aggreko

Urgent power and heating for urgent care

Healthcare Contingency Planning

Introduction

Nobody likes it when the power or heating goes off unexpectedly. For most homes and businesses it's an inconvenience that might ruin an evening's plans or cost a day's production, but for hospitals a loss of power or heating can be much more serious.

Without power, surgery suites can be plunged into darkness mid-procedure, vital respiratory equipment can be lost and many of the electronic systems we rely on to manage an average day in modern hospitals disappear. And a loss of heating can affect the safe treatment of patients. Of course, in North America, many of us can go years without suffering a power cut or a heating failure. A reliable national grid, a lack of extreme weather and an electricity supply that's among the highest quality in the world benefit us all. But that doesn't mean we can afford to be complacent.

Indeed, while power cuts and heating failures are far from commonplace, they still manage to strike with worrying regularity. Over the past few years, several hospitals across the nation have suffered from unexpected power outages, for instance.

Several of these incidents were caused by poor weather and flooding or equipment failure, while some hospitals were forced to cancel almost 100 operations in November 2018 due to an electrical fire.

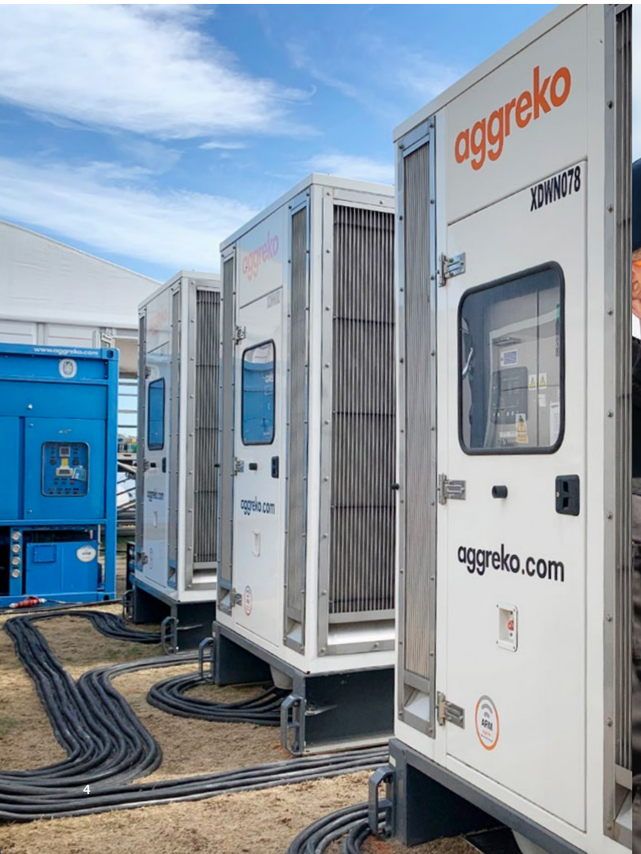
With many of North America's largest hospitals relying on aging infrastructure and equipment to keep the lights on and the heating working, it's more vital than ever that sites work to make sure they have a solid contingency plan in place before it's needed. This might include uninterruptible power supplies linked to vital areas of the site, emergency replacement boilers, agreements to supply temporary equipment and a disaster response process already planned out before any emergency hits.

Aggreko can help you plan for times when your power supply, heating, or temperature control equipment fails, so your business can recover with minimal disruption. By taking a proactive approach, hospitals across North America can be prepared to respond to any emergency.

