







# **ONL843NSATS**

For Models: NL843N2, NL843NW2, and NL843N3

# **OPERATOR'S MANUAL**

Marine Generators | Marine Diesel Engines | Land-Based Generators













As of January 2008, U.S. EPA regulations require the application of a permanently applied label near the fuel tank fill port for diesel driven equipment. This label is to state:

LOW OR ULTRA LOW SULFUR FUEL ONLY Northern Lights is providing this label for application to the fuel inlet of the fuel supply tank for each engine or generator set. This is to be applied by the installer of the engine or gen set, or by the manufacturer of the equipment that the engine or gen set is installed in. The location of the label must be in clear site of personnel that refill the supply tank. Note: Starting in 2011, the label will state: ULTRA LOW SULFUR ONLY.



# - CALIFORNIA -Proposition 65 Warning:

Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

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Printed in U.S.A. PART NO.: ONL843NSATS 10/09



# **OPERATOR'S MANUAL**

# for Models NL843N2, NL843NW2, and NL843NW3

Read this operator's manual thoroughly before starting to operate your equipment. This manual contains information you will need to run and service your new unit.

# **Table of Contents**

INTRODUCTION         4           Models Included         4           Model Numbers         4           Serial Numbers         4
WARRANTY5
SAFETY RULES 5
COMPONENT LOCATIONS NL843NW2 Industrial Generator
CONTROL PANELS  Northern Lights Generator Sets
OPERATING PROCEDURES           Break-in Period         8           Before Starting         8           Starting         8           Operating         8           Stopping         8           Shutdowns and Alarms         9           Spare Parts         9
SERVICING SCHEDULE CHART 10
SERVICING           Lubrication - General         12           Checking Oil         12           Oil Changes         12           Changing Oil Filter         12           Air Filter         13

SERVICING (continued)	
V-Belts	13
Valve Clearances	13
Fuels - General	14
Fuel Filters	14
Bleeding the Fuel System	15
Injector Service	
Injection Pump	
Cooling System - General	17
Cooling System Flushing	18
Generator Ends	18
Electrical System - General	18
Glow Plugs	18
Booster Batteries	19
Battery Care	19
Winterizing / Out-of-Service	19
TROUBLESHOOTING	
Electrical	20
Engine	21 - 23
WIRING DIAGRAMS	
AC Electrical	24 - 25
DC Electrical	26 - 27

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# Introduction

Servicing of generator sets presents unique problems. Failures often occur in remote areas far from competent assistance. Generators are taxed far more severely than auto or truck engines; therefore, maintenance schedules must be adhered to more strictly.

Failures can begin with minor problems that are overlooked and become amplified when not corrected during routine maintenance. As operator, it is your obligation to learn about your equipment and its proper maintenance. This is not a comprehensive technical service manual. Nor will it make the reader into an expert mechanic. Its aim is to aid you in maintaining your unit properly.

# **Unit Identification**

# **MODELS INCLUDED**

This manual covers the operating instructions for:

# NL843N2, NL843NW2, and NL843NW3 industrial generator sets

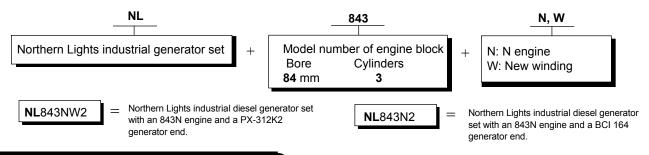
Fill in the model number of your unit in the blank space provided.

This will give you a reference whenever service or maintenance is required:

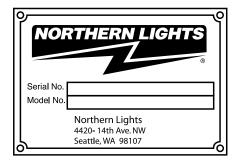
My Northern Lights generator set MODEL number is:

# **Model Numbers**

Model numbers give the unit's application, block model, aspiration, and RPM:



# **Serial Numbers**



Your set has three serial numbers: ① an engine number stamped on the block, ② a generator plate, and ③ a generator set plate.

Use the serial number on the generator set plate when ordering parts or in correspondence. The generator set plate is found on the service side of the generator and resembles the drawing in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Generator set serial number plate.

A warranty registration certificate is supplied with your set. It entitles the original purchaser of our equipment to a warranty covering material or assembly faults. The extent of coverage is described in the Limited Warranty Statement. We recommend that you study the statement carefully.

**NOTE:** If the warranty is to apply, the servicing instructions outlined in this manual must be followed. If further information is needed, please contact an authorized dealer or the factory.

# **Safety Rules**



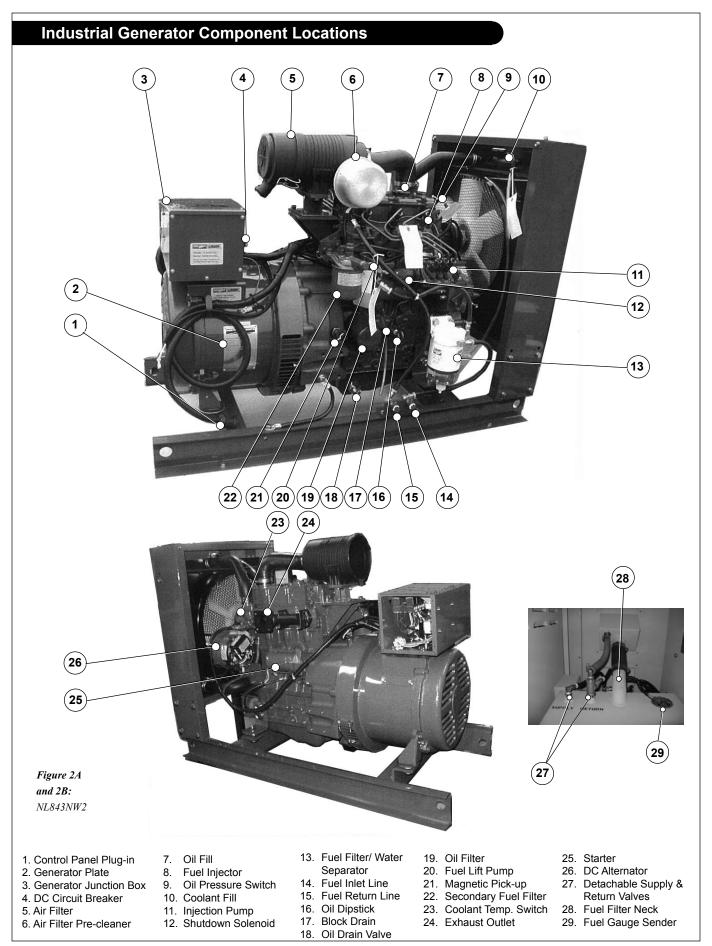
CAUTION: Accident reports show that careless use of engines causes a high percentage of accidents. You can avoid accidents by observing these safety rules. Study these rules carefully and enforce them on the job.

