



"The installation is excellent," says Rob Taylor, facilities engineering consultant for News Ltd (right). With him are David Van Brussel (centre) and Greg Conrad from the Cummins power generation team in Sydney.

The Australian headquarters of Rupert Murdoch's News Ltd in Holt St, Surry Hills.



The Australian is one of the newspapers produced electronically at News Ltd headquarters.

Behind the news

It's no ordinary Sydney address: 2 Holt St, Surry Hills.

The Australian headquarters of Rupert Murdoch's News Ltd, the largest newspaper publisher in the country, is found at this address – a site owned by the global media giant since the mid-'60s.

Today, News Ltd publications account for around 70% of Australia's newspaper circulation.

Newspapers such as The Australian (Australia's only national daily broadsheet), The Daily Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph are produced electronically at Holt St but printed in Chullora, another Sydney suburb.

It's obvious a facility like Holt St needs an emergency power system to ensure reliable electricity supply to protect the data centre which operates worldwide on a 24-hour basis.

"Two gensets were installed in 1984 and a third was added in 1994," says Rob Taylor, facilities engineering consultant for News Ltd. "However, as the IT load has increased, if one genset failed during a power emergency, we'd lose critical supply to our data centre.

"We needed bigger capacity gensets, and Cummins was chosen to supply the new turn-key power system."

The system utilises three Cummins C350D5 gensets complete with Cummins PowerCommand 3100 digital paralleling equipment and a Cummins DMC1000 digital master control system.

The 350 kVA gensets work in conjunction with a UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply) system of batteries. In the event of a mains failure, the UPS system maintains power supply until the three gensets come on line and take over which is within 10 seconds.

The digital master control system monitors the building load and provides load control, ensuring that the gensets running are only those that are needed to meet demand.

"The installation is excellent as has been the support from Cummins," says Rob Taylor.

The biggest challenge was to maintain emergency power to News Ltd headquarters during removal of the old gensets and installation of the new system.

David Van Brussel and Greg Conrad headed up the turn-key project for Cummins and worked closely with News Ltd to co-ordinate the installation of a temporary 750 kVA Cummins QST30 generator.

"This allowed us to gut the plant room, install the new gensets, generator switchboard and DMC1000 and fully test the new emergency power generator system prior to it going on line," says Van Brussel.

"The critical News Ltd equipment supplied by the emergency power system was not only backed up during the entire project, but News Ltd also witnessed the new system being installed and tested by Cummins, an exercise that took only four weeks and instilled confidence in Cummins' product and capability." ■