

# TOP MARK BISHOP'S TEN'S

## BENEFITS OF USING INTELLIGENT POWER CONTROL

- 1 Add Electrical Protection and On/Off Control**  
The National Electric Code prohibits the use of conventional circuit breakers as a switch. Repeatedly using the handle on a circuit breaker reduces its protective rating and can result in frustrating truck rolls or even create a fire hazard. Therefore, switch-grade breakers or AC relays are required in order to add on/off control at the circuit level.
- 2 Improve Energy Efficiency**  
“Vampire” or “phantom” power loss can be eliminated by turning off equipment at the circuit level and taking electronics out of standby mode. Almost every electronic device draws current, even when turned “off”. This contributes to approximately 11% of electric bills. Shutting down equipment at the circuit level eliminates wasted energy.
- 3 Increase the Lifespan of Devices**  
Heat is the enemy of electronics; shutting them down completely will allow longer lifespans. This is true for any device containing a processor or switch-mode power supply. Taking electronics out of standby mode will also reduce maintenance costs by allowing circuit boards and power supplies to stay cool.
- 4 Apply Powering Protocols**  
AVL systems can be protected from electrical mishaps through defined powering protocols during start-up and turn-off. This includes defining the order of powering, sequential powering to spread out electrical inrush, preventing speaker “thumps” or damage, as well as delaying turn-off to allow equipment to cool properly.
- 5 Shut Down Systems Automatically**  
Intelligent systems allow for the scheduled shut down of electrical systems. Scheduling shut downs ensure that anything accidentally left on will be automatically turned off, even if no one is present.
- 6 Check System Status Remotely**  
Intelligent systems offer Internet access to control systems. This lets facility managers check the status of their electrical system remotely, allowing them to turn systems on or off without being on-site.
- 7 Control Specific Equipment with Zoning**  
Zoning features provide the capability to power only the equipment or lighting that is required — not the entire room. It also allows users to turn off equipment with motors and/or fans during speeches and presentations to eliminate distracting background noise.
- 8 Integrate Fire Alarm Systems**  
Intelligent power control systems can be integrated into fire alarm systems to shut off amplifiers and turn on egress lighting automatically. This reduces redundant equipment and wiring, lowering the cost of meeting local fire codes.
- 9 Protect from Power Surges**  
Under and/or over voltage protection can be added for another layer of equipment protection by assuring “clean” power. This feature automatically shuts down electronics in case of electrical anomalies which can be harmful to equipment.
- 10 Monitor, Track, and Plan Energy Usage**  
Monitoring current with intelligent power control systems allows technical staff to identify equipment faults and track both energy use and savings. In other words, users can’t measure improvements or monitor energy savings if they aren’t able to measure power usage.

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