

WADE Canada member partners



Distributor
GE Jenbacher gas engines

April 17, 2009 - [Click here](#) for technical details.

Great Northern was established in 1998 and is located in the heart of sunny Southwestern Ontario, Canada. Being one of the largest greenhouse operations in North America; using state-of-the-art technology and modern growing methods to produce premium quality gourmet tomatoes our valued customers enjoy each and every day.

Great Northern is part of the Soave Hydroponics group of companies, and its management is proud to be fully food safety compliant with a world-wide acknowledged and respected program, achieving superior quality ratings within the industry for 6 consecutive years. Our Quality Systems Management Program was extended in 2004, where we became the first vegetable producing greenhouse in North America to have obtained an ISO 9001:2000 certification.

Great Northern's current production capacity is a 55-acre facility. Product is produced under optimum growing conditions; in a maximum biologically controlled environment that is pesticide and herbicide free. Packaging and shipping is done on-site to guarantee freshness using sophisticated automation together with meticulous attention to quality and detail. Our quality, sanitation, security, maintenance, product traceability, hygiene and integrated pest management protocols are second to none.

Most recently, Great Northern's parent company, Soave Hydroponics, began looking at ways to deal with the rising cost of energy and we soon realized that a cogeneration system could help offset the high cost of energy while also helping the environment. We are the first greenhouse application in North America to successfully install a cogeneration system of such capacity. The 12 MW system features four GE-Jenbacher JMS 620 gas engines as well as heat recovery and exhaust treatment equipment, noise abatement and systems controls. The cogeneration plant operates with a system-efficiency better than 93% and will provide enough electricity to the Ontario grid to power approximately 15,000 Canadian homes. The province gets a clean and reliable electricity source, while we get the heat (for warming the greenhouses) and CO₂ (for plant fertilization); it is a win-win situation.

The goal of the Soave Hydroponics group of companies is to achieve the perfect integration between agriculture and technology in a society that is environmentally sustainable and responsible. We feel very confident that all aspects of our business conform to this ambition and we are proud to be on the path to a bright and clean future with a watch-full eye to the environment.

With every function performed; as propagators, growers, packers, shippers, and energy providers, we maintain a commitment to maximum freshness, uncompromised quality and environmental responsibility.