

Surge Protection Program

What is a surge?

A “surge” is a boost in electrical charge in a power line. This can be caused by lightning, but is more commonly caused by high-power electrical equipment like air conditioners and refrigerators which require more energy for starting and stopping compressors and motors. In addition, some surges can be caused by faulty wiring.

Outside causes of power problems include:

- Bad Weather (even without lightning)
- Birds and animals on power lines and transformers
- Accidents that damage power poles
- Neighbors/Commercial users with high energy requirements
- Normal utility maintenance work

Inside causes of power problems include:

- Faulty, Bad, and Old wiring
- Poor grounding
- Normal operation of motors, etc. (AC system, furnace, refrigerator)

Why is surge protection needed?

Suppression is necessary because today’s electronic devices are much more sensitive and expensive. Also, telephone and cable lines can conduct high voltage and need surge suppression as well.

How to select the right surge protection

Generally, you get what you pay for because not all surge suppressors are the same. Look for a quality product and a system that balances price with the cost of losing electronic equipment or data. Here are a few important things to look for:

- ✓ Get a surge protector that states it is a “transient voltage surge suppressor: and Meets criteria for UL 1449. (Some products look like a surge protector but are no more than extension cords.)
- ✓ Get a clamping voltage of 400V or less, the lower the better.
- ✓ Look for a joule rating of a least 200 to 400 minimum.
- ✓ Buy a surge suppressor with an indicator light that tells you the protection components are functioning.
- ✓ Better surge protectors come with a guarantee on performance backed by an insurance guarantee on your equipment.



Whole House Surge Protection

You cannot control the weather, but you can prevent it from ruining your electronics and appliances.

Lightning is a common cause of surges, but it is not the only source. Some fluctuations are created when power lines are damaged and others are generated within your home. For example, when an appliance motor or a compressor, such as your air conditioner, comes on, it can create a power fluctuation that affects other electronic equipment within your home.

Call CNMEC (505) 832-4483 today (ask for Marketing) for your best options for Surge Protection. We offer:

Whole House Surge Protection – This device is intended to protect your home’s “white goods” – washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher and HVAC units. The SPD (Surge Protection Device) is installed at the electrical Meter or main electrical panel. It acts as the first line of defense in protecting your appliances against surge damage. CNMEC installs this device at no charge. Once installed, the low \$4.95 monthly charge will be added to your electric bill. This SPD offers repair or replacement coverage.



Well Pump Surge Protection – CNMEC installs this hardwire SPD at no charge. Once installed, the low \$4.95 monthly charge will be added to your electric bill. This SPD offers repair or replacement coverage.

Irrigation Pump Surge Protection – CNMEC installs this hardwire three phase SPD at no charge. Once installed, the low \$6.95 monthly charge will be added to your electric bill. This SPD offers repair or replacement coverage.

Surge Suppression Bars or Strips – The service entrance protection devices will not cover electronic equipment such as TVs, VCRs, stereo systems, computer, etc. CNMEC has available for purchase point-of-use surge protection devices for your electronic equipment that provide additional repair or replacement coverage.