Interoffice Memo

TO: Mr. Donald Woolslayer, Director of Plant Management & Housing Maintenance
FROM: Mr. Matt Butenhoff, Electrical Supervisor
DATE: November 22, 2013
SUBJECT: Surge Suppressor

I thought you would appreciate an update on an electrical upgrade we're doing that is proving highly beneficial to the College. In the fall of 2012 we installed seven Total Protection Solutions surge suppressors in different buildings on the campus where we were losing equipment. In years past we experienced some severe and costly events on the campus. Both HVAC and lighting replacements (bulbs and ballasts) were occurring all too often. While lightning generated surge voltages were just one part of this, and a serious one, we also saw periodic outages that caused problems.

Severe surge voltages often occurred following the restoration of power. Before installing TPS surge suppression we were doing a lot of equipment replacement. This was expensive, not only in terms of hardware replacement, but also in terms of labor and downtime. Most of this has gone away, and this is a direct result of the surge suppression installation. I can now say that the campus has already seen a return on its investment since installing Total Protection Solutions surge suppressors.

We are presently installing TPS surge suppressors on electrical panels that power new energy efficient lighting systems, something we started doing in the Spring of 2013. The TPS units have already reduced bulb and ballast replacements. Accordingly, I recommend that we continue installing TPS filtering suppressors on energy efficient lighting systems throughout the campus.

Given the excellent life-expectancy and thirty year warranty of the TPS units, the savings we are presently experiencing will go on and on. I recommend that we encourage the installation of TPS units for data processing, communications and other sensitive electronic systems. Small, internally generated surges occur thousands of times on a daily basis when our equipment operates, and we selected the TPS units because they contain an enhanced filter which eliminates problems such as glitches, programming errors, and over stressing of sensitive electronics. This will benefit all of our department operations and save the College even more money.