- Never leave engine without proper security.
- Turn the coolant tank cap slowly to relieve pressure before removing. Add coolant only when the engine is stopped and cool.
- Mount a fire extinguisher near engine.
- Always disconnect the battery ground strap before making adjustments.
- Operate engines in properly ventilated areas.
- Keep trash and other objects away from engine.
- Escaping fluids under pressure can penetrate your skin. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, not your hands, to search for leaks.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing without a belt when working around engines.
- Do not oil or grease engine while it is running.
- Use caution in handling fuel. Never refuel a hot or running engine. Do not smoke while filling fuel tank or servicing fuel system.

- Keep your hands, feet, hair and clothing away from power-driven parts.
- Check for any loose electrical connections or faulty wiring.
- Engines should be operated only by knowledgeable, qualified personnel.
- Look completely around engine to make sure that everything is clear before starting.
- Do not operate an engine that isn't in proper working order. If an unsafe operating condition is noted, tag the set and control panel so others will also know about the problem.
- Provide first aid kits.



CAUTION: This symbol is used throughout this book to alert you to possible danger areas. Please take special notice of these sections.



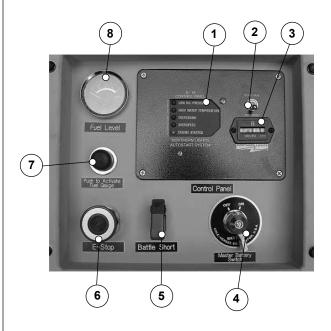


Figure 3-a: S-1A Control Panel

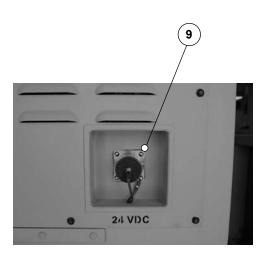


Figure 3-b: Auxiliary DC Power Supply (NATO Connector)

# 1. AUTOSTART/ STOP MODULE

Automatically pre-heats, starts, and monitors the engine for overcrank, overspeed, high coolant temperature, and low oil pressure. Annunciates run and fault conditions via unit mounted LEDs. Also monitors mag pick-up signal. If signal is lost, the engine will shut down and the overcrank and overspeed LEDs will turn on.

# 2. ENGINE CONTROL SWITCH

Toggle switch, turns engine off or on.

# 3. HOUR METER

Keeps track of engine running time.

# 4. MASTER BATTERY SWITCH

On/ off switch disconnects batteries from engine controls.

## 5. BATTLE SHORT SWITCH

Bypasses safety shutdowns. Does not bypass magnetic pick-up shut down or prevent user from shutting the engine down via the engine control switch (#2) or the emergency stop switch (#6).

## 6. EMERGENCY STOP

Easily accessible button to turn the engine off quickly.

# 7. SWITCH TO ACTIVATE FUEL GAUGE

Activates fuel gauge when the engine is not running.

### 8. FUEL LEVEL GAUGE

Shows fuel level.

# 9. AUXILIARY DC POWER SUPPLY

Extra plug-in for DC power.

# **Operating Procedures**

#### **BREAK-IN PERIOD**

- 1. The first 100 hours on a new or reconditioned engine are critical to its life and performance.
- 2. Frequently check the engine temperature and oil pressure.
- 3. Oil consumption is greater during break-in as piston rings take time to seat.
- 4. Break-In Oil Changes: Change engine oil and filter at 50 hours. Change oil and filter again at 100 hours (consult Lubricants section for oil recommendation).

# **Operating Instructions:**

Maintain at least a 75% load on your generator set for the first 100 hours. If this is not possible, maintain no less than a 50% load to ensure proper seating of the piston rings. Vary the load to help seat the rings.

#### **BEFORE STARTING**

1. Check the water level by removing the pressure cap from the radiator. In order to give the cooling water an opportunity to expand, the level should be about 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the filler cap sealing surface when the engine is cold.



CAUTION: Use protective clothing and open the filler cap carefully when the engine is warm to prevent burns.

- 2. Check the oil level in the crankcase with the dipstick. The oil level must be in the waffled area on the stick. Never allow the level to go below this area. Always add the same viscosity of oil as is already in the crankcase.
- 3. Check the fuel tank level and open any fuel valves.
- 4. NOTE: The battery switch must always be kept ON while the engine is running. If the switch is turned OFF while the engine is running, the battery charging regulator could be ruined.

