

Factors to Consider while Buying Transfer Switches

Introduction

A Transfer switch is used when two or more power sources are involved in the switching process.

There are two options present in the switching. One is the manual switching and the other one is the automatic switching.

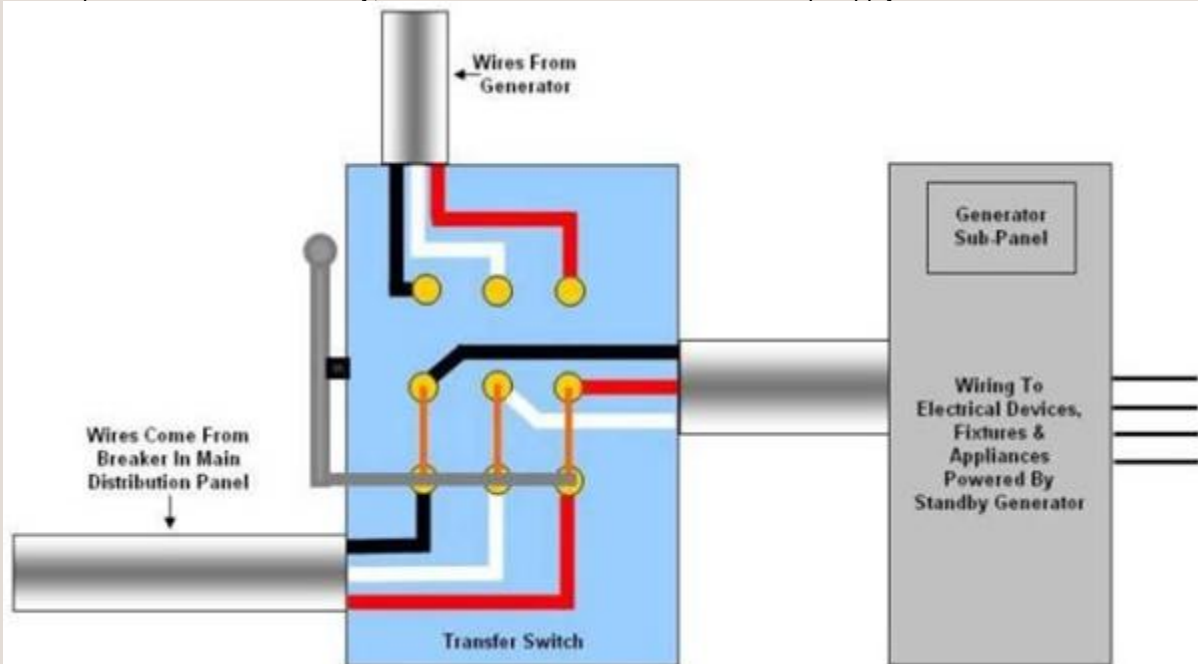
Similarly, when buying a Transfer switch, you get the same two options, because depending upon the type of switching; there are two basic types of transfer switches :

1. **Manual Transfer Switch**
2. Automatic Transfer Switch

Manual Transfer Switch

Manual transfer switches are used where manual switching is required between two power sources. One source acts as the primary **power source** and the other acts as the backup **power source**.

Suppose when the primary source fails to deliver power temporarily, then the power supply to the household system or any load attached will temporarily stop and a power breakdown will occur. Now in such a condition, if we want to supply power to the load through the backup power source, then first we will have to attach a manual transfer switch with the backup power source, which is usually in the form of a generator or something like that. After that we will have to operate that switch manually, and our load will be shifted to the backup supply.

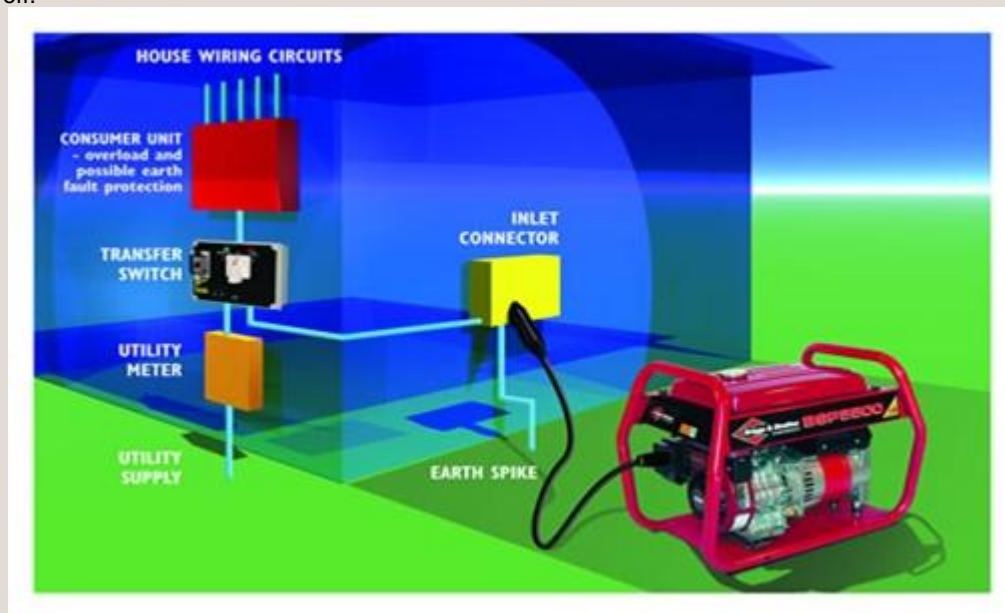


Automatic Transfer Switch

Automatic transfer switches are also used for switching between two loads. But the difference here is that instead of switching manually, after the power supply to the load has been cut off, there is this other option which this switch offers.

As soon as the switch senses a chance of power failure, it instantly switches to the backup supply of generator and hence prevents a power cut off to the load.

One does not have to monitor the power supply or worry about the sensitivity of the load in this case, because an automatic transfer switch automatically senses and performs the switching operation, preventing the load from power supply cut off.



Now when you have come to know about both the options available and their function and the requirements, it must have become easier for you to select one according to your needs and demands.

This awareness is very important for you, since it would prevent you from wasting your money on the wrong thing or spending excessive money when you could have solved your problem with a lesser amount as well.

Moreover, this would also help you to select the best option for your need and get the best results.

Other Types of Transfer Switches available in the market

Here, it should also be kept in mind that other than these, there are also several other options available in the market, but these were the basic two.

Before buying, each and every option should be studied in detail, to get the most efficient results. These other options are:

Pre wired transfer switches

Inlet box TS

Outdoor TS

Maintenance and testing

All you have to do is, select a proper size according to the space available to you, then the type of the transfer switch and its ratings, and then buy the one best suitable with your resources. In this way you can make the most of the product you have bought.

Source: <http://engineering.electrical-equipment.org/panel-building/factors-to-consider-while-buying-transfer-switches.html>