

whoami



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DISCLAIMERS







Ideas/research my own...







Circuit Interrupts around the house





GFC





≠ Purposes

GFCI: Intends to prevent Electric Shock



AFCI: Intends to prevent fires



Code Requirements

GFCI's

- Bathrooms/Indoor wet locations
- Garages/storage areas/non habitable areas/unfinished basements
- Outdoors/Compartments accessible from outside the unit/Rooftops/Pools/Hot tubs
- Crawl spaces at or below grade level
- Kitchen [dish washer, Refrigerator]
- Laundry Areas

AFCI's

- Kitchens
- Family Rooms
- Dining Rooms
- Living Rooms
- Parlors
- Libraries
- Dens
- Bed rooms
- Sun rooms
- Recreation Rooms
- Closets/Hallways
- Laundry Areas
- Or similar rooms









Solenoid



Aug. 24, 1999

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5,943,199







Arc Fault





Circuit Interrupt





GFI Demos 😳

Magic Smoke - Closed

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdIDoE3rV9M

Internal Spark

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-fKU9MvDjg

Close range Outlet trip

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21UeF_cHRxU

Close range Outlet trip

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yw-DV2URE0

GFCI Outlet Trip through RF

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IpzHTYNK52Y

Across Walls

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30t50Hs0pZM

"Remote"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKxL1MMLe0I

Magic smoke

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nt6HiCsAKhw

Flaming flying components 😳

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S16zuJACdds

Result



Fried GFCI

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnlJeaKOugc



AFCI Breakers vs. HAM Radio

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsILD0Fce1s 0:22 & 5:47

AFCI Breakers vs. HAM Radio



News

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ARRL Helps Manufacturer to Resolve Arc Fault Circuit Interrupter RFI Problems

TAGS: amateur radio transmitter, ARRL Lab, gruber, online ham radio

11/19/2013

The ARRL Lab has worked with a manufacturer of arc fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) breakers to resolve complaints that Amateur Radio RF was causing certain breaker models to trip unnecessarily. Like the more common ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI), the AFCI is a safety device. Primarily designed to detect problems that could result in a fire, AFCIs detect potentially hazardous arc faults that result from often unseen damage or poor connections in wiring and in extension cords and cord sets.

"Several months ago we started receiving reports from amateurs that when they transmitted, their AFCI breakers were tripping," said Mike Gruber, W1MG, the ARRL Lab's EMC specialist. He notes that the issue has been a topic of online ham radio discussions as well as on homeowner sites; it seems that stray RF is not the only thing that can cause a "nuisance trip" of an AFCI. Gruber pointed out that the National Electrical Code (NEC) already requires AFCIs in some household circuits, but not all US jurisdictions have adopted the requirement.

http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-helps-manufacturer-to-resolve-arc-fault-circuit-interrupter-rfi-problems

So what's going on?



Electromagnetism

















Defined by: Resistance, Inductance & Capacitance

A coil will resonate to it's fundamental frequency (or harmonics)

US AC works @ 60 Hz








Low Power GFI

RV4145A

PRODUCT SPECIFICATION



* Value depends on transformer characteristics.

Figure 1. GFI Application Circuit (Three-Wire Outlet)

SCR's Silicone Controlled Rectifiers



Ceramic Capacitor

- 0.01 uF
- Overheating, over current, short-circuit



GFI Power Outlets



Patents

Impacted?	Count	Year	Brand	Country	Models
Y	12	1999	Tower Switches Limited	China	303 52
Y	2	2007	Luen Ming	China	LA5s, LA5D, LA5D-EMC, LA5S-EMC
Y	4	2008	Leviton	USA	B513-522
Ν	2	2013	Zhongshan Kaper Electrical Co., LTD	China	XY421-DV5
Ν	1	2012	Wellong	China	P10D, P10S
Ν	1	2012	Luen Ming	China	LA2S, LA2D, LA3S, LA3D.

Certificate	Link
US5943199 A	https://www.google.com/patents/US5943199?dq=5943199&hl=en&sa=X&ei=S6rlU4PvEtLpoASNq4CYBQ&ved=0CBwQ6AEwAA
E256185	http://www.luenming.com.hk/index_topic.php?did=76074&didpath=/75489/76074_
US7463124 B2	https://www.google.com/patents/US7463124?dq=7463124&hl=en&sa=X&ei=e7flU9-pM4X6oATjpoCwDw&ved=0CBwQ6AEwAA_
UL E212530	http://yanyao1984.en.ec21.com/XY421-DV52830573 2948868.html
E130151	http://www.olilio.com/file/detail/AUHG2.E130151.html
E256185	http://www.olilio.com/file/detail/AUHG2.E256185.html





Other scenarios...



Relevance?

- RFI can be accidental or intentional
- RFI is wireless and fingerprint free
- Annoying DoS/Neighbor trolling
- Services/Devices that matter: Medical Equipment

Recent GFCI News 🛞

Electrocution causes death of 8 year old boy July 28th, 2014 – Lake Conroe, Texas

He said investigators discovered the faulty wiring on the dock at the Piney Shores Resort near League Line Road where the boy sat before falling in the water feet first. The boy was only in the water about 15 seconds before his father pulled him from the lake and began CPR. The boy was later pronounced dead at Memorial Herman Hospital in Houston.

According to Nancy Mikeska, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office requested the city inspect the dock as part of the investigation. Mikeska said the resort and the dock are in the city limits.

"Inspectors inspected the dock and made a determination that the wiring was not to city code and was dangerous and shut the power off to the dock," she said. "The GFIs appeared to malfunction and continued to run hot."

http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/courier/news/police-electrocution-may-havecaused-death-of--year-old/article_0c6c4b56-6c57-5796-9ccb-b25bb025f780.html

Suggested Solutions

- Test your GFCI's often
- Update to newer Circuit Breaker Patents
- Back ups:
 - Power Generators
 - Batteries
 - Manual Overrides
- Grounded FC encasing

LIVE Demos

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RvvFFfQZt8

Thanks

