

# Risky Business

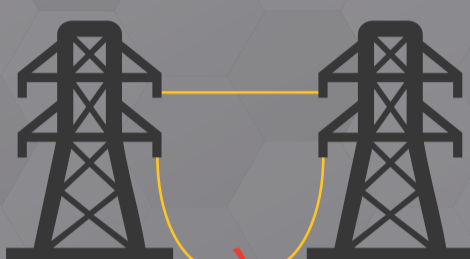
What You Need To Know About...

## Emergency Standby Generators

Emergency standby generators are a critical component to any business continuity plan for blackouts or weather-related events.



U.S. businesses **lose \$150 billion annually** due to blackouts and weather-related events.



In 2014, **14.2 million people** experienced power outages, which is a **12% increase** from the previous year.

**Power outages** result in an average loss of:



**\$15,000**  
for small retail



**\$150,000**  
for restaurant



**\$5,600 per minute**  
for a typical data center

## Common Causes of Generator Failure



**80%** of standby generator starting failures are caused by **weak or dead batteries**



Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) **set to manual**



**Cold weather** impacts generator performance as batteries lose charge and cranking amps, and fuel gels and condensation freeze in lines



**High temperature** due to lack of coolant, restricted air flow or low oil



**Improper** installation



**No fuel** or contaminated fuel

## How to Maintain a Standby Generator



### Maintenance Checks

Service permanently installed units annually.



### Battery

Check your battery and remove any corrosion and check the voltage of the battery. Batteries usually need replacing every 2-3 years.



### Check the Generator's Intake and Exhaust for Debris

Cut back vegetation to provide air-flow to the unit.



### Periodic Testing

Run the generator for at least 10 minutes every month to keep it in peak operating condition. Before storm season simulate a power outage to test the transfer switch.



### Fuel Storage

Add fuel stabilizer to minimize effects of long-term storage.