

GENERAC®

INDUSTRIAL POWER

POWER SOLUTIONS

CASE STUDY



PLANKRAFT CONSTRUCTION

Location

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Market

Commercial

Unique Obstacle

Customize a backup power solution for different tenants in the same building.

Solutions

Generac 625 kW gaseous-fueled generator.

Result

A reliable and cost-effective source of backup power that accommodates the needs of different tenants in a shared space.

Contact

Readers who may have similar application challenges and would like to discuss this success story are invited to call 1-844-ASK-GNRC (1-844-275-4672)



We wanted natural gas because it is easy, it is hooked up to the street, plugged in and ready to go at any moment.



Natural Gas Powering Service Reliability

PlanKraft Construction Group Inc., owner of a mid-rise multi-tenant commercial facility in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, embarked on a new project to provide even better service to their tenants. The seven-story commercial building houses several businesses, including SYNEX Corporation, an information technology (IT) supply chain services company. SYNEX offers services to original equipment manufacturers, software publishers and reseller customers. SYNEX, which is the anchor tenant, was looking for additional resources to back up data for their clients. Storing data requires reliability and redundancy, and that is why PlanKraft Construction Group turned to Generac Industrial Power distributor Total Power.

“If the power went out, it would be catastrophic for our tenants,” said Angelo D’Elia, president, PlanKraft Construction Group. “As an industry leader in IT distribution and customer care outsourced services, SYNEX has a large computer room that stores their information. If the power was to go down, they could lose over \$52,000 in revenue a day.”

Power outages can be detrimental to businesses. A backup generator’s role to provide power is important when utility providers consider rolling blackouts and brownouts and operators see reduced utility service reliability. D’Elia saw the advantage in being able to keep operations going at all times for all of his tenants, and turned to Bryan Nicholson of Total Power to help install a generator that would power his entire building.

Nicholson was tasked to help design an innovative alternative backup power system. He recognized the importance of a reliable, cost-effective source of backup power that could accommodate the needs of different tenants in a shared space, so he specified a Generac 625 kW gaseous-fueled generator.

“I recommended the natural gas 625 kW unit in a single-set configuration,” said Nicholson. “When compared to other units of the same output, the 625 kW is more robust.”

According to Nicholson, natural gas turned out to be the best solution for the customer for several reasons. “Natural gas was readily available at the site, since it is an endless fuel source,” he said. “The client also wanted to avoid the maintenance associated with diesel, so natural gas was the best way to keep those maintenance costs minimal.”

Diesel fuel requires annual testing and periodic maintenance to remove contaminants and to avoid bacterial growth. Nicholson said diesel fuel is also significantly impacted by limitations on fuel delivery that occur during and following major storm events. Natural gas has none of those issues.

“I didn’t want to deal with the issues that come with diesel fuel,” said D’Elia. “We wanted natural gas because it is easy, it is hooked up to the street, plugged in and ready to go at any moment.”

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Now that the system is installed, PlanKraft Construction Group has also realized the benefits beyond having continuous access to power. In particular, they saw the benefit of Generac's control panel platform, Power Zone®. The Power Zone controller has built-in Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, LAN and Webserver, making it easy for PlanKraft Construction Group and their tenants to monitor and control their generator set with any mobile device or PC with internet connectivity.

"The Power Zone controller was perfect for this application because of the ability to monitor wirelessly," said Nicholson. "The Power Zone controller is the best in the market simply because of the ease of use for the client."

The top feature on the controller that saves the most time is the ability to connect quickly to the controller through wireless connections. Customers no longer have to search for the key to the enclosure, open

the door, and bring the display out of low power mode before using it.

Total Power and Generac are proud to have worked with PlanKraft Construction Group to provide a solution that supports their current needs and allows them to adapt if changes are necessary.