



POWER CARS 207, 208, 2055 AND 2066

Power Cars – Stabled at Council Bluffs

Origin Stories:

- Nos. 207 and 208: In 1949, American Car & Foundry built car Nos. 6004 and 6006 as multipurpose boiler/baggage/dormitory cars. Both cars were rebuilt as steam generator dormitory car and renamed, Nos. 303 and 304 until 1987 when Union Pacific renumbered the units to their current titles as Nos. 207 and 208.
- No. 2055: In 1962, St. Louis Car Company built car No. 5780 for commissary and postal storage. In the late 70s, it was renumbered 904823 and moved to Maintenance of Way service. The car was retired from service and sold to Ringling Bros. The circus rebuilt the unit into a power car, renumbering it RBBX 63013. In 2017, Union Pacific reacquired the power car from Ringling Bros, repainted and renumbered the car to its current designation No. 2055.
- No. 2066: Before Union Pacific rebranded this power car to its current title, No. 2066 started providing service as No. 5816, a postal storage car.

Steam locomotives supplied passenger cars with the steam needed for heat and hot water, but after diesel locomotives were phased in, steam generators were required for passenger service and placed in baggage cars at the front of trains.

Locomotive auxiliary generators provided 32-volts of electrical power for the passenger cars that could be “stored” for short periods of time in batteries underneath each car.

As Union Pacific’s passenger equipment was modernized and the need for electric power grew, steam generator cars were rebuilt into diesel-electric generator cars that provide electricity to the entire train. Most passenger cars are connected to the power car using a series of “jumper cables,” however some of Union Pacific’s passenger cars are equipped with their own electric generators, allowing them to operate independently.

Power cars traditionally have living quarters for an electrician who monitors the system and additional refrigerators and freezers for commissary services.



Configuration: UPP 207, UPP 208, UPP 2055 and UPP 2066 are Power Cars with two Deutz diesels in one end and a control room. It has a crew room with private bathroom that sleeps one, and a storage room with walk in refrigerator and freezer.