



Diesel Generator Basics 101

- **NEVER START OR STOP A GENERATOR SET (GENSET) UNDER A LOAD. A LOAD IS DEFINED BY ANY APPLIANCE OR TOOL THAT IS PART OF THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM SUCH AS AIR CONDITIONERS, HEATERS, UPS SYSTEMS ETC. THERE IS NOTHING MORE DESTRUCTIVE TO THE ELECTROMAGNETS IN YOUR GENERATOR END THAN DEMAND BEING PLACED ON THE COMPONENTS PRIOR TO ENGINE COMING UP TO SPEED AND BECOMING STABLE.**
- **ALWAYS PERFORM YOUR SERVICE INTERVALS AND FILTER CHANGES ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS. REMEMBER: ONE HOUR OF USAGE ON YOUR GENERATOR IS EQUIVALENT TO 60 MILES IN YOUR CAR. 100 HOURS DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A LOT OF USAGE BUT IT EQUATES TO DRIVING 6000 MILES IN YOUR CAR AT WHICH POINT YOU WOULD BE LOOKING TO CHANGE YOUR OIL AND FILTERS!**
- **TRY NEVER TO LET YOUR DIESEL GENERATOR RUN OUT OF FUEL. IF THE FUEL SUPPLY IS THE SAME TANK AS THE VEHICLE, YOUR INSTALLER PROBABLY LEFT THE FUEL PICK UP TUBES ABOUT 25% FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE TANK. THIS IS TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T RUN OUT OF THE FUEL YOU NEED TO MOVE THE VEHICLE TO THE FILLING STATION. IF THE FUEL PUMP DELIVERS AIR TO THE INJECTOR PUMP OF YOUR GENSET YOU WILL HAVE ISSUES. IF THIS HAPPENS, DO NOT TRY TO START THE GENSET OVER AND OVER AGAIN. THE BEST WAY TO FIX THIS ISSUE BEFORE IT BECOMES A PROBLEM IS TO FILL THE FUEL TANK, THEN SUPPLY 12 VDC TO THE FUEL PUMP FOR A FEW MINUTES TO ALLOW THE PUMP TO PULL DIESEL TO THE FUEL INJECTORS AND BACK TO THE FUEL TANK THROUGH THE RETURN LINE. IF YOU LOCATE THE FUEL PUMP YOU WILL SEE IT IS ENERGIZED BY A WIRE. UNPLUG THE SPADE CONNECTOR AND SUPPLY 12VDC TO THE WIRE COMING FROM THE FUEL PUMP. ONCE YOU HAVE "PRIMED" THE FUEL SYSTEM TRY TO START IT AGAIN.**
- **DON'T EVER JUMP START A BATTERY THAT IS CONNECTED TO A GENSET. THE CONTROLLER THAT OPERATES THE CONTROL SYSTEM CAN BE DAMAGED BY THE HIGH VOLTAGES THAT RESULT FROM JUMP STARTING.**
- **IF YOUR GENSET SHUTS DOWN TAKE NOTE OF THE BLINKING CODE ON THE START STOP SWITCH. THIS CODE WILL TELL YOU WHICH SENDER SHUT DOWN THE GENSET. THIS INFORMATION IS CRITICAL TO OUR TECHNICIANS TO DETERMINE THE SOURCE OF ANY ISSUES.**