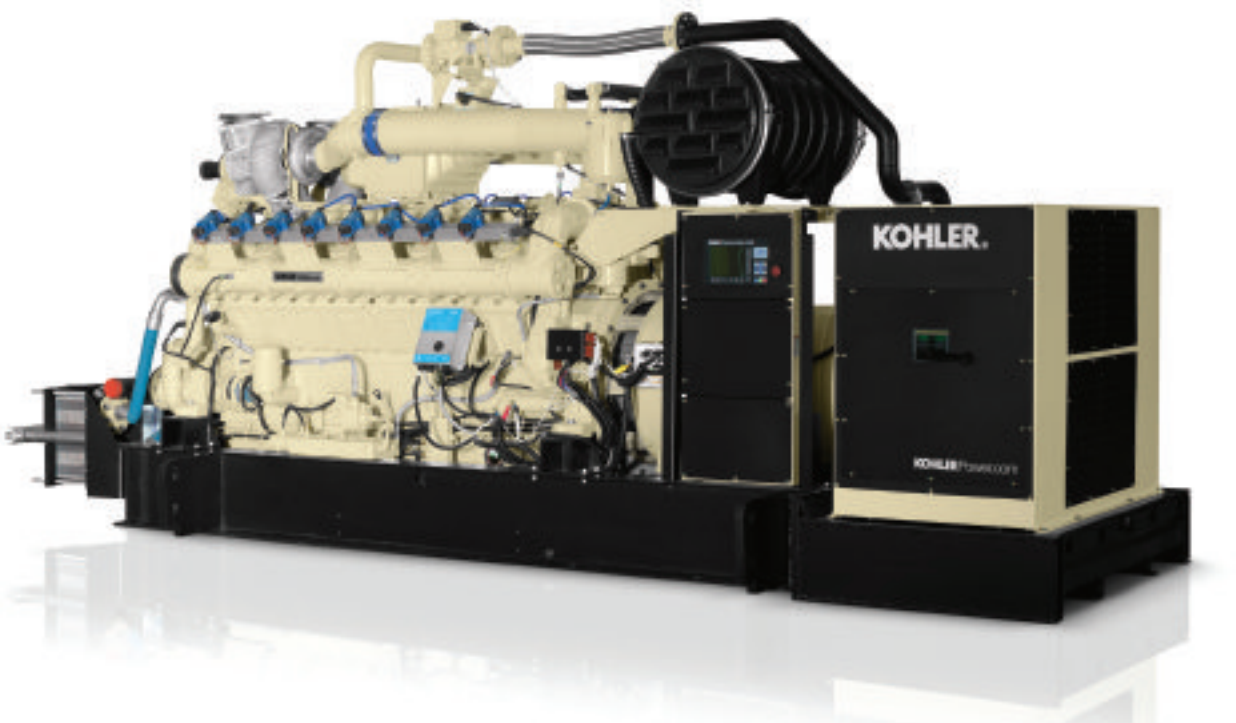

Kohler has launched a new range of natural gas generator sets for the North American market. Powered by Dresser-Rand Guascor gaseous-fueled engines, the gen-sets will be offered in standby, prime and continuous duty with ratings up to 1300 kW.

NEW GAS GEN-SETS FROM KOHLER

First of new natural gas generator set range powered by Dresser-Rand's Guascor engines cover standby and prime power applications

Kohler Power Systems has developed a new line of natural gas generator sets designed specifically for standby, prime or continuous power applications in the North American market. The new range of large gas gen-sets will eventually be available from 425 to 1300 kW at 60 Hz (see related chart) and are designed to meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements, the company said.

"We anticipate strong response to our new large gas line, because each model is targeted to fit the exact needs of the end user," said Nolan Landes, senior product manager for Kohler Power Systems. "Unlike manufacturers who offer a continuous-power generator for use in prime and standby applications, our natural gas generators are designed to work specifically for continuous, prime or standby applications. So, they're a cost-efficient and highly targeted solution."

Kohler said the new gen-sets are capable of operation on natural gas as well as a wide variety of non-pipeline gases. They can be teamed with Kohler switchgear and automatic transfer switches for paralleled or nonparallel operation in a wide variety of applications, the company said. Initially, Kohler is releasing the gen-sets for prime and standby power duties, with the larger continuous-duty units planned for later this year.

