

A complete guide to safeguarding your valuable equipment from electrical surges

#### What's at risk from overvoltage?

Every year millions of dollars worth of expensive equipment is destroyed by power surges caused by lightning strikes. But lightning doesn't have to strike directly on a building or home to cause damage. Overvoltage surges are caused by indirect lightning strikes too.

Likewise, spikes in electricity caused by supply authorities switching operations can result in expensive damage to electrical equipment. Basically anything electrical is at risk, including:

Computers
 Modems
 Fax machines

OvensMicrowavesDishwashers

Refrigerators
 Other kitchen equipment

• Answering machines • Televisions

• Stereo systems • Videos and DVD players

Home security
 Computer games

Roller doors
 Electrical cables and light fittings

#### Will an insurance policy cover the damage?

Most insurance companies need evidence that a lightning strike has caused the damage. Unless hard physical evidence can be provided, it is very difficult to make a successful claim. To make it even more difficult, electronic damage may not be at all obvious and can sometimes be caused by several unnoticeable surges that gradually cause equipment failure.

## How do surge protectors work?

Surge protectors work by diverting extra voltage and energy surges to the ground instead of letting them enter the home and into expensive equipment. Some surge protectors operate within the home at the power point.

#### How much protection is enough?

The amount of protection you need depends on the sensitivity of your equipment, how important it is to keep the equipment operating, and its financial value. There are several lines of defence that you can use depending on how important the equipment is to you.

#### **First Line Protection**

The first line of defence is to have an electrician install a Clipsal 970 Surge Arrestor to your switchboard. This diverts the power surge from entering your house at the electrical point of entry. 970 overvoltage protectors offer fair protection for general household equipment however will not give protection from a direct lightning strike.



# **Direct Lightning Protection**

Clipsal's additional equipment - the 950/4 and 970LCA - provides extra protection from the increased energy expected from a direct lightning strike. A 970LCA must be used in conjunction with a 070 Surge Argestor.

with a 970 Surge Arrestor

and Decoupling device. If you wish to have this additional protection, your electrician can easily install it for you.







**970LCA** 

## **Second Line Protection**

As a second line of defence it is worth installing a Clipsal Line Conditioner 970MF in your house's switchboard. To be used in conjunction with a 970, this device provides the additional protection needed for sensitive electrical equipment such as personal computers.



970MF

# **MORE INFORMATION**

For complete peace of mind, discuss a suitable power surge defence system with a licensed electrician.

#### In House Protection

Power point protection offers defence within the house too. But whilst this is a more economical solution, it is not ideal because the energy is now inside. In-house protection is best used to complement other lines of defence designed to stop surges at the switchboard

Power point protection is installed by simply replacing existing power points. Surge protected power outlets look just like regular outlets except they have a small indicator to tell you when protection is available.

Simple plug-in power point protection is available too. Clipsal Surge Filters are adaptors that simply plug into existing power points.



25SF



C2025SF



2025SF



463SF

# **Surge Protection Product Range**

Cat. No.	Description
950/4	High capacity 4 pole overvoltage arrestor, DIN mounted
970	Overvoltage arrestor, 275V, 20kA
970P	Replacement protection plug, 275V, 20kA
970RM	Overvoltage arrestor with removable module, 275V, 20kA
970T	Overvoltage arrestor with auxiliary contacts, 275V, 20kA
970RMT	Overvoltage arrestor with removable module and aux./cont., 275V, 20kA
970MF10	Mains filter 250V 10A 50/60Hz 2 modules wide
970MF20	Mains filter 250V 20A 50/60Hz 4 modules wide
970DE	Decoupling element, 500V, 35A
970DE63	Decoupling element, 500V, 63A
970LCA	Lightning current arrestor, 264V, 25kA
970/3LCA	Lightning current arrestor, 264V, 25/75kA - 3 pole
25SF	Power outlet, double, 250V, 10A
463SF	Surge filter plug adaptor, 250V, 10A
C2025SF	Power outlet, double, surge protected
2025SF	Power outlet, double 250V, 10A with surge protection
951	Disconnection spark gap
952	Disconnection spark gap type Ex



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Printed by Custom Press Pty Ltd (08) 8346 7999 O/N 0220 August 03/02