# **STARTING**

- 1. Turn the toggle switch to Start/Run position. The engine will take 15 to 20 seconds to start cranking (with glow plugs).
- 2. If the unit automatically shuts down (and the problem fixed) the toggle switch has to be placed in the Off/ Reset position before starting again.

#### **OPERATING**

- 1. If the generator shuts down automatically, investigate possible reasons; high temperature, low oil pressure, etc... then reset and restart.
- 2. Let the unit run unloaded for a three to five minute warm-up period.
- 3. Apply electrical load.

# **STOPPING**

- 1. Remove electrical load from the generator set.
- 2. Run the engine for a 3 to 5 minute cool down period.
- 3. Turn the Engine Control switch to the Off/ Reset position.

# **SHUTDOWNS**

- 1. Your unit is fitted with a system to protect it from high water temperature or low oil pressure.
  - a. Generator sets have shutdown systems to stop the engine. They have no warning horns.
- 2. Do the following when your warning or shutdown system is activated:
  - a. Use the Trouble Shooting Guide on page 20 to isolate the cause of the overheat.

# **Operating Procedures**



CAUTION: Do not remove the water fill cap of an overheated engine. Escaping high temperature steam can cause severe burns. Allow the engine to cool and then remove the cap slowly using protective clothing.

- d. Make repairs. Repeat troubleshooting.
- 3. If shutdown is activated and the temperature does not appear to be outside the normal temperature range:
  - a. Check the engine crankcase oil level.
  - b. If the oil level is low, fill with recommended lubricating oil and restart. Watch the oil pressure gauge carefully and shut off the engine if it does not show a normal reading (20-60 PSI) after a few seconds of operation.
  - c. If the oil level is normal, DO NOT restart the engine. Call your dealer for assistance.

# **SPARE PARTS**

- Northern Lights recommends that you keep the following spare parts on hand for field service. The parts are available from your local Northern Lights dealer.
- 2. All owners should have the following spares:
  - a. Primary and secondary fuel filter elements
  - b. Oil filters
  - c. Air filter
  - d. Alternator belt
  - e. Thermostat and gaskets
  - f. Glow plug
  - g. Injector and washer

- 3. If your set is operating a long distance from a servicing dealer, add the following:
  - a. Complete set of injectors
  - b. Copper washers for injector change
  - c. Complete set of glow plugs
  - d. Fuel lift pump

# **Servicing Schedule Chart**

The Servicing Schedule Chart below shows the service schedule required for proper maintenance of your generator set. More detailed coverage of each Service Point (SP) is listed on the page noted in the 'page' column.

