



News Release

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VIRGIN ISLANDS PORT AUTHORITY RECEIVES EMERGENCY POWER SUPPLY GENERATORS FROM VITEMA

Three of the Virgin Islands Port Authority's cargo and ferry facilities will soon have back-up emergency electricity sources during a storm or disaster - thanks to the donation of power generators from the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

VIPA Executive Director Kenn Hobson said that he wanted to publically thank VITEMA Director Mark Walters and Deputy Director of Logistics Steve Parris for the donation of the generators to the Authority, as the VI government agencies work together to augment the territory's emergency response resources. Hobson said that Port Authority received a 50 kilowatt, 60 kilowatt and 80 kilowatt generator from VITEMA. The generators will be used on St. Thomas at the Cyril E. King Airport's cargo facility and the Edward W. Blyden IV Marine Facility, and at the Theovald E. Moorehead Marine Facility at Enighed Pond, St. John. The generators cost approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 each and will be installed at each facility by VIPA's maintenance employees, said Hobson.

FEMA recently donated 41 standby power generators to the U.S. Virgin Islands after an assessment following Hurricane Omar which impacted the territory in October 2008. They concluded that there was a need for backup power supplies at critical emergency facilities throughout the territory. Several of the generators donated have already been installed at buildings that will serve as emergency shelters in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Local government agencies requested generators for their facilities by completing an application process administered by VITEMA.

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*VITEMA Deputy Director of Logistics Steve Parris (left)
and VIPA Executive Director Kenn Hobson*