

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Generators Designed To Weather A Power Outage

(NAPSA)—No matter the season, experiencing a power outage can be a real threat to a homeowner's peace of mind. It's estimated that 3.5 million Americans experience power outages each week. Over 70 million people have experienced an outage that lasted over 24 hours sometime in the last two years.

According to the Edison Electric Institute, the majority of these outages are weather related.

The good news is that there are steps homeowners can take to protect their family and their property from the damage and discomfort caused by a power outage. There are portable generators that are designed with user ease in mind that can be a short-term source of emergency power.

For example, the models made by Siemens come with either a recoil starter or electric starter and in a variety of sizes. Contained in a steel frame with wheels for easy relocation, these generators are powered by gasoline stored in a provided gas tank.

Those looking for a more permanent alternative may consider a standby generator. This type of system is hardwired into the home's electrical system and is connected to the home's natural gas or propane supply. In combination with an automatic transfer switch or generator-ready load center, the generator will function as a completely automatic system, without the homeowner having to be home to turn on the generator.

When the utility power goes out, the generator-ready load center senses the loss of electrical power and turns on the generator.



Many homeowners are turning to portable or permanent standby generators as emergency power sources.

The generator then powers all of your emergency circuits. You can back up just a few rooms or a whole house.

Once the utility power comes back on, the load center will automatically detect that and switch back to utility power. If you are not home and your power is out, you would not even know the difference.

Standby generators don't require much maintenance and will sit outside next to your air-conditioner units. Depending on the size of your house and how many rooms you are trying to back up, a different size of generator will be required.

Each week, millions of homeowners lose power and risk the loss of comfort, communications or damaged equipment. Most homeowners can justify the cost of a standby power system with just one extended power outage. You cannot afford to wait; get a standby power solution for your home today.

To learn more, you can visit www.usa.siemens.com/generators.