



****MEDIA AVAILABILITY****

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Diesel Power Protects Critical Services During Major Florida Power Blackout

WHAT: Within seconds of this afternoon's blackout across southern Florida, diesel generators kicked in to provide a reliable, safe source of back-up power

WHO: **Allen Schaeffer, Executive Director, Diesel Technology Forum**
Mr. Schaeffer is available to discuss the efficiency and effectiveness of diesel-powered generators providing back-up power sources in southern Florida. He frequently comments in the national media on all issues relating to diesel.

WHY: Diesel generators have been instrumental in providing emergency power to a full range of public services, including:

- **Hospitals** – Several Florida hospitals and health care facilities are using generators across the affected region to provide uninterrupted care to patients.
- **Air Traffic Control** – Miami International Airport reported that air traffic control centers and towers counted on back-up generators to avoid flight delays.
- **Other Critical Infrastructure** – Many water treatment plants and sewage facilities are relying on diesel for back-up power.

TIPS: To help businesses and cities protect critical facilities during a power outage, the Diesel Technology Forum has outlined several ways to ensure backup power in a crisis:

- **Assess the risk.** Identifying your facility's critical loads is an important first step. Assign a cost to the risks associated with utility power interruptions, production losses and downtime.
- **Install a standby generator.** Frequent outages of a few seconds, a few minutes or more can often disrupt production lines and have significant cost implications to businesses. While other fuel sources take up to two minutes to engage, diesel-powered standby generators are uniquely qualified to provide power quickly during a power outage and offers the most cost-effective source of reliable backup power available.
- **Have sufficient fuel storage.** The chemical structure of diesel fuel allows more energy to be released per unit than any other source of commonly used power. This greater power density means less fuel consumption than other sources. Still, it is important to make sure that you have sufficient fuel storage capacity on-site for an extended outage of several days.



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- ***Maintain your equipment.*** As required by electrical codes, standby generators should be “exercised” monthly to insure they will operate as designed in the event of an emergency.
- ***Contract rental power.*** If installing your own standby generation is not feasible for your business, you might consider contracting with a firm to reserve rental generator power for use in the event of an extended outage.

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The Diesel Technology Forum is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about the economic importance and environmental progress of diesel engines and equipment. Forum members represent the three parts of the modern clean diesel system: advanced engines, cleaner diesel fuel and effective emissions control systems. For more information, visit www.dieselforum.org.