

Single Surge Protective Strips are not Enough

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Your home is your most valuable asset, and the electrical equipment and electronics in it may be some of your most costly possessions.

According to the Consumer Electronics Association, in 2007 consumer electronics sales topped \$150 billion. This number has increased exponentially in the last seven years. It does not include critical, expensive hard-wired equipment such as air conditioners, furnaces, ranges, washers and dryers, or smoke detectors. The average home contains more than \$15,000 worth of unprotected equipment.

Surge protective devices (SPDs) protect your valuable equipment from the effects of damaging surges. These surges can enter your home due to external events (e.g., lightning and grid switching) or internal events (e.g., switching on/off items such as garage door openers, HVAC, washers and dryers, and lighting).

SPDs come in various configurations to match a particular installation, with ac devices most commonly used in homes. These include plug-in SPDs attached to individual equipment (e.g., computers and other electronics). However, plug-in devices are not sufficient to protect *all* the equipment in your home. In addition to plug-in surge strips, a hard-wired SPD reduces surges that might otherwise overwhelm plug strips and damage connected household equipment. Alternating current panel devices—connected to your electrical panel—provide protection for all equipment connected to that panel. This would include expensive kitchen appliances, such as stoves and refrigerators.

Along with ac suppression devices, NEMA manufacturers provide SPDs to protect telecommunications, data, coax, and dc equipment. These devices protect other wires and cables in the home such as the television and Ethernet cables, and telephone

lines. The bottom line is that you need more than one suppression device in order to adequately protect your valuable investments.

So, how common is the use of surge suppression in the home? Very common. However, according to a survey conducted by NEMA, most people (71 percent) didn't buy surge suppression until *after* damage was done to their equipment.

NEMA SPD manufacturers are ready to assist you in determining the best protection solution for your home. ☎

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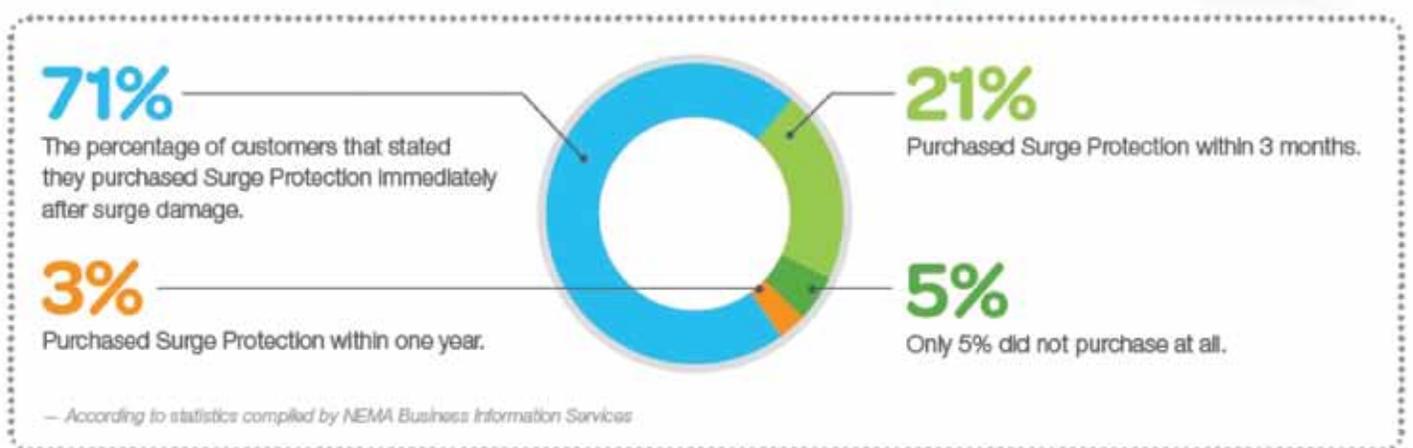
› SPDs—Whole Home Protection

Most people accept that every home needs surge protection—many have plug-in surge protective devices (SPDs). While these are good, they are not enough and do not provide protection to expensive, hard-wired appliances such as air conditioners, furnaces, washers/dryers, and smoke detectors. A hard-wired SPD installed on your electrical panel will mitigate damage from electrical surges regardless of origin.

In a survey conducted by NEMA, 71 percent of those interviewed stated that they purchased surge protection *after* surge damage occurred. Learn more at www.nemasurge.com/survey

Don't wait for damage to happen. Be proactive. Visit www.nemasurge.com or contact a NEMA SPD manufacturer for more information.

Don't wait until it's too late. Install Surge now!



Courtesy of Schneider