

FIRE PREVENTION AWARENESS

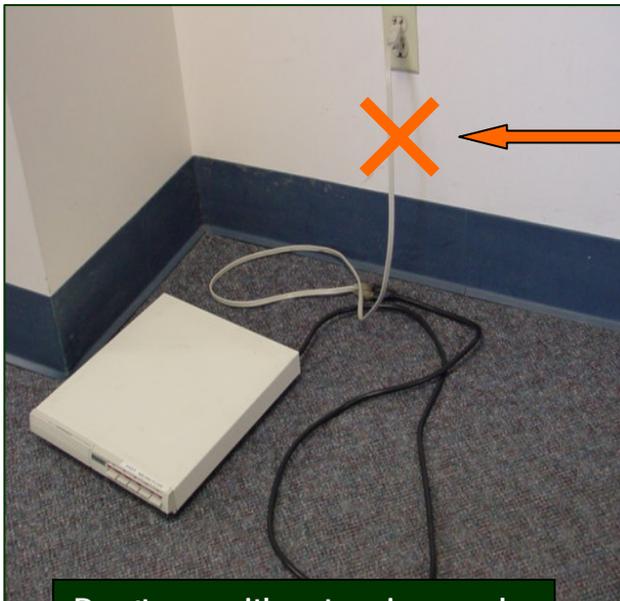
NAVFAC LANT HQ NEAR MISS

Electronic Surge Protector Electrical Fire



At approximately 1230 on 1 July 2009, NAVFAC Atlantic HQ (LRA) experienced an office space electrical fire near miss. A Surge Protection device (Newpoint Power Director Model P3) improperly in use with an unauthorized extension cord caught fire at the male/female connection underneath an employee's desk. Damage was confined to the surge

protection device and adjacent carpeting. The area was aired out by opening windows to dissipate smoke and odor. Initial indications are the direct cause resulted from overheating due to a loose or worn female connection on the unauthorized extension cord feeding the device.



Don't use with extension cords

Manufacturer recommended prevention:

(1) Plug surge protection devices directly into wall outlets without using extension cords; (2) use only UL approved; (3) observe indicator light that lets you know if the unit is still operating properly, (4) don't exceed the device rating - plug in only electronic ("computer") apparatus - (no appliances) to surge protection devices; (5) use in dry locations; & (6) replace your surge protector if there is any evidence of overheating.

Examples of other surge protection devices

