

by Jerry Pournelle, Ph.D.

Falcon Electric Wins 2008 Chaos Manor Users' Choice Award

Once again the Chaos Manor Users' Choice award for uninterruptible power supplies goes to Falcon Electric <http://www.falconups.com/>.

A story goes with that. When the big rains came to Los Angeles, we had power outages. The big one happened in the middle of the night. I happened to be working at the time.

All of my major computer systems are protected by Falcon UPS boxes. This includes the main Ethernet switch, the cable modem, and the D-Link Router, as well as the two main computers I work with.

First the lights blinked several times. Then they went off for about half a minute and returned. Finally they went off and stayed off. None of this had any effect on my computers: my on line connections remained intact. There were no glitches whatever. My lights were off. I thought they might come back, but after several minutes I decided to shut down my computers in an orderly manner. This was no problem at all.



Falcon's On-line Double-conversion 1.5 to 3kVA SSG Series UPSes give users the highest level of protection against the widest spectrum of power problems.

I was now listening to a chorus of chirps as my Falcon UPS boxes complained bitterly that they had no input power. I went around to each and shut it down. Pushing a single button did the trick. Now all was quiet, and dark.

Hours later, when the power returned, the Falcon UPS boxes woke themselves up. Several of my computers, including the main server, had been set to turn themselves on and did so without problems. I manually turned the others on. In half an hour computing at Chaos Manor was back to normal.

Falcon UPS come in many sizes and configurations, from an UPS suitable for a single user to establishments with

thousands of computers and networks. They tend to last forever. All UPS systems are subject to having the batteries wear out, but I have used a number of brands of UPS, and the Falcon UPS requires battery replacement significantly less often than the others have. By significantly longer, I mean in some cases years.

I have said this almost every year since I began this column: if your work is worth anything at all, it's worth protecting by an UPS; and if it's worth protecting, it's worth getting a Falcon UPS.

Highly recommended.

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One more tribute to Falcon UPS.”



Update: Incident in the Cable Room - The Falcon UPS was knocked over by a falling cabinet. In falling, it knocked over the Falcon UPS boxes that protect the servers and routers and Ethernet switches. Since they had been standing on top of the servers, they fell a good three feet, landing flat on their sides. There were two UPS and a battery supplement unit. All fell, knocked head over teacups by the falling cabinet. But meanwhile, absolutely nothing has happened. The servers and routers never noticed any problems. Everything runs just fine. One more tribute to Falcon UPS.

