

Inrush current

When the module is connected to the input power, the primary capacitors will be charged by a high current pulse. The magnitude of this pulse depends mainly on the input supply system.

With a thermistor (temperature dependent resistor) in series with the input, this current pulse can be reduced, as the thermistor has a relatively high value of resistance as long as it is cold. This resistance becomes very low as the thermistor heats up. If the input power is interrupted for a short period of time not allowing the thermistor to cool down, and the primary capacitors are discharged, the current limitation function of the thermistor will not be effective. The thermistor is standard on mains input models up to 45 Amps input current. For higher input current there are two further alternatives available: Schaefer PFC or an electronic current limitation.

Power Factor Correction (PFC)

Power supplies draw line current in pulses from the input supply. Should it be required, a PFC will integrate these pulses to be both, effectively sinusoidal in shape, and in phase with the AC input supply. The result of this integration, be it active or passive, is the reduction of the harmonic distortion and allows a more effective loading of the input source.

Spike suppression

High input voltage spikes generated in the supply system that could disturb operation of the unit or cause damage will be absorbed by a varistor across the input lines.

Input under and over voltage turn off

The input voltage range of the unit is defined as the voltage limits at which it will operate. Should the input be reduced to a specific voltage, the unit will turn off by switching off the power circuit. The same applies to an increase in the input voltage. Once a preset value is reached then the power circuit will be switched off. It must be considered that the switching off of the power circuit does not mean a removal of the input circuit from the power supply.

Thermal shutdown with auto restart

The higher power Schaefer modules are fitted with a thermal shutdown. In the event of a temperature rise above a preset value, the unit will turn off. This safety feature will then remain active until the point of temperature measurement has reduced significantly. The time duration for this to be reached is dependent upon the environment and level of cooling.

Temperature derated load

It is the responsibility of the client to reduce the loading of the Schaefer product with respect to the temperature (derated load: 2.5 % / °C from +55 °C operating temperature). The maximum operating temperature of +75 °C must lead to the unit being switched off.

Efficiency

The optimum efficiency is obtained through a high input voltage measured against a high output voltage at maximum power rating.