

Advantages of Central Inverter System

- Central point of testing and maintenance
- Uses existing building lighting
- Self-testing with logging (compliant to NFPA 101)
- Supports HID's without the use of "Arc Keeper" - **Fast transfer inverter required**
- Compatible with generator for extended power outages
- Typically located in secured / restricted room
- Cosmetically transparent to area being lit for architecturally sensitive areas
- May be offered with output distribution panel, which eliminates need for external emergency lighting panel
- Advances in technology have reduced footprints of new designs
- More features over alternate emergency devices (self-testing, alarms, alarm/event logging, etc.)

Disadvantages of Generator

- Maintenance Cost (Periodic mechanical maintenance required)
- Fuel storage (EPA spillage concerns, etc.)
- Exhaust (EPA concerns)
- Manual testing / record keeping
- "Arc Keeper" required when used in conjunction with HID lights
- Located outside
- Security issues (tampering with fuel or fuel lines, typically located outside with minimal security, etc.)

Disadvantages of Wall Pack / Unit equipment

- Temperature in ballast affects life of batteries
- Manual testing of each wall pack / unit equipment
- Manual record keeping
- Poor cosmetic appearance in area being lit

Disadvantages of "Arc-Maintenance Device" AKA Arc-Keeper"

- Only 2 minutes maximum backup power (if generator fails, there is no lights)
- Uses Nickel Cadmium batteries which could result in costly disposal fees
- Provides only 20 - 30% of power to HID to maintain arc (Light output is dimmed)