



**Case Study**  
**Large Grocery Store Chain, Midwest**  
**Problem Identified**

A large grocery chain has over 200 stores located throughout the Midwest. Power Protection Products, Inc. (P3) has been a trusted supplier and advisor for power quality for this customer since 1998. Previously, the stores used small UPS units located around their stores for backup power during power outages. At one count, we actually documented 36 individual UPS systems throughout one grocery store. This decentralized approach to critical back up power was costly to use and cumbersome to maintain. A centralized back up power system was needed to provide constant clean uninterruptible power that could easily be maintained and monitored. This new unit would include scalability and hot swappable batteries providing flexibility and convenience for store personnel.

Upon installation of the centralized UPS, a problem was encountered when the new UPS was energized. The UPS experienced an inconsistent “overload” alarm, and after several attempts for a resolution, P3 was called in to assist the Electrical Contractor and factory field technician. Power monitors were placed on the equipment and the technical walk through of the actual critical and non-critical load was identified. Together, we found that a lot of non-critical store equipment was plugged into the UPS circuits. We found pop machines, battery chargers, electric heaters, fans, a shrink wrap machine and even a lobster tank had been put on the UPS system by mistake. Once this overload condition was cleared, the unit functioned as designed. Since then, P3, the store and the contractor has revised the electrical layout of the store to prevent future problems with the critical power system. The re-designed stores now have confidence, control and reliability in their critical power system. P3 was a trusted advisor that helped this retail customer with their critical power system.

Power Protection Products, Inc. specializes in products, services and software that will enhance power quality, energy efficiency and data center optimization. The Company also provides turnkey data center solutions and power quality studies. We focus on the reliability, understanding and optimization of your critical power and cooling needs.