

US POSTAL SERVICE

POWER SOLUTIONS
CASE STUDY of
**ELECTRONIC
DATA SYSTEMS**

UNITS

625 kW Diesel Genset

LOCATION

Raleigh, North Carolina



EDS KEEPS THE SERVICE IN U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

“Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet...,” goes the famous motto describing the United States Postal Service, describing its mission to keep the mail moving regardless of circumstances.

But who keeps the Postal Service operational? No surprise – it’s EDS (Electronic Data Systems), a company founded in 1962 to provide a broad range of consulting, technology, and data services to a wide variety of businesses. This global company has over 120,000 employees and serves clients in 55 countries.

Two EDS facilities in Raleigh, North Carolina are focused on the support of postal operations throughout the United States. “Our company provides a full range of data services to the U.S. Postal Service,” says Renee Thompson, Facility Coordinator of EDS Federal. “This facility and another one in Raleigh process data for post offices around the country. The help desk operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and averages approximately 100,000 calls per month.”

What if bad weather or some other unforeseen event cause a power outage, wreaking havoc with the data transmission that’s critical to

Postal Service operations? Not to worry, says Renee Thompson. “Our facility has full battery backup for immediate short term coverage, and a Generac generator outside in case of an extended outage. This gives us seamless power transfer capability if utility power is interrupted. All critical loads are backed up by the UPS batteries and the generator, so we can keep operating.”

The Generac genset is a 625 kilowatt diesel unit with a 1000 gallon base tank, which will keep it operating for more than 24 hours, if necessary. Though Raleigh is well away from the Atlantic Ocean, it’s within the danger zone for hurricane-related weather, making backup power a necessity for mission-critical business operations like this one.

The generator system was installed in April of 2000, and featured some unusual work on the indoor power room configuration due to confined spaces. “Our first major outage was about two hours,” Renee says, “and the generator worked well to keep us operating. We’ve been very satisfied with it.”

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The Generac Power Systems genset is provided to EDS under the Premier Power Service program offered by CP&L (Carolina Power & Light), a Progress Energy Company. Under this program, CP&L does a load analysis and consults with the customer to select the proper generator according to the load and other requirements. The utility then installs, manages, and maintains the system. In return, the customer pays a monthly fee as part of its utility bill and avoids a major capital expenditure.

“We offer our customers on-site backup power at a very affordable cost,” explains Bill Green, Supervisor of Power Protection Solutions at CP&L. “They’ve got the option of purchasing a generator set outright from us and installing it themselves, or having us handle all the details under our Premier Power Service. For many companies, that is viewed as a convenient and less costly alternative. The Generac equipment we offer has proven to be very reliable, and has been well accepted by our customers.”

GENERAC®

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