#### DAILY:

SP1 Check oil level in engine

SP5 Check V-belt tension

SP7 Check primary fuel filter

SP13 Check coolant level

SP18 Check electrolyte in batteries

# **AFTER FIRST 50 HOURS:**

SP2/3 Change engine oil and filter

SP6 Adjust valves

## **AFTER FIRST 100 HOURS:**

SP2/3 Change engine oil and filter

#### **EVERY 250 HOURS:**

SP2/3 Change engine oil and filter

SP4 Check air cleaner

SP15 Check and clean radiator

SP19 Check state of charge of batteries

#### **EVERY 500 HOURS:**

SP8 Change primary fuel filter element

SP9 Change secondary fuel filter

SP22 Inspect condition of exhaust system

# **EVERY 1000 HOURS:**

SP6 Check valve clearances

SP11 Check injectors

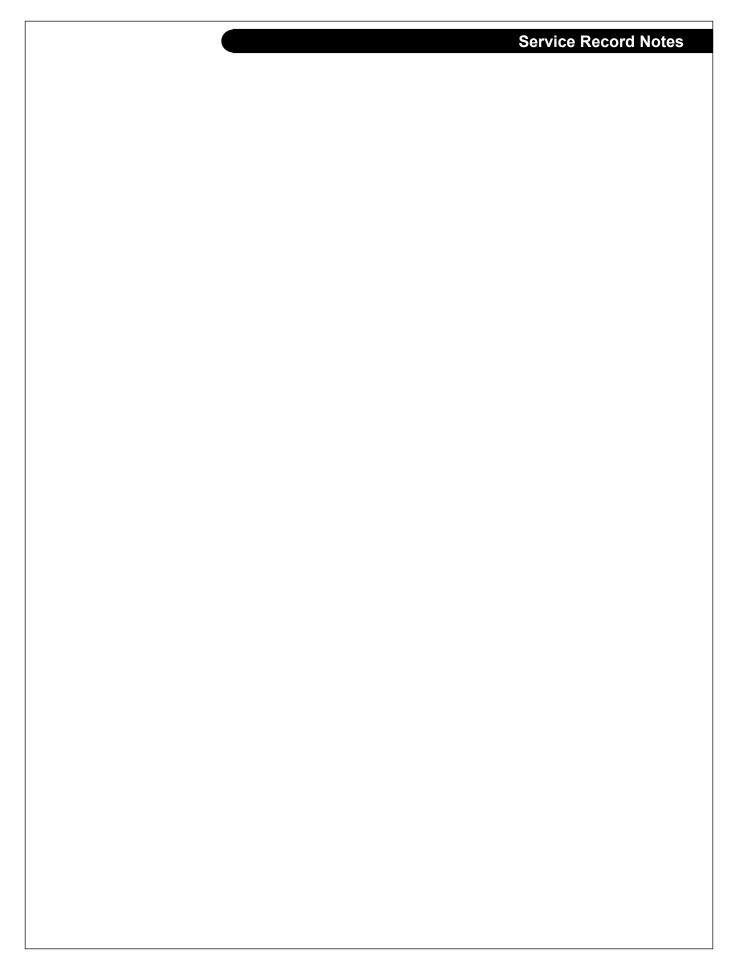
#### **EVERY 2500 HOURS:**

SP12 Check fuel injection pump

SP14 Check and flush cooling system

SERVICE POINT	PAGE	OPERATION	DAILY	50 Hours	250 Hours	500 Hours	1000 Hours	2500 Hours
		ENGINE:						
SP1	12	Check oil level	•					
SP2	12	Change engine oil 1) 5)		•	•			
SP3	12	Change lube oil filters 1) 5)		•	•			
SP4	13	Check air cleaner, change element @ 1000 hrs. 1) 4)			•			
SP5	13	Check V-belt tension	•					
SP6	13	Check valve clearances 1) 2)					•	
		FUEL SYSTEM:						
SP7	14	Check primary filter (Racor) 2) 3)	•					
SP8	14	Change primary filter element (Racor) 2) 3)				•		
SP9	14	Change secondary fuel filter 1) 3)				•		
SP10	15	Bleed the fuel system 3)						
SP11	17	Check injectors 1) 3) 6) 7)					•	
SP12	17	Check fuel injection pump 7)						•
		COOLING SYSTEM:						
SP13	17	Check coolant level	•					
SP14	18	Check and flush cooling system 4)						•
SP15	18	Check and clean radiator 4)			•			
		ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:						
SP18	19	Check electrolyte level in batteries	•					
SP19	19	Check condition of batteries with hydrometer 1) 4)			•			
		OUT OF SERVICE:						
SP21	19	Winterizing or out-of-service 3)						

- 1) Perform all maintenance once a year even if hour level has not been reached.
- 2) Consult manufacturer's maintenance schedule, note on chart.
- Whenever necessary.
- 4) More often if necessary.
- 5) After first 50 hours, then after 100 hours, then at every 250 hours.
- 6) Clean injection nozzles every 1500 hours.
- 7) For EPA emission standards fuel nozzle needs to be cleaned every 1500 hours, the fuel nozzle and fuel pump need to be cleaned, adjusted, or repaired every 3000 hours, and the quality guarantee for these parts is 1500 hours or 2 years.



# Servicing

#### **LUBRICATION - GENERAL**

- 1. Use only clean, high quality lubricants stored in clean containers in a protected area.
- 2. These lubricants are acceptable:
  - a. API Service CC/CD/CE single viscosity oils.
  - b. API Service CC/CD/SF multi-viscosity oils.
- 3. Use the proper weight oil for your average operation temperature.

Air Temperature	Single Viscosity	Multi- Viscosity
Above 32°F (0°C)	SAE 30W	SAE 15-40W
-10 to 32°F (-23 to 0°C)	SAE 10W	SAE 10-30W
Below -10°F (-23°C)	SAE 5W	SAE 5-20W

Figure 4: Lube Oils

- 4. Some increase in oil consumption may be expected when SAE 5W and SAE 5-20W oils are used. Check oil level frequently.
- 5. Never put additives or flushing oil in crankcase.

# SP1. CHECKING OIL LEVEL

1. Check the oil level in the crankcase with the dipstick. The oil level must be in the waffled area on the stick. Never allow the level to go below this area. Follow the lubrication recommendations above.

## SP2. OIL CHANGES

- The set is delivered with special break-in oil.
   Change the engine oil and oil filter after 50 hours of operation. Use Service CC 30 weight oil during the first 100 hours.
- 2. Change the oil and filter again at 100 hours using the oil recommended in the above diagram. After this, change oil and filter every 250 hours.
- During intermittent cold weather operation, change oil every 100 hours or six weeks, whichever comes first.
- 4. Change oil at the end of each season and the beginning of each season.
- 5. Change oil when engine is warm.
- 6. Dispose of waste oil in an approved manner.
- 7. Never use a flushing oil.
- 8. Loosen the clamp on the oil change tube. Remove cap. Drain oil. Replace the cap and tube.
- 9. Refill engine with recommended oil for the season.
- 10. Engine capacity with new oil filter is:

NL843NW2 and NL843N2 - 1.6 gallons (6 liters)

## SP3. CHANGING LUBE OIL FILTER

- 1. Change the lube oil filter every 250 hours.
- 2. Use a filter wrench to remove old filter. Dispose of filter in approved manner.
- 3. Make sure the gasket from the old filter is removed and discarded. Clean mount face.
- 4. Spread a thin film of engine oil on the rubber gasket on the new filter and screw it on nipple until gasket meets the sealing surface.
- 5. Using hands only no wrench tighten filter one-half turn farther. Overtightening can do damage to filter housing.
- Fill engine with recommended oil. Start engine and check for leakage. Stop engine, wait 3 minutes, and check oil level. Add additional oil if necessary.
- 7. Oil filter part number is:

NL843N2 & NW2 - #24-03100

# **SP4. AIR CLEANER**

- 1. Inspect air cleaner every 250 hours. In dusty conditions, check more often.
- Replace if necessary. Part number is:
   NL843NW2 & N2 (ELEMENT ONLY) #24-27302
- 3. NOTE: Make absolutely sure no impurities enter the engine while changing the element. Do NOT run the engine with the air cleaner removed.

# SP5. V-BELTS

- 1. Check the tension and wear on the V-belt daily, with the engine shut off.
- 2. Use your thumb to press on the belt at the midpoint between the crankshaft and alternator pulleys. The tension is correct if the belt can be depressed about 3/16 in. (5 mm). Fan belt slackness should be about 3/16 in. (5 mm).
- 3. To adjust the belt tension loosen the alternator adjusting plate bolt and the alternator mounting bolt. Pivot the alternator at the mounting bolt as needed.
- 4. Tighten the mounting bolt and the adjusting bolt.
- 5. Re-start the engine and operate engine at low speed and recheck the belt tension, after stopping the engine.