Consequences of power failure or heating loss

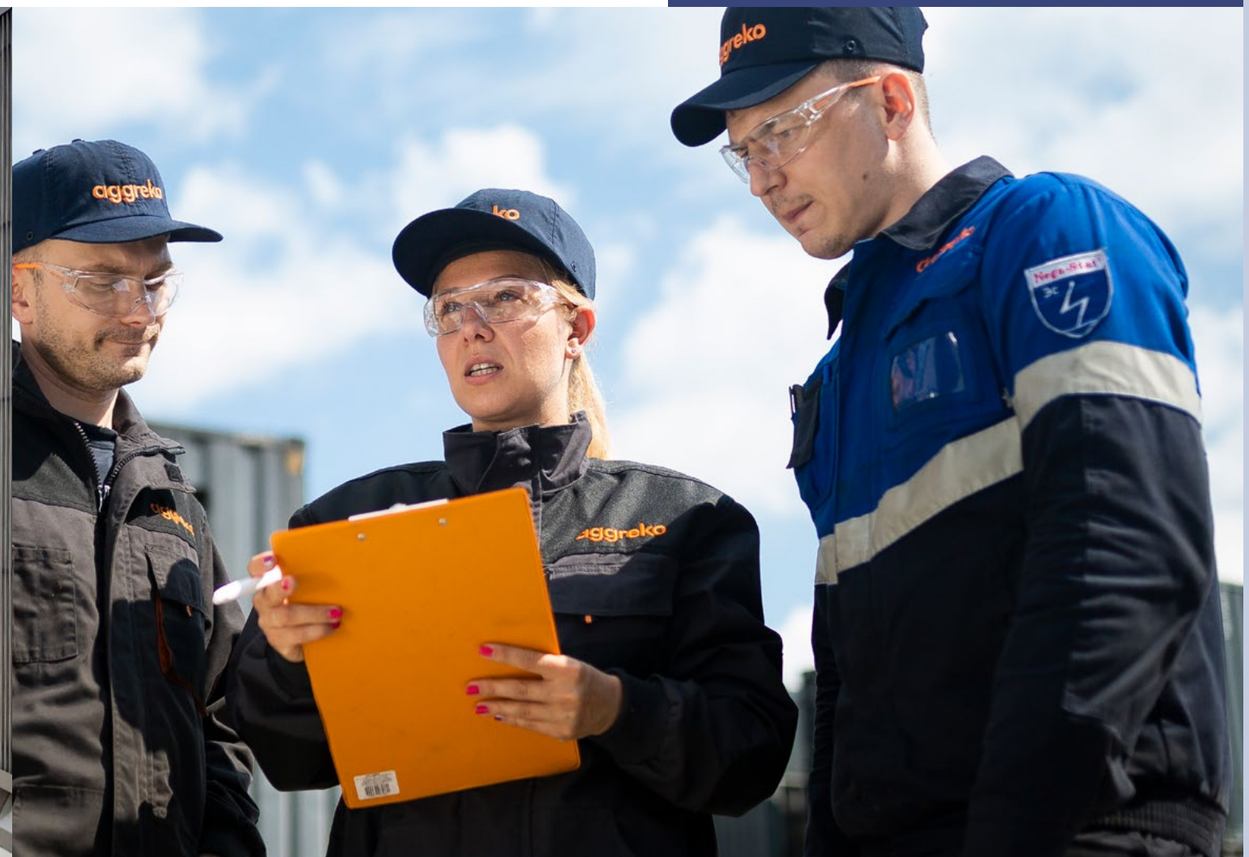
In the event of a power failure or heating loss, a hospital may lose access to some or all of the following:

- Critical equipment for patients in intensive care, neonatal, or cardiac units
- Lighting
- Equipment sterilisation services
- Electronic patient records
- Most heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Services for distributing medical supplies and drugs
- Catering services



Preparing for the unexpected

Our contingency planning service is designed to produce a recovery plan that can be deployed at any time of the day, any day of the year.



There are three main steps involved in bringing it together:

1: Site survey

Our trained engineers complete a full service of the hospital. They will identify potential points of failure and work with you to establish priority areas and equipment.

2: Contingency planning

After leaving the site, we put together the full plan. This involves:

- Determining the specific equipment needed.
- Determining the logistics of any emergency response, including transportation routes, site access, unloading and equipment placement.
- Establishing the connection requirements for existing site systems, such as cabling, pipework modifications or building adjustments.
- Ensuring stakeholder involvement.
- Establishing fuel management services.

