

Glossary of terms

Alternating Current (AC)

Alternating current is electrical current that continually reverses direction. Change in direction is expressed in cycles per second.

Amp (Ampere)

An Amp is a unit that measures the rate of flow of an electrical current.

Breaker

A breaker is a device that connects/disconnects power to a circuit.

Brownout

A Brownout is a temporary drop in electric power. Although power is not completely lost, a brownout can cause significant data loss and voltage fluctuations.

Circuit

A circuit is a continuous loop of current.

Circuit Breaker

A Circuit Breaker is a switch that protects the load from overcurrent conditions.

Critical Load

The Critical Load is known to be the devices or equipment that has or will fail as a result of power loss/power problems; subsequently causing loss of data or function and promoting unsafe operating conditions.

Direct Current

Direct Current is the movement of an electrical charge in one direction.

Fault

A fault is a short circuit in the power system.

FrequencyGround

A ground references the connection of an electric circuit to the earth.

Harmonic Distortion

Harmonic Distortion refers to the distortion of the sine wave.

Hertz

Hertz is a unit of frequency; one hertz is equal to one cycle per second.

Hot, Neutral, Ground

The Hot, Neutral, and the Ground are the three most common wires in a circuit.

Inverter

An inverter is an electronic device that produces alternating current (AC) from direct current (DC)

Load

A load is any device that requires energy.

Noise

Noise is known as electrical signals that produce negative effects in the circuits of the electronic systems.

Overvoltage

Overvoltage is typically described as any voltage value of 10% above nominal for at least a minute.

Power Conditioning

Power Conditioning is the isolation of sensitive equipment from the effects of electrical noise and voltage fluctuations otherwise referred to as "dirty power".

Power Factor

Power Factor is the ratio of watts (W) to voltamperes (VA).

Rectifier

A rectifier is a device that converts AC power to DC power.

Sag

A sag is a decrease in voltage or current.

Short Circuit

A short circuit usually causes a circuit breaker to blow. A short circuit is inevitable when the electric current does not reach the powered device.

Surge

A surge is a short transient wave of current/power in an electrical circuit.

Transformer

Undervoltage

An undervoltage is a measured voltage that falls below the nominal voltage for more than one minute.

UPS

An Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) is a system that most often uses batteries to supply continuous power to a load when the utility is not present or is not at an acceptable level.

Volt

A volt is a measurement of electrical pressure.

Voltage Distortion

Voltage Distortion is the distortion of the alternating current (AC) voltage.

Watts

Watts is the measurement of the amount of electrical power drawn by the load