



What's the true cost of a UPS?

Good advice from Nesda Technologies Ltd. (C) 2005

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"

Electronic equipment of any kind is sensitive. Given the cost of equipment and even more importantly the value of your data it is worth getting good protection.

In commercial buildings or in a manufacturing environment there is usually an electrically noisy environment. There can be high or low voltages, sags surges and distortion. All of these fluctuations in power can cause: lockups, data corruption and premature aging of equipment.

Thunderstorms and lightning strikes can also cause data loss. This is especially important for a rural power line which may be more prone to lightning strikes than one in a municipal power grid.

When considering protection of computer equipment there is a lot of confusing information out there. Here is what you need to know:

Surge Protectors

Surge protectors are designed to protect common appliances from power fluctuations. Depending on the make/model they may or may not be sensitive enough to protect computer equipment.

Surge protectors will *only do part of the job*. Surge protectors **will not** protect against data loss or corruption due to power outages.

UPS

A UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) is an computer grade power conditioner, surge protector and a battery backup all in one package.

It regulates (cleans up) the incoming wall power and will switch to battery in the event of a power outage. All of this protection happens so quickly that the PC will never be affected.

A UPS designed for use with servers will communicate with the server and make decisions regarding automatic server shut downs based on power conditions resulting in complete automatic protection.

Recommendations

We recommend a UPS on every server, workstation and on all other critical equipment such as hubs and routers. This ensures reliable operation of the network and protection of data.

Our preferences for a UPS are:

- one UPS for each server*.
- one UPS for any other mission critical device (hubs, routers, etc.).
- one UPS for any PC in a manufacturing environment (factory floor).
- one UPS for a PC or other device which continually experiences file corruption (dirty power).

*A one to one relationship (UPS to Server) allows for easy implementation of UPS software on each Server.

We also recommend using a UPS on less important devices depending on reliability of power and the Client's own level of comfort (e.g. protecting your telephone system).

A workstation UPS can cost at little as \$ 60.00. Think about the value of your data - what is the true *value* of a UPS?