

Toolbox Talks

Improper Use of Multiple Outlet Devices is Dangerous



A potential tragedy in a Maine town office. A multiple outlet strip with a “zip cord” extension cord, ground “cheater”, and triple outlet adaptor. Depending on the appliances plugged into this setup, it could pose both a serious fire and electrocution hazard!

- Multiple outlet devices such as “power strips”, multiple outlet adapters, and extension cords with multiple outlets ends can easily overload and overheat wall receptacles and branch circuit wiring in walls - **LEADING TO A STRUCTURE FIRE!**
- Misuse of multiple outlet strips and extension cords is a *leading cause* of office fires in the U.S.
- For this reason, the use of multiple outlet strips *must be restricted to surge suppressor protection of computers and desktop electronics.*
- **DO NOT** use them to power coffee pots, microwaves, or other office appliances.
- **IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH OUTLETS IN YOUR OFFICE, THEN A QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN SHOULD INSTALL MORE, PER THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE.**



CLOSE CALL!

