



GENERATORS & POWER BOXES

JOB SITE POWER GETS SAFER, QUIETER AND MORE PORTABLE

Traditional and inverter generators and power distribution products continue to improve incrementally. These five manufacturers are bringing more punch and pro features to the party.

HONDA POWER EQUIPMENT

Contractors today are faced with matching power needs of construction equipment with high-quality generators. Part of that challenge is finding portable, durable, reliable generators that also protect sensitive equipment during charging and recharging on job sites.



BUSH

Enter Honda Power Equipment and its complete line of generators for industrial and consumer applications. The all-new Honda EB2800i open frame inverter generator was

designed for the contractor market and provides high-quality power for multiple tools. It delivers what Honda customers expect: quiet operation, fuel efficiency and long run times in a lightweight, portable package.

Weighing less than 67 pounds dry, the Honda EB2800i is light enough for one person to load and unload from a truck, carry and operate, while providing ample power for a variety of tools including small compressors, air circulation fans, large concrete drills, hand tools, electric concrete vibrators, circular saws and battery chargers up to 2,800 watts. The EB2800i offers full generator GFCI and neutral bond protections.

“Demand for portable generators of less than 4,000 watts is growing, and Honda Power Equipment is meeting this demand by expanding its portfolio of quiet, portable power



The Honda EB2800i inverter generator delivers 2,800 watts of Honda reliability with features such as Eco Throttle for optimum fuel conservation under power and automatic overload protection.

with the new open-frame EB2800i,” says David Bush, senior marketing strategist, Honda Generators. “The EB2800i inverter generator is the lightest in its class, affordable and durable, making it the perfect solution for contractors.”

The EB2800i features rugged, full-frame protection, Eco Throttle to conserve fuel by varying engine speed to the optimum level, a 2.1-gallon gas tank, automatic overload, and a large muffler for quiet operation. Assembled at Honda’s manufacturing facility in Swepsonville, North Carolina, the EB2800i has an MSRP of \$1,149.95. It carries a three-year residential and one-year commercial warranty.

PHOTO: TERRY J. ALCOORN

GENERAC

A major trend in portable power generation on job sites is that contractors are moving away from residential-grade products, which tend to be less costly, and simply disposing of them when they fail. Instead, they want to invest in portable generators designed specifically for their needs, and they want to buy several for long-term use in rotation among job sites.

Generac addressed this trend with its recently introduced XC Professional Series portable generators. These generators were engineered from the ground up, which is important for contractors to know, since the basic design of portable generators — and the materials to make them — hasn’t changed much over the years.

“We began with customer research,” says Matthew Moose,



MOOSE

product manager. “When we asked contractors what they were looking for, their answers fell into three groups — durability, reliability and serviceability — so we designed the product to meet those needs.

“All of these needs reflect the contractors’ desire to make strategic investments in portable generators the way they would any other tools. A generator doesn’t have to be durable or reliable, for instance, if you are just going to use it until it fails and then replace it.”

The XC Professional Series portable generators meet contractor needs with robust design and materials that are significantly more durable than their residential cousins. The Generac G-Force engine uses full-pressure lubrication and a heat dispersal design for

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Generac’s new Professional Series XC8000E generator with electric start produces 8,000 running watts. It has full-panel GFCI protection and True Power Technology for clean, smooth power.



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The newest and smallest members of Atlas Copco's generator family, the models P 2000i and P 3500i inverters feature thermal protection and automatic voltage control for clean, consistent power.

reliability. The XC Series can be serviced without removing the fuel tank or side panels and the lifting pocket can accommodate the blade of a telehandler, so it's easy to move.

"It's the toughest portable generator Generac has ever built," Moose says.

ATLAS COPCO

Think of Atlas Copco and you most often tend toward large tow-behind job-site generators or even larger equipment. But the company makes small products too. For example, Atlas Copco's two new inverter power (iP) generators offer contractors a lightweight, efficient and reliable portable power source.

"Atlas Copco's new P 2000i and P 3500i inverters use advanced electronics and magnets to ensure efficiency," says Felix Gomez, divisional product marketing manager. "An inverter produces high-voltage, multi-phase AC power. The AC power is converted to DC, and then the DC power is inverted back to clean, predictable AC power at the required voltage and frequency. The P 2000i offers an output of 1.6 kVA, while the P 3500i delivers 3.0 kVA."

Designed for daily use or for frequent single jobs typically involving handheld power tools, iP portable generators are easy to operate, with a recoil start function that ensures fast activation. Fuel consumption is low thanks to variable speed control that adapts engine speed to load conditions. These low-noise (63 dB)

generators are compact and light-weight — just 46 and 99 pounds, respectively — making it easy to move them around.

MI-T-M

Noise restrictions and emission standards are more prominent in the construction industry than ever. These trends have influenced the development of Mi-T-M's portable generator line including the addition of inverter technology.

"Mi-T-M offers 2,000- and 3,000-watt inverter generators specifically designed to be quiet and powerful," begins Matt Hofer, equipment division manager. "They provide commercial AC power for sensitive electronic equipment and are perfect for charging and powering equipment on a job site. A parallel port box allows contractors



HOEFER

Mi-T-M's line of generators runs from 2,000-watt inverters (below) to the 14,000-watt model Gen-14000-1MHE (right) which features a 630cc Honda OHV engine with electric start and idle control.



to connect two inverters together to utilize the power of two units at once. This improves a job's efficiency, which is a priority when completing time-sensitive contracts."

Time is money and contractors look for equipment that can help complete their projects quickly and efficiently. Mi-T-M portable generators provide consistent power and have electric start, wheel kits and lifting hook options that allow units to be started easily and moved from one job to the next effortlessly.

Because each job is different, with a different location, budget and deadline, so too a different generator may be required from job to job.

"When choosing a generator it is important to find the right size for the application on the job," Hofer adds. "Mi-T-M's gasoline generators range from 2,000 to 14,000 watts and provide power for residential to industrial applications. They come standard with copper windings, large low-tone mufflers, magnetic circuit breakers, USDA/USFS-approved spark arrestors and heavy-duty wraparound frames with steel tubing. They're built to perform and built to last."

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CEP / CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS

"Since 1976, Construction Electrical Products has been dedicated to providing 'The Best in Portable Power Distribution Products,'" begins Bill Benschneider, CEP director of industrial and electrical sales. "From our first temporary power box in 1979 to our current line of power distribution, CEP has been fabricating from scratch in our



BENSCHNEIDER

CEP also produces custom products such as this custom-built 3-Phase Panel with Cam Lock inputs and provisions for both 480-volt 3-Phase and 120-volt 1-Phase outlets.

Northern California headquarters. This gives us the flexibility to build product to your custom specifications, and our UL 1640 Fabrication Approval allows us to apply a Listing to your Final Assembly up to 600 amps and 600 volts. You won't have any compliance or safety concerns with your custom built power distribution product, and you are getting a Made in the USA unit."

CEP temporary power boxes include 20-50-amp 125/250-volt mini centers, 3-phase power boxes, 30-50-amp 125/250-volt 4-circuit dead end boxes, 50-amp 125/250-volt "barricade" wall-mount boxes and 50-amp 125/250-volt "classic" and "rugged" boxes.

CEP, however, does not stop there. The company also assembles all the temporary power cords needed to connect generators to its power distribution products.

This makes CEP products the perfect solutions for distributing power from small portable generators up to large tow-behind models. CEP can provide a simple plug and play temporary power line-up from a generator that is code-compliant, safe and provides an expedited set-up and removal procedure. **CS**

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