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Premiere Issue

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## Spotlight

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## Runtime Analysis Reporting

### Knowing available runtime is the "Holy Grail"

Will there be enough back-up power?

Interview with Tom Steinbugler

Back-up power systems must take over in times of network power failure. Knowing what capacity will be there when needed is crucial, especially since initial runtime needs change as traffic and equipment changes. Runtime analysis reports become the relied-upon "Holy Grail" for network operations people.

#### Let's start with some background. Why did you develop the Runtime Analyzer?

Back-up power is an important part of any preventative maintenance strategy. Customers need to know that their back-up power systems can take over in times of network power failure. Do they have enough power to keep the network up and running until the regular power system can be brought back online? There are many factors at play in setting up an effective back-up power system. Being able to understand the amount of runtime available is the "Holy Grail" for network operations people.

Our people in the field have talked to countless customers throughout the country who universally have expressed a frustration with their lack of visibility into how much runtime they actually have. Customers understand that the runtime that was designed into a site changes dramatically over time. As their business grows and call traffic increases they add additional transmission equipment but not more batteries.

Our tool gives operation managers ammunition to go to their budget people to quantify what they need to do to bring their runtime standards for battery back-up.

#### How did you develop this product?

In order to estimate the runtime available at a site, one must analyze the state of health of the batteries at the site, based upon battery testing results, as well as the site load factors. We developed our tool to integrate information from the field with some pretty complex algorithms to generate reports that summarize the estimated runtime based upon the factors.

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## Associations

[Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions](#)

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## Resources

[BatteryCorp](#)

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### What type of reports?

We have three levels of reporting that correspond to different needs within an organization. We provide a Corporate Summary by Business Unit, a Business Unit Analysis and a Detailed Runtime Estimator. Each report displays pertinent statistics at varying levels of details.

### Let's start at the top. What does the Corporate Summary include and who benefits from it?

The Corporate Summary helps executives forecast needs for the future and budget accordingly. It gives the estimated runtime, based upon site load factors and battery health, and it displays the overall statistics for each business unit in the company. The report provides details on the number of sites contracted, those tested to date, and it breaks down the runtime based on hourly increments.

### How does this differ from the Business Unit Analysis?

The Business Unit Analysis estimates runtime for each location by business unit. It displays the estimated runtime grouped by hourly ranges. It also displays the current runtime available as a percentage of specification (i.e., the percentage of what it would be with brand-new batteries). It can be sorted by location name, by percent of specification by best-to-worst performance and by worst-to-best performance.

### Which department benefits more from the Business Unit Analysis engineering or operations?

Both engineering and operations have a vested interest in network runtime at the business unit level and are very concerned with setting and adhering to runtime standards. Having this tool at their disposal makes it easier for managers to establish corporate standards and stick to them.

### What about the Runtime Estimator? Is it possible to track the health of single batteries and battery strings?

The most detailed report we provide is the Runtime Estimator. This report estimates runtime based upon site load factors and battery state of health. This report tracks each battery string at a particular site. It tells what type of batteries are at the site, the power required, and it displays estimated runtime as runtime available at current load with new batteries and as runtime available based upon most recent battery test results.

This report is great for the field operations manager. It provides quantifiable data on the health of any site in the network.

[View sample reports](#) (PDF may take a few minutes to load)

Tom Steinbugler has been designing and implementing database systems for over 25 years. In 1985, he founded Maximum Financial Services, a system design consulting firm, pioneering the use of object-oriented design frameworks in business applications. He has taken assignments as chief system architect for many large financial service firms, such as Traveler's Insurance, Putnam Investments, Scudder Investments



and Watson Wyatt Worldwide.

Over the last five years, Mr. Steinbugler has also consulted with BatteryCorp in the original development of the OMS base technology. He joined the company full time one year ago to spearhead the design and implementation of the next generation of OMS.

Mr. Steinbugler earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and has significant additional training in System Design, Finance and Accounting.

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 Production Team

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