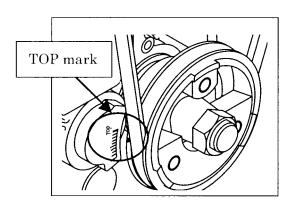


Figure 5: Timing mark

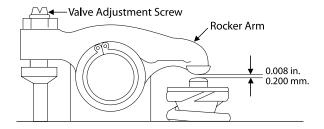


Figure 6: Valve Adjustment

#### SP6. VALVE CLEARANCES

- 1. Adjust valve clearance after first 50 hours of operation and every 1000 hours thereafter.
- 2. Valve adjustments should be done after the cylinder head bolts have been re-tightened. Engine should be cold and NOT running.
- 3. Watch the valves while turning the engine over by hand. Turn until the inlet valve starts to open and the exhaust valve starts to close (the valves are rocking). Then turn the crankshaft one more full turn and adjust the clearance on both valves for this cylinder. Align the top mark of the crank pulley with the TOP mark of the timing gear case.
- 4. Loosen the lock nut and adjust the clearance between the rocker arm and valve guide of both the intake and exhaust valves with the adjustment screw (Figure 6). Clearance on both intake and exhaust valves should be 0.008 in. (0.2 mm).
- 5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for each cylinder. Each set of valves must be adjusted individually.
- 6. Replace the rocker arm cover. Tighten cover nuts to 5 8 ft/lbs (0.8 2.3 kg/m).

Cylinder	No. 1		No. 2		No. 3	
Valve Arrangement	In	Ex	In	Ex	In	Ex
When No. 1 cyl. is at TDC in compression stroke	0	0		0		
With the crankshaft turned by 360° in normal direction from above			0		0	0

Figure 7: 843NW2 Valve sequence

# Servicing

# **FUELS - GENERAL**

- Use only clean, high quality fuels of the following specifications, as defined by ASTM designation D975 for diesel fuels:
  - a. Use grade no. 2 diesel at ambient temperatures above freezing 32°F (0°C).
  - b. Use grade no. 1 at ambient temperatures below freezing and for all temperatures at an altitude of above 5,500 ft. (1500 meters).
- 2. Use fuel having less that 1% sulphur (preferably less that 0.5%).
- 3. The cetane number should be a minimum of 45.
- 4. DO NOT use these unsuitable grades of fuel:
  - a. Domestic heating oils, all types.
  - b. Class B engine.
  - c. Class D domestic fuels.
  - d. Class E, F, G or H industrial or marine fuels.
  - e. ASTM-D975-60T No. 4-D and higher number fuels.
- 5. Storing fuel:
  - a. Keep dirt, scale, water, and other foreign matter out of fuel.
  - b. Avoid storing fuel for long periods of time.
  - Fill the fuel tank at the end of each day's operation. This will reduce condensation and possible biological contamination.
  - d. If biological contamination is detected or suspected, contact your dealer for assistance.

## SP7-9. FUEL FILTERS



Figure 8: Primary Fuel Filter (if provided by Northern Lights)

- 1. Your generator set may have a primary fuel filter installed. We recommend the Racor brand of fuel filter-water separators.
  - a. Check the primary fuel filter daily as recommended by the filter manufacturer.
     Empty the collection bowl as necessary.
  - b. Change the element as often as necessary or every 500 hours.
  - c. If the bowl fills with water, change the primary and secondary element immediately.
- 2. Change secondary fuel filter every 500 hours. NOTE: The fuel filter on the engine is considered the "secondary fuel filter."
  - a. Remove the spin-on filter by turning it counterclockwise with a filter wrench. Fill the new cartridge with fuel and install it after applying engine oil to gasket surface. Screw on until the gasket surface comes into contact with sealing surface of filter base. Then, tighten it two-thirds of a turn by hand. Do not overtighten.
  - b. Secondary fuel filter cartridge part number is:

NL843N2 & NW2 - #24-52020

# SP10. BLEEDING THE FUEL SYSTEM



CAUTION: Escaping diesel fuel under pressure can penetrate skin causing serious personal injury. Before disconnecting lines be sure to relieve all pressure. Before applying pressure, be sure all connections are tight and lines, pipes and hoses are not damaged. Fuel escaping from a very small hole can be almost invisible. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, rather than hands, to search for suspected leaks. If injured by escaping fuel, see a doctor at once. Serious infection or reaction can develop if proper medical treatment is not administered immediately.

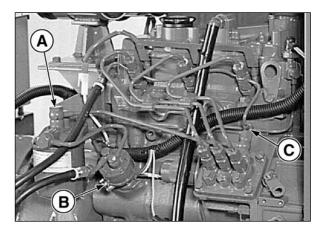


Figure 9: NL843NW2 Fuel System (for illustration purposes).

- 1. The fuel system is self-bleeding. However, any system may need manual bleeding when:
  - a. A new fuel filter is installed;
  - b. The engine has run out of fuel;
  - The fuel lines, injection pump or any other fuel system component has been removed and installed.
- Loosen bleed bolt "A" (Figure 9) on top of the filter. Pump hand primer "B" on fuel lift pump until pure fuel (no bubbles) escapes from bleed bolt "A". Tighten bleed screw "A".
- 3. Loosen bleed screw "C". Pump hand primer "B" until pure fuel (no bubbles) escapes. Then tighten bleed screw "C".
- 4. If the engine does not start after the above bleeding process, loosen a fuel line at the injector while cranking the engine with the starter motor until pure fuel escapes. Then tighten the connection. Do each line one-at-a-time.
- 5. After the engine has started, use a piece of cardboard to look for fuel leaks.