At the heart of each unit is a specially tuned Guascor lean-burn, gaseous-fueled engine from Dresser-Rand. The largest gen-set currently available — the 1000REZK model (955 to 1000 kW standby, 809 to 880 kW prime) — is powered by an SFGLD480 turbocharged and aftercooled, 16-cylinder vee-configuration engine with bore and stroke dimensions of 152 x 165 mm and overall displacement of 47.9 L.

The middle range 750REZK gen-set (750 kW standby, 630 kW prime) is driven by SFGLD360 V12 engines with bore and stroke of 152 x 165 mm and an overall displacement of 36 L. The 500REZK unit (490 to 500 kW standby, 430 to 435 kW prime) has a 24 L inline eight-cylinder SFGLD240 engine with bore and stroke dimensions of 152 x 165 mm.

All of the Guascor engines are turbocharged and charge-air cooled, incorporating cast-iron cylinder heads and press-forge hardened and tempered alloy steel crankshafts. The engines are designed to accept a wide variety of input fuels and are highly resistant to fuel contamination, Kohler said.

"We modified our Guascor SFGLD

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Kohler Natural Gas Gen-Set Specs

Model	Standby	Prime Power	Continuous	Speed (rpm)	Emissions
500REZK	500 kW/525 kVA	435 kW/543 kVA	-	1800	EPA Certified
750REZK	750 kW/937 kVA	630 kW/787 kVA	-	1800	EPA Certified
1000REZCK	1000 kW/1250 kVA	880 kW/1100 kVA	-	1800	EPA Certified
400REZCK	-	-	415 kW/518 kVA	1800	EPA Certified
600REZCK	-	-	620 kW/775 kVA	1800	EPA Certified
800REZCK	-	-	830 kW/1037 kVA	1800	EPA Certified
1000REZCK	-	-	1000 kW/1250 kVA	1800	EPA Certified
1300REZCK	-	-	1300 kW/1625 kVA	1800	EPA Compliant

Information provided by the manufacturer

engine family to meet the demanding needs of the standby and prime power markets by improving load acceptance and load rejection and by optimizing the power of our engines," said Chris Nagle, Dresser-Rand North American Engine Business' general manager. "This agreement marks the Dresser-Rand business' entry into the standby generator set market — a market where KPS (Kohler Power Systems) is well-established and recognized as an industry leader. In turn, it enables KPS to move into the large gas generator market."

"Guascor engines are deployed globally and have a long-standing reputation for both performance and durability," Landes said. "The Guascor engine's serviceability, rugged construction, factory support and performance are all vital factors that improve Kohler's end product."

The engines directly drive Kohler four-pole, rotating-field, permanent magnet (PM) alternators designed to deliver superior short-circuit capability and excellent load response, the company said.

All of the gen-sets utilize Kohler's Decision-Maker 8000 digital controller, which the company said offers intuitive system monitoring and diagnostics as well as control for paralleling and remote monitoring capabilities. A large, high-visibility display is intended to provide straightforward local data access.

The Decision-Maker 8000 software also allows for standard remote Web monitoring and multilevel password protection, with serial (RS485 and RS232) and Ethernet (RJ45) communications and support for Modbus, TCP and SNMP protocols. Data logging and trending can be used to simplify troubleshooting, and a USB flash drive can be used for data storage and event history exports. Additional digital inputs and outputs are available, Kohler said, and the software allows for paralleling as many as 32 gen-sets.

"With our new large gas line, we're offering an ideal combination of customization, durability, ease of use and more," Landes said. "Our applications team and service and support network also help ensure seamless integration and reliable, long-term performance."

Other standard features include a float-type battery charger, closed crankcase ventilation system, local emergency stop switch, engine block heater, stainless-steel flexible exhaust connector, secondary gas solenoid valve, air cleaner restriction indicator and common fault and run relays. Options include critical-grade exhaust silencer, gas fuel filter, remote cooling system, low-coolant-level shutdown, alternator strip heaters, battery racks and cables, battery heaters and line circuit breakers.

The company said it could design and customize gen-set systems for specific application needs, meeting CSA, UL 2200 and NFPA 110 Level 1 standards.

Large sheet metal fabrication for the new gen-sets is done at Kohler's Saukville, Wis., facility, with final assembly taking place at its generator set manufacturing plant in Mosel, Wis. **dp**

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