



CM-75 Series - Cogeneration Module



The Independence Visitor Center

Corporation (IVCC) has served as the official visitor center for the Greater Philadelphia region since 2001 and provides information regarding services and amenities

throughout the City of Philadelphia.

The Independence Visitor Center serves Philadelphia and the surrounding regions as the

primary point of orientation for the Independence National Historic Park.

The IVCC boasts a 50,000 square foot facility and hosts more than two-million visitors annually. In its effort to help Philadelphia become the most sustainable city in the nation, the IVCC has taken valuable steps in reducing its carbon footprint. James Cuorato, IVCC

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President and CEO, conducted a comprehensive energy study of the facility in order to identify energy saving opportunities. The study helped identify

the building as an excellent fit for taking advantage of combined cooling heat and power (CCHP) technology. Utilizing CCHP offered The

Independence Visitor Center the ability to reduce its electric demand on the grid, increase energy efficiency, and save a significant amount of annual energy costs. CCHP has been utilized for more than 100 years in the United States and has recently re-gained popularity as energy efficiency comes to the forefront. CCHP generates electrical and thermal

energy from a single, integrated system at a high energy efficiency, while producing less associated greenhouse gas emissions.

The IVCC was proud to receive a \$1 million matching grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The funds from this grant were used to install a 75kW Tecogen reciprocating engine CHP system, along with a 20-ton absorption chiller. "The goal of this new project was to not only reduce overall costs, but also bring the building closer to becoming LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified" by the U.S. Green Building Council said Cuorato.

In January 2013, Philadelphia Gas Works helped the IVCC install a new Tecogen natural gas-fired internal combustion engine-driven cogeneration module. This equipment will ultimately optimize electrical use by cutting down on the amount of electricity the center purchases from the utility company at peak demand times. The IVCC can now generate electric power and produce free useable engine and exhaust heat providing hot water for various applications including an absorption chiller that provides the building's air-conditioning. The Tecogen system is prepackaged, factory run-tested, and extremely reliable. The installation process was smooth due to the simple electrical interconnection and the cogen module's ability to operate in parallel with the grid.

This project helped reduce the overall carbon footprint of the Independence Visitor Center by decreasing energy usage and also significantly improved utility costs. Also, the IVCC improved building operations to obtain silver LEED certification.

Due in part to the financial and environmental

benefits produced by the CCHP system, the Independence Visitor Center will continue to educate visitors of Philadelphia's rich history for many years to come.



The Tecogen CM-75 cogen module on the roof of the Independence Visitor Center with Philadelphia's Independence Hall in the background.



The cogen module is shown inside the weatherproof enclosure pictured in the photo above.

For more information about Tecogen's [CM-75 Cogeneration Module](#) or our other Natural Gas Engine-Driven Products please visit www.tecogen.com

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