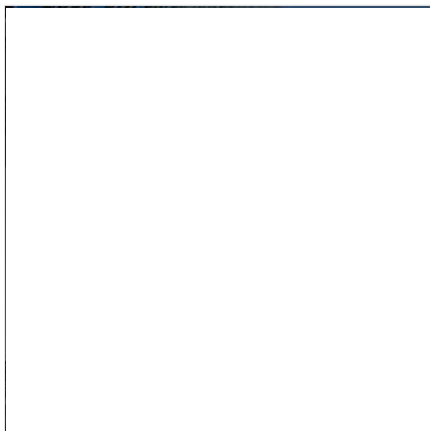


# 5 Areas of UPS Failure Look Out For

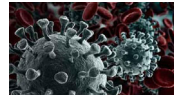


## Don't Be A Repair Organization

UPS failures coincident with utility power failures can include extended downtime. Here's what to keep in mind:



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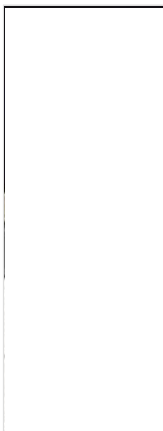
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UPS systems offer €  
using always batteries, to bridge the short

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and backup generator operation. They are sometimes needed to provide backup energy longer, up to 10 minutes or more. UPS systems can fail randomly when utility power is stable, which may or may not affect the critical load. Random UPS failures tend to be forgiving because of automatic bypass mechanisms and local/remote alerts that should get immediate action. But UPS systems, especially batteries, can fail when

the need for performance is the greatest, when utility power fails. UPS failures that are coincident with utility power failures (or generator transfers, testing, etc.) are not forgiving; these failures cause unplanned downtime.

What to look out for:

**1. On-bypass alert:** UPS systems sometimes automatically transfer to bypass as a result of internal or external issues or for no apparent reason. When in bypass, most UPS systems offer no protection against utility power failures; the battery backup is not functional. A UPS system supporting critical load should not be allowed to linger in bypass any longer than necessary. Far too often, UPS on bypass alerts are ignored . . . until utility power bums and critical equipment goes down hard.

**2. A weak or failed batteries alert, similar to an on-bypass alert, requires urgent attention:** A battery set rated at ei may fall to five or six minutes over time; but it may ε minutes and zero seconds with very little additional

**3. End-of-life and premature failures of lead-acid cause of UPS failures:** UPS batteries, even if they

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perform as needed or may not perform at all.

**4. Don't let air filters get dirty:** Dirty air filters can result in localized internal UPS component overheating and weakening even though UPS temperature sensors may not trigger over-temperature alarms.

**5. Be sure to maintain the proper temperature in the space housing the UPS and batteries:** High room temperature resulting from failed cooling or other causes can cause UPS overheating to the point of transfer to bypass, or worse (critical equipment downtime).

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