

Portable Generators: Avoid Buying Recalled Models

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Every summer, business and residential customers vie for their area's limited energy resources. Power grid managers work hard to avoid assigning rolling blackouts. Yet once blackouts become necessary, everyone must periodically cope with poor lighting, silent air conditioning units and darkened computer terminals.

Both corporations and individuals try to avoid these periods of limited productivity or inconvenience by purchasing their own backup generators. After reading up on the current, most cost efficient portable generators on the market, consumers must avoid purchasing models with known functional weaknesses. They can avoid many of these lesser models by checking the U. S. Consumer [Product Safety](#) Commission (CPSC) Web site for recent recalls.

To help our readers select the most viable portable generators, we've put together the following short list of recently recalled models that should be avoided.

Portable Generators with Known Malfunctions

- In June of 2011, **American Honda Motor Company** of Torrance, California, recalled about 2,500 [Portable Generators](#) because the company accidentally marketed the generators with battery warning labels written in Japanese instead of English. Obviously, Americans and other English-speaking purchasers cannot read the important battery warning labels;

- In January of 2011, **Husqvarna Professional Products Inc.**, of Charlotte, North Carolina, recalled 600 **Poulan Pro Generators** due to multiple fuel leakage reports. When the carburetors fail, gasoline can leak out, creating a fire hazard for consumers. These generators are designed for residential use;
- **Cummins Power Generation**, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, recalled close to 550 **Portable Generators** in May of 2010 due to carburetor fuel leaks that create fire risks for consumers. The company has received 25 complaints regarding these leakage problems. This recall only covers generators manufactured between June 1, 2009 and November 30th of that same year;
- In August 2009, **Homelite Consumer Products Inc.**, of Anderson, South Carolina, recalled 51,750 **Homelite, Husky and Black Max Brand Generators** due to excessive gasoline leaks that create fire hazards for users. These generators were sold exclusively at **Home Depot** and **Sam's Club Stores**;
- **Big Muddy Sports**, of Perryville, Missouri, recalled about 450 **PowerPlus Generators** in June of 2009 due to serious problems with the generators' 220-volt receptacles that can cause damaging power surges; and
- **Sycamore SCS**, of Louisville, Kentucky, recalled 1,500 **Sycamore Pro Gas Generators** in March of 2009 since parts can be damaged during shipping, possibly causing fuel leakages and fire risks.

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