

SR SERIES POWER SWITCH FAILURES

The original design of the on/off circuit is sound. But, not foolproof. Under normal circumstances there is no problem. When you turn on a cold rig, all the filaments are cold and the turn/on inrush current is not severe. The problem occurs when you inadvertently turn off the rig and immediately turn it back on. Like when you are operating the SR-400 in VOX and decide to take a break. You intend to move the switch from VOX to REC, you over shoot and turn off the rig and immediately turn it back on. The Slo-blo fuse will adsorb the transient. However, it will cause arcing at the contacts of the power switch. Do it often enough and the switch contacts are eaten up.

The solution is to install a relay in the power supply to switch the voltage on and off to the transformer primary. Wire the on/off switch to control the relay. Pick a 120 vac relay with a coil resistance of 3k to 6k and for a 240 relay the coil should be 6k to 10k.

Good habits to develop: If inadvertently turned off, leave off for 1 minute before turn on. Always turn the gain and drive controls to minimum before turn on