it's not required by Art. 700 or Art. 701. These systems protect public or private facilities or property where life safety doesn't depend on the performance of the system.

Class – This defines the minimum amount of hours that the EPSS can operate at its rated load without being refueled. Therefore, a Class 48 system must operate for a minimum of 48 hours while a Class 0.25 system must operate for a minimum of 0.25 hours (15 minutes). This fuel supply cannot be shared with any other purpose.

Type - This defines the maximum time, in seconds, from a utility outage until the standby generator is supplying power that the load terminals of the ATS can be without acceptable electrical power. For example Type 10 means that the standby system must provide power within 10 seconds.

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California Diesel & Power

Level 1/Level 2 Maintenance and Operational Testing. NFPA 110, NFPA 99, Life Safety Code 101

While the codes are written around Level 1 and Level 2 generators, these basic guidelines will work for most applications.

All EPSS with ancillary equipment, including transfer switches, must be inspected weekly and exercised under load monthly, for a minimum of 30 minutes. Loading must be at least 30% and maintain the minimum exhaust gas temperature. NFPA 110 also requires circuit breakers be exercised annually with EPS in “off” position. A Level 1 EPSS must be tested for at least the duration of its assigned class but no more than four hours, at least once every 36 months. ATS’s are subject to an annual maintenance program. All data and readings should be recorded in the on-site maintenance log, for future inspection and reference. While proper maintenance procedures are required by these codes, it is also critical for passing air quality requirements.

Fuel – From NFPA 110 – Tanks shall be sized so that the fuel is consumed within the storage life, or provision shall be made to replace stale fuel with clean fuel. Storage life is influenced by many factors. Experts don’t agree on “Storage Life” but the average seems to be between 12-18 months. Tanks should be topped off so that water can’t accumulate.

RENTAL GENERATORS

Rental companies in California are required to obtain CARB permits for all equipment in their rental fleets that have engines that are 50HP and above. These permits will give a number of operating conditions that will outline how and when a rental generator can be used. As a general rule, a rental generator can’t be used other than for emergency purposes, planned maintenance and where utility power is not available. A portable generator can’t be on site for more than a year, sometimes less, unless it has obtained a local air quality permit. You should always get a copy of these operating conditions with your rental agreement.

Bulk Emissions Users – If you have a rental generator and are a bulk emissions user, you may need to buy a permit and pay additional fees if you rent a generator.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Have a contingency plan that covers the following at a minimum...

1. What size generator does it take to back up your operation?
2. How long do you have before product is ruined or operations are affected? Consider adding a docking station that could take hours off the amount of time it takes to hook-up a generator.
3. How is the gen going to be hooked up? Where will it be parked? What is the cable run? Is it through a door that when left open causes a security problem?
4. Do you have a documented emergency plan that outlines responsibilities and has back-up personnel?

There are at least 20 codes that cover thousands of pages in relation to generator maintenance and installation. We offer this information as a starting point. You should consult your local AHJ for specific questions. Visit our website at gotpower.com for further information.

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