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Why should you ask these questions?

1. Specification of the loads which are connected (at the same time) to the generator?

Some applications have a high startup peak. This peak can be calculated based on the application's power and an indication of what will be connected. Other applications on the other hand, will need more power than what is initially believed. Charging a generator with a very small load can also cause problems. See also:

http://europowergenerators.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=330&Itemid=307&lang=en

2. Single phase (1~230V) or three phase (3~400V or 3~230V) generator?

If you will only connect 1~ applications of 230V to the generator, it is recommended to choose a 1~230V generating set. The power of a 3~400V generator will be reduced to 1/3 of the total kVA for each 1~230V socket (e.g. 6kVA 400V results in 2kVA on 1~230V for each socket).

Generators that contain alternators with a reinforced phase are an exception. See also:

<http://worldpowerfaqs.com/en/categories/alternator/82-have-i-got-a-single-phase-or-a-three-phase-alternator>

3. Estimation of the running hours per year?

This question is also important to determine if the customer needs a generating set with gasoline or diesel engine. The life expectancy of the engine as well as the customer's expectations play a determining role. See also:

<http://worldpowerfaqs.com/nl/categories/generating-set-requirements/100-is-the-lifespan-of-a-1500rpm-revolutions-per-minute-generating-set-as-long-as-the-lifespan-of-a-3000rpm-generating-set>

4. Gasoline or diesel (or propane/LPG)?

Both fuels have advantages and disadvantages. Gasoline generating sets are often more compact, lighter and quieter. Diesel generating sets on the contrary, are heavier, but its fuel might be more easily available. Furthermore, possibilities and regulations concerning storage of generators can be determining. See also:

<http://worldpowerfaqs.com/en/categories/fuel/44-what-are-the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-the-different-types-of-fuel>

5. Engine with recoil start or with electric start?

A gasoline generating set can be easily started manually. On the other hand, it is harder to start a diesel generating set manually. To increase the user friendliness, we can already offer an electric start as of 2.5kVA. For some options (e.g. Automatic Start/Stop System on external contact), an electric start is required. See also:

<http://worldpowerfaqs.com/en/categories/generating-set-requirements/33-which-generating-set-do-i-need>

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6. Noise level (open type or super-silent type)?

The customer needs to think about the desired noise level that a generating set is allowed to produce. An open diesel generating set in a city district for example, is not recommended.

Moreover, there are directives about noise levels that should be met. See also:

<http://worldpowerfaqs.com/en/categories/sound/36-how-much-noise-does-my-generating-set-make> and <http://www.worldpowerfaqs.com/nl/categories/sound/60-what-is-the-link-between-db-a-and-lwa>

7. 3000rpm or 1500rpm engine?

In our range of gasoline generators, we only work with 3000rpm engines. In our range of diesel generators, we have 1500rpm as well as 3000rpm engines. A generator with a 1500rpm engine is more expensive, but its life span is the double. They are quieter than 3000rpm engines, but also larger. See also: <http://worldpowerfaqs.com/en/categories/generating-set-requirements/73-what-is-the-difference-between-a-generating-set-running-at-3000rpm-and-one-at-1500rpm>

8. Which weight and dimensions are allowed?

The dimensions and the weight are especially important when customers want to build in their generating set. When dimensions and weight are not determining, the range of generators is, of course, more extensive.

9. Required autonomy or fuel tank capacity?

Is the standard tank of the generator big enough for the customer? If not, we are always able to adapt the existing tank or to develop a special tank. For diesel generators, we have the possibility to work with an external tank by means of a three-way valve.

10. Minimum and maximum ambient operating conditions (temperature, height, humidity)?

External factors (extreme height or temperature differences, high degree of humidity, ...) can have a serious impact on the generator's power. It is important to discuss these elements, so that we can calculate the required power of the generator as accurately as possible.

See also: <http://worldpowerfaqs.com/en/categories/generating-set-requirements/35-am-i-going-to-use-my-generating-set-inside-or-outside>