# Servicing

Figures 10-17: For illustrative purposes only, may not be exact model.

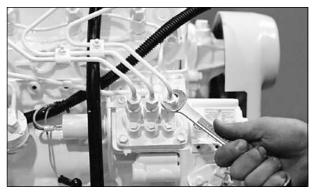


Figure 10: Remove delivery line flare nuts.

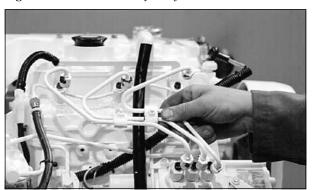


Figure 11: Remove delivery lines.



Figure 12: Cover lines, inlets and injection pump outlets.

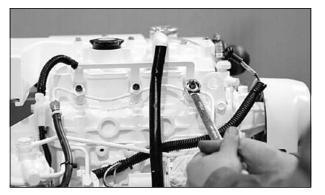


Figure 13: Remove return line nuts.



Figure 14: Remove return line.



Figure 15: Unscrew injector.



Figure 16: Remove and replace copper sealing washer.



Figure 17: Reinstall injector. Torque to proper tightness.

## **SP11. INJECTOR SERVICE**

 Injectors should be checked every 1000 hours. Check should be made by a Northern Lights dealer or local injection repair station.



CAUTION: Escaping diesel fuel under pressure can have sufficient force to penetrate the skin causing serious personal injury. If injured by escaping diesel fuel, see a doctor at once.

# 2. Injector removal:

- a. Clean loose dirt from around the injectors and the fuel lines.
- b. Relieve high pressure in the fuel lines by loosening the delivery line flare nuts at each injector (Figure 10).
- Remove delivery lines by disconnecting from injectors and injection pump (Figure 11). Remove all lines as an assembly; do not remove the spacers. Cover the ends of the lines, the injector inlets and injection pump outlets to keep dirt out (Figure 12).
- d. Remove the return line retaining bolts (Figure 13). Remove the return line (Figure 14).
- e. Unscrew and remove the injectors (Figure 15).
   NOTE: Do not use pry bars to remove injectors from cylinder head.
- f. After removing the injectors, discard the copper sealing washers from the injector hole in the head (Figure 16). Cover holes to prevent dirt and debris from entering the cylinders.

# 3. Injector installation:

- a. Install a new copper sealing washer in each injector hole (Figure 16).
- b. Screw in injector and tighten to 44 51 ft/lbs (6 to 7 kgm) (Figure 17).

NOTE: Overtightening can damage injector.

- c. Install return line using a new sealing washer below each connection. Tighten return line retaining bolts to 22 30 ft/lbs.
- d. Install delivery lines. Leave loose at injectors for bleeding.
- e. Crank engine to fill lines. Tighten lines at injectors to 11-18 ft./lbs. Start engine and check for leaks using a piece of paper or cardboard.
   DO NOT use hand to check for leaks.

#### SP12. INJECTION PUMP

- Since operating conditions may vary considerably, it
  is difficult to give a definite interval for checking the
  injection pump. But as a rule, pump settings,
  maximum speed, idle speed, and exhaust smoke
  should be checked after every 2500 hours of
  operation. Service of the fuel injection pump should
  only be done if checks indicate pump malfunction.
- 2. Black smoke can be an indication of pump malfunction. Before servicing the pump, check other possible causes:
  - a. Check cleanliness of air filter.
  - b. Check valve clearances.
  - c. Clean and check injectors.
- Any repair which involves disassembly of the injection pump must be carried out by specially trained mechanics with the proper tools and test equipment.

NOTE: All warranties on the engine become null and void if the injection pump seals are broken by unauthorized persons.

# **COOLING SYSTEM - GENERAL**



CAUTION: The cooling water in the engine reaches extremely high temperatures. You must use extreme caution when working on hot engines to avoid burns. Allow the engine to cool before working on the cooling system. Open the filler cap carefully, using protective clothing when the engine is warm.

# SP13. CHECK THE COOLANT LEVEL

- 1. Check the coolant level each day before starting the engine. Check the water level by removing the pressure cap from the radiator. In order to give the cooling water an opportunity to expand, the level should be about 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the filler cap sealing surface when the engine is cold.
- 2. The pressure valve in the filler cap releases when the pressure is approximately 7 PSI (0.5 bar). Use a cap pressure tester to check cap if you suspect it is faulty.

# Servicing

# SP14. COOLING SYSTEM FLUSHING

- 1. Flush the cooling system every 2500 hours or every 12 months, whichever comes first.
- 2. Industrial sets:
  - a. Remove radiator cap and drain engine block.
  - Pour clean water into radiator until water coming from radiator is free of discoloration and sediment.
  - c. Close the radiator drain and continue flushing until water from the engine drain is clear.
  - d. Open all drain cocks and drain completely.
  - e. Close drain cock and refill with recommended mixture.
  - f. Clean leaves, dust, and other debris off the radiator fins.
- 3. Coolant Specifications:
  - Use 50% distilled water / 50% ethylene glycol antifreeze mix. Antifreeze mixture is recommended as a good year-round coolant.
- 4. Check hoses and connections and repair any leakage.

# SP15. CLEAN RADIATOR

- 1. Remove debris from radiator fins daily.
- In very dusty applications, clean the radiator with compressed air or steam cleaner every 100 hours. and check for leaks.

# **GENERATOR ENDS**

The maintenance and operation recommendations for the generator end are in a separate Owner's Manual. If you do not have one of these manuals, contact your local Northern Lights dealer.

