

The Necessity of SPD Commissioning Part 1 - The Situation

In today's electrical and electronic world, the need for surge protective devices (SPDs) to protect these critical and often very expensive systems is no longer an option, it's a necessity.

With that in mind, the electrical engineering community has set out in search of the most effective protection they can find for their clients. At the same time, they are trying to ensure, via written specifications, that the 'correct-products' are installed at the 'correct-location' and installed in strict accordance with the installation instructions/requirements of the manufacturer, the written specification, and the NEC.

Unfortunately, often times we find that once this equipment makes it to the jobsite, it is either (a) not the correct product for the specific location, (b) not installed in the most effective location in relation to the breaker/protected load, or (c) not installed properly with regard to lead length, breaker size, etc.

While this most certainly poses an immediate concern to both the Consultant/Contractor, as well as the Owner of this property, it equally poses a concern for the manufacturer of the SPD. The manufacturer has a vested interest to ensure that the product works at protecting the system throughout the warranty period, with no damage to the Owner's equipment. After all, that is THE reason the system was designed and purchased in the first place!

Over the years, we have seen many scenarios where an SPD system is properly designed, bid, awarded, shipped and assumed to be installed properly. Then, somewhere down the road the Owner sustains damage to their equipment that they paid to protect. The end result is time wasted, money wasted, and overall frustration at all levels. In some cases safety-to-life concerns arise as well.

Many Mechanical, Engineering, Plumbing (MEP) firms throughout the U.S. offer some sort of commissioning of the systems they design, but yet there are still many more that cannot for a variety of reasons, from manpower/staff to economic reasons to simple geographic location issues.

This is where
Surge Suppression Incorporated[®]
can help!