Diesel Generator Operation and Predictive Maintenance Training Course

14 - 18 Dec 2026

LONDON

5900 € (Per Person)

Ref: #ERE5115_94140

Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive framework for mastering the operation and maintenance of modern diesel generator sets, with a specialized focus on transitioning from traditional preventive schedules to advanced predictive maintenance strategies. In an era where uninterrupted power is critical, the ability to foresee potential failures before they occur is an invaluable asset. This program delves into the core principles of diesel engine mechanics, electrical power generation, and sophisticated control systems. We will explore the foundational concepts of reliability-centered maintenance, a philosophy championed by the renowned author John Moubray in his seminal work, "Reliability-Centered Maintenance". Participants will learn not just the "how" of routine maintenance but the "why" behind component wear and failure modes. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this curriculum to empower technicians and engineers with the skills to interpret data from cutting-edge diagnostic tools, enabling them to make informed decisions that enhance generator reliability, optimize performance, and significantly reduce operational costs and downtime. This course is the definitive guide to ensuring your critical power systems are not just maintained, but intelligently managed for peak resilience and longevity.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Electrical Engineers and Technicians.
- Mechanical Engineers and Technicians.
- Maintenance Supervisors and Managers.
- Facilities Management Professionals.
- Power Plant Operators.
- Reliability Engineers.
- Marine Engineers.
- Data Center Operations Staff.
- Critical Infrastructure Personnel.
- Field Service Engineers.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Data Centers and IT Infrastructure.
- Healthcare and Hospitals.
- Manufacturing and Industrial Plants.
- Oil and Gas Exploration and Production.
- Telecommunications.
- Commercial Real Estate and Property Management.
- Marine and Shipping.
- Construction and Mining.
- Government Agencies and Public Utilities.
- Hospitality and Large-Scale Event Venues.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Maintenance and Repair.
- Engineering.
- Operations.
- Facilities Management.
- Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE).
- Asset Management.
- Technical Services.
- Capital Projects.
- Quality Assurance.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Implement a robust predictive maintenance program for diesel generators.
- Analyze data from vibration analysis, thermal imaging, and oil analysis.
- Diagnose complex mechanical and electrical faults with precision.
- Optimize generator performance for fuel efficiency and emissions control.
- Master the operation of advanced generator control panels and systems.
- Develop and execute safe and effective load bank testing procedures.
- Ensure compliance with key industry standards like NFPA 110.
- Conduct thorough root cause analysis of generator failures.
- Manage the maintenance of Automatic Transfer Switches (ATS) and switchgear.
- Improve the overall reliability and lifespan of critical power assets.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is built upon a foundation of active and experiential learning to ensure deep comprehension and practical skill acquisition. This course moves beyond traditional lecture-based instruction by integrating a dynamic blend of interactive presentations, expert-led demonstrations, and collaborative group workshops. Participants will engage with real-world case studies detailing generator failures and successful predictive maintenance implementations, allowing them to analyze complex scenarios in a controlled environment. Team-based problem-solving sessions will challenge attendees to troubleshoot simulated faults and develop comprehensive maintenance strategies. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to interpreting actual data sets from diagnostic tools, such as vibration spectra and thermographic images. This hands-on approach ensures that theoretical knowledge is immediately translated into practical capability. Continuous feedback from the instructor and peer-to-peer discussions are integral to the learning process, creating a supportive and engaging atmosphere that fosters critical thinking and prepares participants to apply their new skills effectively in their own operational environments.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Fundamentals of Diesel Generator Systems

- Introduction to Diesel Generator Principles and Components.
- The Four-Stroke Diesel Engine Cycle Explained.
- Understanding Alternator Theory and Electrical Power Generation.
- Key Systems Breakdown: Fuel, Cooling, Lubrication, and Exhaust.
- Generator Set Ratings: Standby, Prime, and Continuous Power.
- Health and Safety Protocols for Generator Environments.
- Reading and Interpreting Technical Schematics and Manuals.

Unit Two: Generator Operation and Control Systems

- Safe Startup, Operation, and Shutdown Procedures.
- Deep Dive into Modern Digital Control Panels and Interfaces.
- Understanding Automatic Transfer Switches (ATS) and Switchgear.
- The Principles of Generator Synchronization and Paralleling.
- Load Management and Load Sharing Techniques.
- Monitoring Critical Parameters: Voltage, Frequency, Amperage, and Temperature.
- Responding to Common Alarms and System Alerts.

Unit Three: Advanced Preventive Maintenance Practices

- Developing a Comprehensive Preventive Maintenance Schedule.
- Detailed Procedures for Fuel System Maintenance and Testing.
- Cooling System Inspection, Coolant Analysis, and Maintenance.
- Lubrication System: Oil Sampling, Analysis, and Best Practices.
- Battery and Starting System Maintenance and Testing.
- Inspection and Maintenance of the Air Intake and Exhaust Systems.
- Electrical System Checks: Wiring, Connections, and Breakers.

Unit Four: Predictive Maintenance Technologies and Application

- Introduction to Predictive Maintenance (PdM) vs. Preventive Maintenance (PM).
- Vibration Analysis: Detecting Mechanical Imbalances and Bearing Wear.
- Infrared Thermography: Identifying Electrical Hot Spots and Overheating.
- Oil Analysis: Interpreting Wear Metals, Contaminants, and Oil Condition.
- Ultrasonic Testing for Detecting Electrical and Mechanical Faults.
- Implementing a Condition-Based Monitoring (CBM) Program.
- Integrating PdM Data for Informed Maintenance Decisions.

Unit Five: Advanced Troubleshooting, Diagnostics, and Compliance

- Systematic Approaches to Fault Finding and Root Cause Analysis.
- Troubleshooting Common Engine and Electrical System Failures.
- Advanced Diagnostic Tools and Software Applications.
- Understanding and Performing Load Bank Testing.
- Compliance with Key Standards: NFPA 110 and ISO 8528.
- Case Studies: Analyzing Real-World Generator Failures.
- The Future of Generator Maintenance: IoT, AI, and Remote Monitoring.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

As predictive maintenance technologies become more accessible, how does the role of the human technician evolve from a hands-on maintainer to a data-driven analyst?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by moving beyond the standard operational and preventive maintenance curriculum to deeply integrate the principles and practical applications of predictive maintenance. While many courses teach routine checklists, this program focuses on developing a proactive, analytical mindset. Participants learn not just how to perform tasks, but how to interpret complex data from advanced diagnostic tools like vibration analyzers, thermal imagers, and oil analysis reports. The curriculum is uniquely structured to bridge the gap between traditional mechanical and electrical skills and the data-driven requirements of modern reliability engineering. We emphasize the "why" behind failures, teaching root cause analysis techniques that prevent recurrence rather than simply addressing symptoms. By incorporating concepts from reliability-centered maintenance and focusing on data interpretation for decision-making, the course empowers attendees to transition their organizations from a costly, reactive maintenance culture to a highly efficient, predictive, and reliable operational model, directly impacting asset longevity and reducing unforeseen downtime.