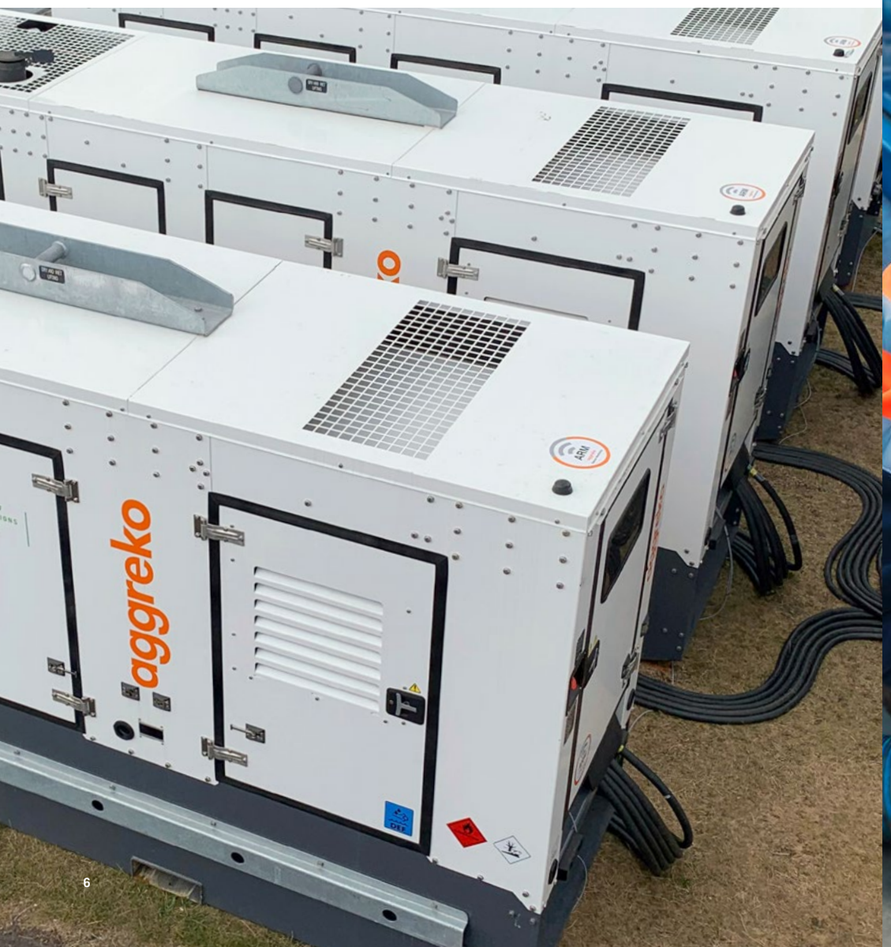
3: Activation

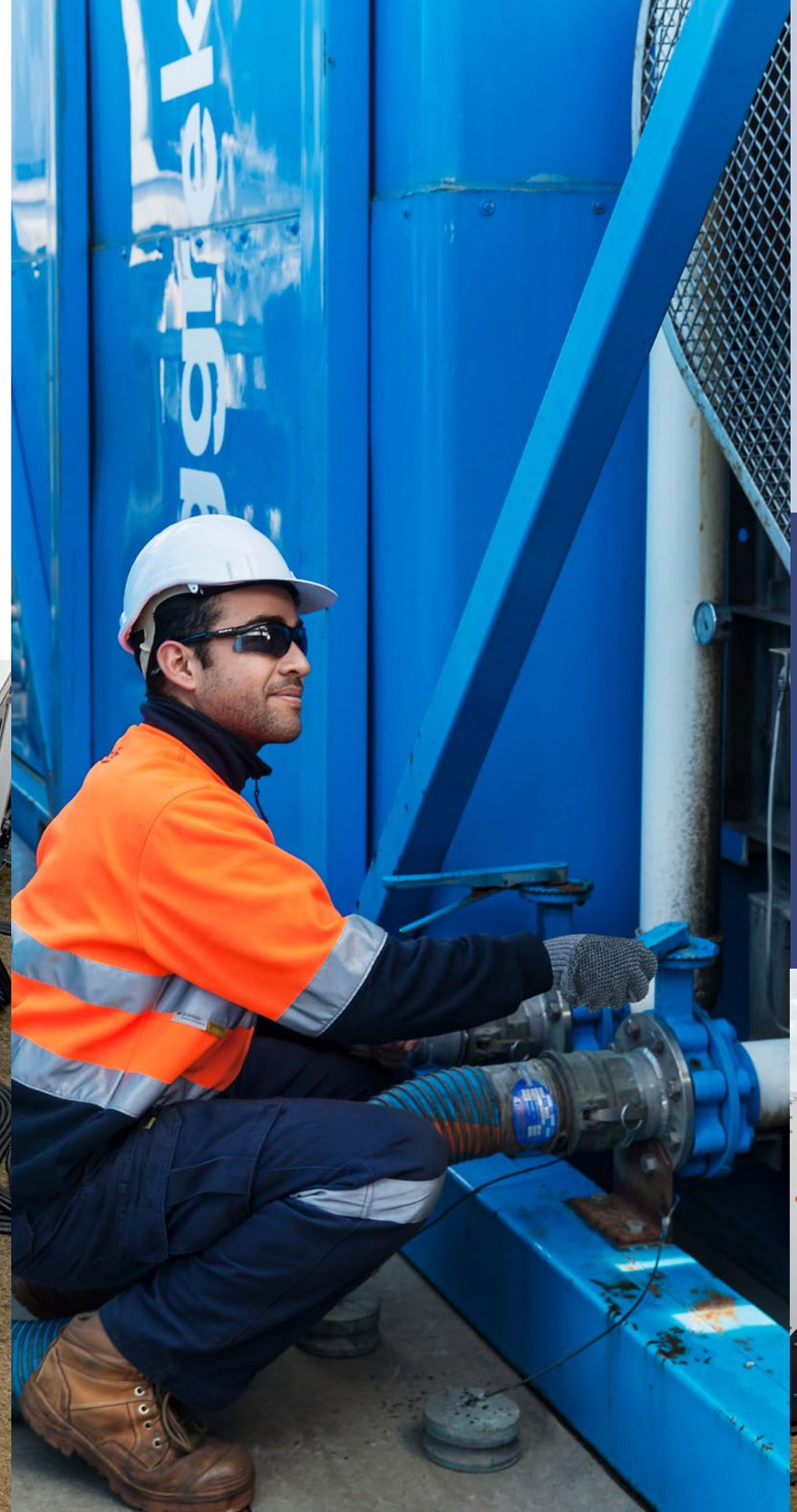
In the event of an emergency, a simple call to **Aggreko's 24/7 365 National Customer center** will activate the contingency plan with immediate effect.

Case studies

Case study: 1

The main incoming power feed was disrupted due to equipment failure at a North American Hospital. The hospital had a contingency plan in place with Aggreko, and we were able to rapidly deploy a generator and keep onsite for 8 weeks, powering the whole hospital whilst the faulty equipment was fixed. Aggreko provided facilities management and full engineering support.





Case study: 2

In the height of a week of unprecedented hot weather for the Mid West, a rural hospital had a complete loss of the main comfort cooling circuit to their operating theatres. Aggreko's contingency plan came in to action, and we supplied and installed a 200 kW chiller within 5 hours from the initial call.

Case study: 3

A life-saving health service experienced a power outage at their operational headquarters. We supplied a 125 kVA and 200 kVA generator to power their data center and main admin building, ensuring their operations could carry on uninterrupted. The equipment was left onsite after the breakdown as a standby, whilst upgrades to their switchgear were carried out.

We have the expertise to provide cost effective, efficient solutions, that are flexible to meet your changing demands.