Unique Codes Call For A Custom Industry Solution

When the time came to replace their 44-year-old emergency generator, Braemar Towers Condominium Association in Ocean City, Maryland was faced with a handful of obstacles they needed to overcome.

“Maryland’s new codes required a lot of changes to make our new generator compliant,” said Mick Buchanan, site manager, Braemar Towers. “This included approximately 300 feet of cable trenching to run power to the new location.”

Braemar Towers is required by city ordinance to have a generator on site at all times in case of a power outage. The generator on the site is used to power life safety systems; including fire alarms, fire pumps, security and elevators. When an inspector shut down the previous unit, Braemar Towers was forced to rent a generator until a new one could be installed. With the generator system being several decades old, Braemar Towers knew there would need to be a lot of upgrades. “This project was a huge undertaking,” said Buchanan.

Braemar Towers, along with electrical contractor Mastercraft Electrical, awarded the project to Kelly Generator & Equipment, Inc., a Generac Industrial Power Dealer. “Braemar Towers was a little hesitant at first,” said George Fold, outside sales representative, Kelly Generator. “Even though we came up with a competitive specification and at a lower cost, we hadn’t worked with the company before. The thing that impressed the customer the most was when I showed him a list of our past projects. Generac and Kelly Generator are doing amazing things across several markets and that was the deciding factor.”

There were several issues with the old system design that needed to be addressed in the new design. The generator had been located inside and there was no good area for exhaust to go. Along with the generator, the ATS equipment was old and needed to be upgraded as well as relocated in the electrical room.

Fold stepped in and recommended a Generac 200 kW diesel generator. “The old unit was a 175 kW diesel generator from a different manufacturer,” said Fold. “Since we didn’t know how the unit was sized in the 70s we started the process from scratch to be safe. We had a load survey done and we determined a 200 kW unit would be perfect and allow some breathing room.”

Fold then decided to relocate the unit outside. “What was best for the customer was to move the unit to the parking lot,” said Fold. “So we pulled out the old unit, trenched 300 ft. to the parking lot, added a pad for the

“I’m glad that we awarded this project to Kelly Generator. I wouldn’t hesitate to recommend them and Generac to someone in need of a generator.”
The installation of the new generator system went off without any problems. “The design improves the customer’s situation and that is what we want,” said Fold. “We want to make their lives easier by not having to worry about their backup power.”

Buchanan agreed that the entire process went smoothly, and that was all thanks to Kelly Generator. “Kelly has a strong local presence and great reputation throughout Ocean City and Maryland,” he said. “Thanks to representative and company support, everything was addressed, and updated without any major challenges or issues and now we have a brand-new Generac generator that is in full compliance with the new codes.” Buchanan continued to say he wouldn’t hesitate to recommend Kelly Generator to anyone. “Everyone involved was competent and professional. I'm glad that we awarded this project to Kelly Generator. I wouldn’t hesitate to recommend them and Generac to someone in need of a generator.”