

SAFETY ALERT

Using Surge Suppressors and Power Taps

Surge suppressors are used to protect electronics. Power taps are used for appliances (coffee makers, etc.). Although surge suppressors and power taps are commonly sold as separate devices, some models are listed for both uses. If the unit lists both uses, it can be used to power appliances *and* sensitive electronic equipment.

Use surge suppressors manufactured according to UL 1449, 2nd edition, effective February 1998. This newer design minimizes the chance of overheating and reduces the potential of fire. Older units, those manufactured before February 1998, have overheated and charred and melted the plastic cover.

Many new surge suppressors incorporate warning lights:

- *Line OK* indicates the outlet is wired properly
- *Fault* indicates faulty outlet wiring.

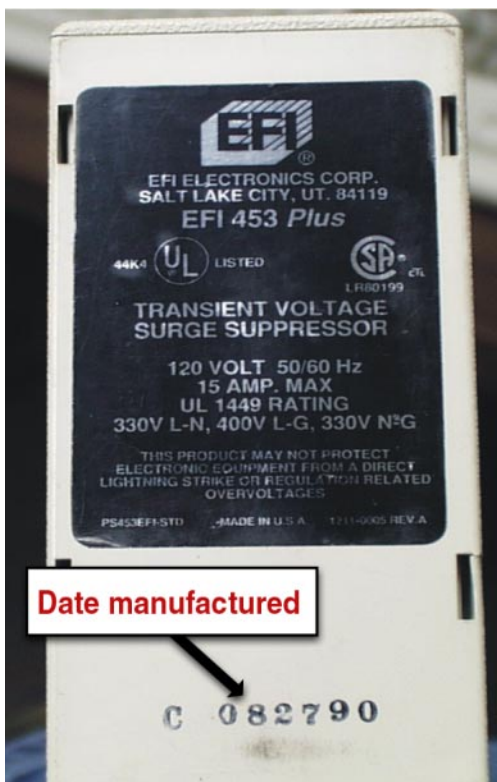
If the light goes out, replace the unit.

We recommend you use the new surge suppressors with warning lights.

Surge suppressors incorporate metal oxide varistors and may lose their protective qualities over time.

Replace your surge suppressor:

- If manufactured before February 1998
- If the manufacturing date is unknown and does it not have a warning light
- If the ampacity rating is less than 15 amps
- After 5 years if it has no warning protection indicator light.



And be warned:

- There are limitations for using power taps/surge suppressors. The ampacity rating is typically 15 amps, which approximates the demand of a computer workstation. *Do not exceed the ampacity rating of the device.*
- Do not daisy chain devices (that is, do not connect a power tap/surge suppressor into another power tap/surge suppressor).

Finally, as with all electrical equipment, if inspection reveals evidence of damage, visible or otherwise, replace the device.

Company contacts for further information:

Greg Christensen (526-5380), for technical information.