

*Updated 7.14.2020: Updated list of Power Supplies Based on Availability as of 6/2020*

**Question: I plan to purchase a battery power pack or a generator to operate my Duct Blaster at job sites that do not have power. What is the watt draw for the Minneapolis Duct Blaster<sup>®</sup>?**

### **Duct Blaster Watt Draw**

The maximum watt draw is 360 watts, but because of the way the Duct Blaster fan and controller use power it is best to double the watt draw with sizing a power source. So a 720 watts will work best.

### **Portable Power Inverter Options**

We occasionally get asked about portable power supplies because a new home might not have power yet and you need to do a duct leakage test or you are using the Flow Blaster attachment for the Duct Blaster fan and you don't want to drag an extension cord around from register to register. A power inverter is a device that you plug in to charge up ahead of time and then carry into the field to supply power.

As for what you should look for in a power bank, we recommend you look for the following:

1. 500W continuous **pure sine wave** inverter output
  - a. Continuous rating is important because peak ratings can mean anything from milliseconds to just a second or two.
  - b. The extra output power over the Duct Blaster rating is valuable here due to typical under-performance of these types of devices.
  - c. Pure sine wave is critical for use with the DuctBlaster.
2. 300Wh minimum energy storage
  - a. This should give about 45 minutes of runtime at maximum power.
  - b. A big enough battery like this will likely last longer and achieve more of its rated capacity in our application.
3. Li-Ion battery
  - a. This should stay healthier over time and have less maintenance compared to a Lead-Acid battery as well as be much easier on your back.

We previously tested three Portable Power Inverters with a range of prices and power ratings. Note that the CHAFON UPS018 , which we had labeled the “Best Choice”, is no longer available as of 6/2020. We have listed some additional power supplies for consideration, but note they have not been tested directly by TEC.

## **CHAFON UPS018 (Orange) – NO LONGER AVAILABLE**

Price \$349



**Best Choice for most users**

## **JACKERY EXPLORER – TESTED by TEC**

Price \$600

Continuous Rating: 300 Watts (tested because of a customer inquiry)

Rated Watt Hours: 500

Tested Watt Hours: Provides 220 watts for 100 minutes = 360 watt hours

Time to fully charge: 6 hours

Compatibility with Duct Blaster: Able to run the Duct Blaster up to 80% power before shutting off

Weight: 11.8 pounds

Dimensions: 10.6x 6.7x 12.5

Accessories:

- 12VDC up to 10 amps to a cigarette lighter and two barrel jacks
- Two USB jacks for 5V at 2.1 amps each
- 1 watt LED lamp
- Internal cooling fan
- Digital battery status display
- Unique box and cables for charging battery

**Assessment: Expensive, very long run time, short charge time, will only run the Duct Blaster up to ~80% power**



## STANLEY FATMAX PROFESSIONAL POWER STATION – TESTED by TEC

Price \$130

Continuous Rating: 500 Watts

Rated Watt Hours: 228

Tested Watt Hours: Provides 142 watts for 34 minutes = 80 watt hours

Time to fully charge: 40 hours, use your extension cord

Compatibility with Duct Blaster: Able to run the Duct Blaster at 350 watt full power with no problems



Weight: 19 pounds

Dimensions: 15.9x 13.5x 6.5

Accessories:

- 12 VDC battery cables to jump start a car
- 120 psi air compressor with hose
- 12 VDC cig lighter socket
- 5V 1Amp USB A jack for charging portable electronics
- Digital battery status display

**Assessment: Not very good for the application. Short and possibly inconsistent run time, long charge time, heavy**

### Additional Potential Power Supplies to Consider

**These have NOT been tested directly by TEC**

While our previous favorite power station that we've tested is no longer available, here is a short list of some units that should be capable of running our DuctBlaster.

These are listed in no particular order. The pricing and links are from Amazon, but can likely be sourced elsewhere too.

1. [Jackery 500](#) \$499 (TESTED, per above)
2. [Rockpals 500W](#) \$440
3. [Sunlife 500W](#) \$290
4. [Maxoak 1000W](#) \$1,300 (Overkill, but should run for a long time)
5. [Autogen 500W](#) \$400 (Doesn't show a continuous rating, but should be ok.)