

Safety Bulletin No. 06/2016

DEPLOYMENT OF SUITCASE GENERATORS

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Applicable to	All Electricity North West personnel who deploy suitcase generators

Following the deployment of a suitcase generator at a domestic customer's premises, the customer sought medical attention to test for the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning. Although these test proved negative the incident did highlight some concerns.

The original location of the suitcase generator had been selected because it had a secure anchor point to which the generator could be chained. Although not immediately adjacent to an opening door or window the position of the generator was not in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and its location presented the potential for trip hazards.

The security of the apparatus against theft had taken precedence over safety.

Key points to Remember:

- All personnel employed in the transportation, connection, refuelling and disconnection of suitcase generators must have access to and be familiar with the manufacturer's instructions and recommendations for the safe use of this equipment.
- A copy of the manual for the current company model is available (Honda EU2000i) is available here: <http://cdn.powerequipment.honda.com/pe/pdf/manuals/31Z07610.pdf>.
- If this is not the model you are using you must obtain, and familiarise yourself with the specific operating and maintenance manual for your specific equipment prior to use.
- In your point of work risk assessment consider the following risk:
 - carbon monoxide poisoning from the exhaust fumes
 - electric shock from faulty apparatus
 - fire and burns from hot generator components
 - tripping hazards from the generator or the trailing leads
- Only where your point of work risk assessment has satisfied the above criteria and the suitcase generator can be adequately secured against theft should you consider the use of this apparatus.



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