



# Standby power

## > Case History

Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA)

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### **Where:**

Kapsara, Central/Northern Kenya in the Highlands

### **What:**

Generators are 512DFGB 640 kVA prime rated units, C550D5 500 kVA prime rated open sets

### **Purpose:**

Prime rated sets to provide standby application power

### **Primary choice factors:**

- Performance at high altitudes (average 6000ft ASL)
- Cummins Power Generation's ability to meet the tight delivery schedule and timely installation and commissioning
- Engine de-ration at high altitude
- Reliability
- Cummins Power Generation's professional team at the Regional Distributor, Car and General (K) Limited

### **Cummins Power generation aids tea production in Kenya**

KAPSARA, KENYA -The Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) provides essential management services to aid the efficient production, processing and marketing of high quality tea and in turn allow farmers to sell their produce at profitable prices. It is soon to become the managing agent for 54 tea-processing factories in Kenya, after the completion of the Kapsara factory, which will have a combined annual processing capacity of 750 million kgs.

As with many African countries, power outages are frequent and this has a direct impact on the operation of the KTDA's facilities and the factories that it manages. Therefore, the decision was taken to source quotes from companies who could provide adequate standby applications.

As a result of the tender process, the KTDA commissioned its first 512DFGB 640 kVA, prime rated generating set from Cummins Power Generation's Kenyan distributor, Car and General, in October 2006. This soon proved its worth and the KTDA ordered a further 14 units and two C550D5 500 kVA prime rated open sets.

Wilfred Musiko, Sales Manager for Engineering at Car and General, who was key to securing the project, said, "We were able to ensure availability of the sets for timely delivery, installation and commissioning, thanks to our inventory planning through blanket orders. This, coupled with the excellent performance of the generator sets at high altitudes, enabled us to provide the ideal solution for KTDA's need."

The sets are operating on 50 Hz, 415 V and 3PHASE and because the generators operate on manual changeover, it was not necessary for Cummins Power Generation to supply switchgear. Although the sets are installed for standby operation, the frequent power outages mean the sets run for an average of 50-60 hours a week, per set.

The Kenya Tea Development Agency also received quotations from Caterpillar and Perkins but preferred the Cummins Power Generation product particularly because of the sets' ability to perform well at high altitudes (an average of 6,000ft above sea level is typical) and Cummins Power Generation's evident commitment and ability to meet the tight delivery schedule. In addition, having worked with Car and General previously, for many years, the KTDA was certain it could rely on the company to deliver the right products, on time and in a professional manner.

Charles Luhanga, Procurement Manager of the KTDA, said, "We were impressed by the key performance features of the selected power system, including the engine and the generator reliability. We were also drawn by the excellent customer service we have come to know Car and General for, including the one source warranty and low service costs. Even though we expected it, we were still impressed with the speed of the installation, ensuring our business continues to run efficiently regardless of the regular power outages."

For more information about integrated standby power systems, contact your local Cummins Power Generation distributor or visit [www.cumminspower.com](http://www.cumminspower.com).

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