



When Power is Critical

IPU
GROUP
Fuel Conditioning

GOOD HOPE HOSPITAL



LOCATION

Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, UK

BUSINESS SECTOR

Hospital

SIZE

555 beds

EQUIPMENT

7 diesel storage tanks supplying a number of backup generator sets

CHALLENGES FACED

1. An IPU DieselCheck fuel test showed that each of the 7 storage tanks were suffering from particulate contamination.
2. Each fuel tank was sited in different locations including indoor, outdoor and underground.
3. It was critical for the hospital to have continued access to back-up power. This meant the fuel could not be taken off-site.

SOLUTIONS DELIVERED

1. IPU's ClearTank cleaning service removed the contamination and restored the fuel to EN590 and ISO 4406 standards.
2. The ClearTank service cleaned the storage tanks without requiring man-entry and without taking the generators offline.
3. IPU also supplied 5 Diesel Defence fuel polishing units to ensure the fuel stays within EN590 and ISO 4406 standards.

“ Clean, dry fuel is so important for our backup power systems. When we saw the results of our fuel test we knew we had to act. IPU has been excellent in restoring our diesel and in providing solutions that will allow us to keep our fuel clean going forward. ”

Paul Street
Estates Department, Good Hope Hospital



Fuel before (left) and after an IPU ClearTank service (right).

BACKGROUND

Following an IPU DieselCheck test Good Hope Hospital found that their diesel was heavily contaminated. It contained substances such as colloid carbon (a substance that can clog filters and causes poor combustion). This meant the hospital needed to act quickly as the consequences of a blackout at a hospital would be catastrophic.

MULTIPLE TANK LOCATIONS

Good Hope approached IPU with a number of unique fuel tanks, each in different locations including indoors, outdoors and underground. The test results had shown that each of the 7 tanks were showing signs of contamination. This is not uncommon as fuel degradation can occur no matter where it is stored.

Since 2011 diesel has contained 7% biodiesel. This is added to reduce its overall environmental impact. However it also increases the rate at which fuel becomes contaminated. Biodiesel is a substance which inevitably contains water. It's there when it's manufactured and it attracts more water while it's stored. Water is the enemy of clean fuel. It's a contaminant in its own right and it promotes microbial growth. It also accelerates damage to tank surfaces which leads to solids (such as rust) falling into the fuel.

RESTORING AND MAINTAINING FUEL

Thankfully Good Hope Hospital acted before disaster could strike. IPU's ClearTank service removed the contamination and restored the fuel to quality standards EN590 and ISO 4406. The hospital found IPU's ClearTank service to be entirely unobtrusive as no hazardous man-entry is required, storage tanks are cleaned simultaneously with the fuel and the generators remained online throughout. The hospital has also taken the prudent step to protect themselves by installing IPU's Diesel Defence on each of their tanks. Diesel Defence is a fuel polisher that combines filtration and circulation to keep fuel clean.

ABOUT GOOD HOPE HOSPITAL

Good Hope Hospital is a hospital that covers parts of Birmingham and Staffordshire. Built in the 1950's it has approximately 555 beds and includes Accident and Emergency facilities.

ABOUT IPU GROUP

IPU's Fuel Conditioning division provides a complete range of products and services to detect and eradicate harmful diesel contamination. This includes products for fuel storage tanks, day tanks, vehicles and gensets.

40,000 litres

of diesel cleaned and protected

www.ipu.co.uk/cleartank

IPU Group Fuel Conditioning

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