#### **ELECTRICAL SYSTEM - GENERAL**

- 1. Never switch battery switch off or break the circuit between the alternator and batteries while the engine is running. Regulator damage can result.
- 2. Do NOT reverse the polarity of battery cables when installing the battery.
- 3. If welding on the unit, disconnect the regulator and battery. Isolate the leads.
- 4. Disconnect the battery cables when servicing the D.C. alternator.
- 5. Never test with a screwdriver, etc., against any terminal to see if it emits sparks.
- 6. Do not polarize the alternator or regulator.
- 7. A D.C. circuit breaker protects your control panel and wiring harness. It is located in the side of the generator junction box.

# **GLOW PLUGS**

- 1. Each cylinder is supplied with a glow plug which serves to heat the combustion chamber.
- 2. To check the glow plugs, loosen the current carrying flat wire between the plus-poles of the glow plugs (Figure 18). Connect a D.C. test bulb between the plus-pole of the battery and the plus-pole of the glow plug. If the bulb lights up, the glow plug is functioning properly.
- 3. Check all glow plugs and replace any faulty ones.

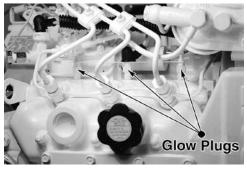


Figure 18: Glow plugs.

### **BOOSTER BATTERIES**



CAUTION: Battery gas can explode.

Keep all flames and sparks away from batteries.

- Before changing or using booster batteries, check battery electrolyte level. Add distilled water if necessary.
- 2. Booster and main batteries must have the same voltage rating.
- 3. First, connect positive (+) terminal of booster battery to positive (+) terminal of main battery. Then, connect negative (-) terminal of booster battery to ground on the engine block (see Figure 19).
- 4. Remove booster battery after starting engine.
- 5. Sealed batteries: See manufacturer charging and booster instructions.

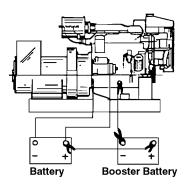


Figure 19:
Battery connections.

#### SP 18-19. BATTERY CARE

- 1. Check electrolyte level daily. Add distilled water to manufacturer's recommended level.
- Batteries, cables and cable terminals should be checked and cleaned every 100 hours.
   Clean corrosion with a water and baking soda solution. Flush with clean water. Tighten terminals and grease them to inhibit corrosion.
- 3. Check the battery condition with a hydrometer every 1000 hours.

# SP21. WINTERIZING / OUT-OF-SERVICE

- 1. Industrial sets:
  - a. Drain and flush the radiator and cooling system. Refill with antifreeze-water mixture. Start the engine and run to circulate the antifreeze.
  - b. Fill the fuel tank or add biocide as per the manufacturer's instructions.
  - c. Change the crankcase oil and filter.
  - d. Seal the air cleaner inlet, exhaust opening, crankcase breather pipe, and fuel tank vent with plastic bags and tape.
  - e. Loosen the alternator belt.
  - f. Disconnect and clean battery. Remove to warm storage place if possible.
  - g. Clean outside of unit. Paint any scratched or chipped surfaces. Put corrosion preventative on all exposed metal surfaces.
  - h. Store the set in a dry, protected place. If the unit must be stored outside, be sure it is well protected with a cover.

# DC ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)
Battery Will Not Charge	Loose or corroded connections	• Clean and tighten battery connections.
	Sulfated or worn out batteries	<ul><li>Check specific gravity of each battery.</li><li>Check electrolyte level of each battery.</li></ul>
	Loose or defective alternator belt	<ul><li> Adjust belt tension.</li><li> Replace belt.</li></ul>
Starter Inoperative	Check DC circuit breaker	• If the breaker is tripped, reset it.
	Loose or corroded connections	<ul> <li>Clean and tighten loose battery and harness plug connection.</li> </ul>
	Low battery output	<ul><li>Check specific gravity of each battery.</li><li>Check electrolyte level of each battery.</li></ul>
	Defective electrical system ground wire:	• Repair or replace.
Starter Cranks Slowly	Low battery output	<ul><li>Battery is too small.</li><li>Battery cables are too small.</li></ul>
	Check specific gravity of each battery	• Replace battery if necessary.
	Check electrolyte level of each battery	• If low, fill cells with distilled water.
	Crankcase oil too heavy	• Fill with oil of appropriate viscosity.
	Loose or corroded connections	• Clean and tighten loose connections.
Entire Electrical System	Check DC circuit breaker	• If breaker is tripped, reset it.
Does Not Function	Faulty connection	<ul> <li>Clean and tighten battery and harness plug connections.</li> </ul>
	Sulfated or worn out batteries	• Check specific gravity and electrolyte level of each battery.

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your Northern Lights dealer.

