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Power Protection

Protecting your network from power spikes, surges, and outages is crucial to keeping your district's technology system free from corruption. Only a Smart Uninterruptible Power Supply (U.P.S.) can protect your server from file corruption in the event that power to your network is lost.

Poor power management can cause your network to sustain:

- Data corruption or loss
- Long periods of downtime
- Permanent damage

The majority of a school's data is kept within the network file server. Therefore, protection of your file server is of utmost importance. Every file server should be plugged into a Smart U.P.S.

WHAT IS A SMART U.P.S.?

- **A device that provides your equipment with clean, consistent power through its filtering devices and battery**. Whether your network is suffering from a spike, surge, brownout, or complete power outage, the Smart U.P.S. adjusts its output power to compensate. It ensures that your equipment will not sustain damage and can continue to perform optimally.

- **The Smart U.P.S. is plugged directly into the wall outlet**. For companies running multiple servers, a dedicated electrical circuit is preferred to provide sufficient power without other devices drawing on it.

- **The Smart U.P.S. can detect if there is complete power loss and notifies the network operating system**. Its battery power maintains the system and properly shuts it down if power is not restored within a five-minute timeframe. (This time period depends upon the battery capacity of the Smart U.P.S. and can be adjusted.) In doing so, "crashing" of the file server is prevented.

- **The Smart U.P.S. comes with software that is loaded onto the file server**. Most packages allow for event logging, notification, self tests and monitoring via a pager or email.

PREVENT COMMON TROUBLESHOOTING ISSUES:

The serial cable is not attached. Even if the file server is plugged into the Smart U.P.S., often the serial cable is not attached nor is the associated software installed and configured. In this situation, a server

without power will simply “crash” once the Smart U.P.S. exhausts its own battery (usually 10-20 minutes). Without the serial cable connected, the Smart U.P.S. cannot tell the network operating system to shut down. This is one of the most common causes of data corruption.

A standard U.P.S. is installed rather than a Smart U.P.S. A standard UPS cannot communicate with the server. The Smart U.P.S. has the ability to communicate through a serial cable. A standard U.P.S. performs adequately for equipment such as network hubs, routers, switches, and workstations where communication with the device is not critical but power protection is still required. However, a standard U.P.S. should not be used for your file server.

Get Smart:
You can obtain Smart U.P.S. units and more information from:

- APC (American Power Conversion)
  www.apc.com
- The Best Power Company
  www.bestpower.com

Sincerely,

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