GENERAC®
INDUSTRIAL POWER

POWER SOLUTIONS
CASE STUDY

BEAULIEU VINEYARD

Location
Rutherford, California

Market
Industrial Manufacturing

Unique Obstacle
Provide reliable backup power to stay on schedule and maintain proper temperature to ensure the full development of the wine

Units
800 kW and 300 kW Diesel Gensets

Solutions
Enough power for 24/7 backup for the winery, its operational equipment and refrigeration system

Contact
Readers who may have similar application challenges and would like to discuss this success are invited to call 1-844-ASK-GNRC (1-844-275-4672)

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Standby Power for the Second Hundred Years

If winemaking is an art (and it is), then the vintners at Beaulieu Vineyard are certainly the "Old Masters" of the business, renowned for producing masterpiece vintages for over one hundred years. From its humble beginning in 1900, when founder Georges de Latour established his winery on a modest four-acre parcel in the heart of California's Napa Valley, the Beaulieu Vineyard has grown to become one of the premier wineries in the world. Today, the BV Winery — still in its original location — is a thriving complex that employs state of the art equipment and modern technology to produce an assortment of quality wines that are known and enjoyed the world over. From the ivy-covered stone walls of its historic warehouse and processing facility, to the modern wine-tasting salon that welcomes visitors, the BV Winery is a popular Napa landmark in the town of Rutherford.

The Beaulieu Vineyard wines (both reds and whites) are made from an assortment of grapes that are grown in the company's nearby vineyards, as well as several other locations in northern and central California. Georges de Latour long ago discovered that Rutherford soil produced exceptional Cabernet, and that tradition continues with BV's flagship Cabernet Sauvignon bearing the name of its founder. In addition, BV produces Sauvignon Blanc, Syrah, Merlot, Zinfandel and Cabernet Sauvignon in Napa Valley, as well as Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from grapes grown in the cool, foggy Carneros district adjacent to San Pablo Bay.

These precious products, bearing a variety of BV appellations, require great care throughout the growing, processing, fermenting, aging, and bottling process. At the peak of the seasonal harvest each fall, large volumes of grapes are crushed and made into wine. Every batch requires close attention and artful handling, both during and after fermentation. At every step of the way, staying on schedule and maintaining proper temperature is crucial to the full development of the wine and its distinctive flavor. If the process is interrupted for any reason, the results could be devastating. In California's uncertain energy environment, that's a big concern to a winery like Beaulieu Vineyard, where thousands of gallons of priceless inventory could be ruined during an extended power outage.

To ensure that operations will continue if utility power is lost, BV relies upon not one, but two Generac diesel generator sets. The largest of the two units is an 800 kilowatt genset that backs up the winery and its operational equipment, ready to keep the production process going if necessary. Its smaller counterpart, a 300 kilowatt genset, provides standby power for the extensive refrigeration system that keeps the wine properly preserved.

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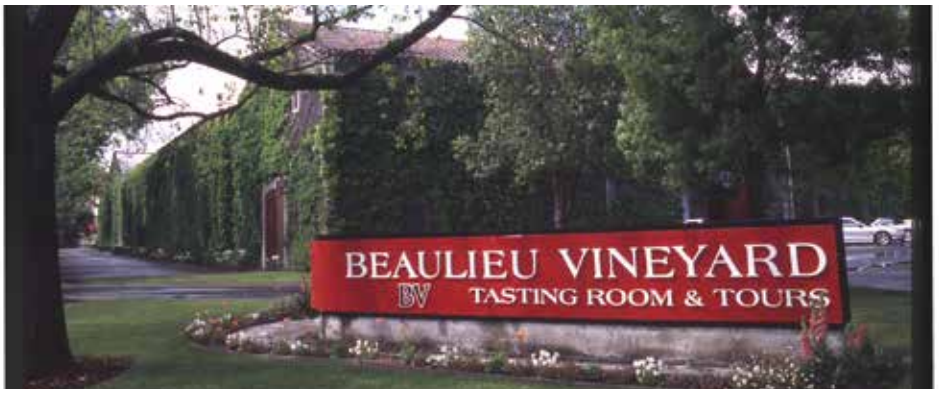

control system preserves the quality of the product throughout the winemaking process, and must be running constantly."

The Generac gensets were purchased from Energy Systems of Stockton, one of Generac's premier California dealers. The 300 kW unit was installed in December of 1999 with a 2000 amp Generac automatic transfer switch (ATS). In August of 2001, the larger 800 kW generator with a 600 amp Generac ATS was added. The two fully enclosed gensets are located outdoors, alongside each other in the winery's warehouse and receiving area.

"Before these large units were ordered, the Beaulieu Vineyard had previously purchased two smaller generators," notes Sandy Renz, sales representative for Energy Systems. "They had a 10 kilowatt genset in Rutherford, as well as a 65 kW unit powering irrigation pumps in one of the vineyards. Their satisfaction with those gensets led them to select Generac equipment again when they needed larger ones."

Every year, BV offers a new vintage of its renowned wines to the world, and adds another chapter to its illustrious history. Wine Enthusiast magazine named Beaulieu Vineyard as its first "Winery Of The Year" in 2000, a fitting honor as BV began its second century. The winemaking tradition continues without interruption — and emergency standby power from Generac Power Systems helps ensure that the fine wines from Beaulieu Vineyard will keep on coming.