# **ENGINE**

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)		
Engine Hard to Start or Will Not Start	Improper starting procedure	• See starting section of this manual. Take special note of Bypass Switch operation.		
	No fuel	• Check level of fuel in fuel tank.		
	Low battery output	• Check electrolyte level and condition.		
	Excessive resistance in starting circuit	Clean and tighten all battery connections.		
	Crankcase oil too heavy	• Use oil of proper viscosity.		
	Improper type of fuel	• Consult fuel supplier and use proper type of fuel for operating condition.		
	Water, dirt or air in fuel system	• Drain, flush, fill and bleed system.		
	Clogged primary fuel filter element	• Clean or replace filter element.		
	Clogged secondary fuel filter element	• Replace filter element.		
	Dirty or faulty injection nozzles	• Have your dealer check injection nozzles.		
Engine Runs Irregularly	Below normal engine temperature	Remove and check thermostat.		
or Stalls Frequently	Clogged primary fuel filter element	• Clean or replace filter element.		
	Clogged secondary fuel filter element	• Replace secondary filter element.		
	Water or dirt in the fuel system	• Drain, flush, fill and bleed system.		
	Dirty or faulty injection nozzles	• Have your dealer check injection nozzles.		
	Air in fuel system	• Inspect clamps and hoses on suction side of fuel pump for air leak.		
	Improper type of fuel	• Consult fuel supplier and use proper type of fuel for operating condition.		
Lack of Engine Power	Intake air restriction	Service air cleaner.		
	Clogged primary fuel filter element	• Clean or replace filter element.		
	Clogged secondary fuel filter element	• Replace filter element.		
	Improper type of fuel	• Consult fuel supplier and use proper type of fuel for operating conditions.		
	Overheated engine	• See "Engine Overheats" in next category.		
	Below normal engine temperature	• Remove and check thermostat.		
	Improper valve clearance	• Reset valves. Best done by dealer.		
	Dirty or faulty injection nozzles	<ul><li>Replace injectors. Best done by dealer.</li><li>See your local dealer.</li></ul>		

# **ENGINE**

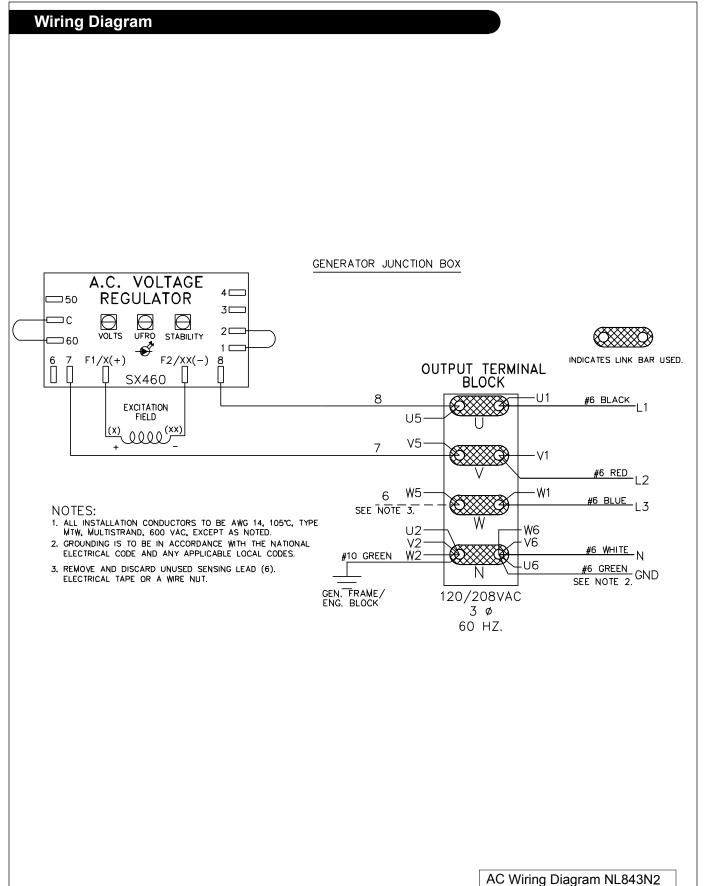
PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)	
Engine Overheats	Low coolant level	<ul><li>Fill tank or radiator to proper level.</li><li>Check hoses for loose connections and leaks.</li></ul>	
	Keel cooling tubes have been painted (marine)	• Remove paint from tubes.	
	Cooling system needs flushing	• Flush cooling system.	
	Defective thermostat	• Remove and check thermostat.	
	Defective temperature gauge	• Check water temperature with thermometer and replace gauge if necessary.	
Engine Knocks	Insufficient oil	Call your dealer.	
	Injection pump out of time	• Call your dealer.	
	Below normal engine temperature	<ul><li>Check your thermostats.</li><li>Check water temperature to see if temperature gauge is working properly.</li></ul>	
	Engine overheating	• See "Engine Overheating" section.	
High Fuel Consumption	Improper type of fuel	• Use correct fuel for temperature.	
	Clogged or dirty air cleaner	• Service air cleaner.	
	Improper valve clearance	• See your dealer.	
	Injection nozzles dirty	• See your dealer.	
	Injection pump out of time	• See your dealer.	
	Engine not at proper temperature	<ul><li>Check your thermostats.</li><li>Check water temperature with thermometer and replace gauge if necessary.</li></ul>	
Below Normal	Thermostat not working properly	• Check thermostat.	
Engine Temperature	Temperature gauge not working properly	• Check water temperature with thermometer	
Low Oil Pressure	Low oil level	• Fill crankcase to proper level.	
	Improper type of oil	• Drain and fill crankcase with correct oil.	
	Partially plugged oil filter	• Replace filter.	
High Oil Consumption	Break-in period	Oil consumption decreases after break in.	
	Crankcase oil too light	• Use proper viscosity oil.	
	Oil leaks	<ul> <li>Check for leaks in lines around gaskets and drain plug.</li> </ul>	

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your **Northern Lights** dealer.

# ENGINE

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	RECOMMENDATION(S)
Engine Emits Black or Gray Exhaust Smoke	Clogged or dirty air cleaner	• Service air cleaner.
	Improper fuel	• Use correct fuel for temperature.
	Injection nozzles dirty	• See your dealer.
	Engine timing off	• See your dealer.
Engine Emits	Improper fuel	• Use correct fuel for temperature.
White Smoke	Cold engine	<ul> <li>Warm up engine to normal operating temperature.</li> </ul>
	Defective thermostat	• Remove and check thermostat.
	Engine timing off	• See your dealer.

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your Northern Lights dealer.



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