



Case study

POWERING EDUCATION IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Uninterruptible Power Supply Systems

RELIABLE POWER FOR RURAL AREAS



Shown: CyberPower OL2200RTXL2U Smart App Online rackmount UPS System and Smart App Sinewave PR1500LCD tower UPS systems

CyberPower's portfolio of power protection solutions includes uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems of all sizes and capacities that include power monitoring and management software which are designed to meet the growing demands of today's IT applications. From project scoping to professional commissioning and service, CyberPower can deliver a complete power protection solution.

Solution Summary

Location: Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Opportunity: To provide Lethbridge School Division with a reliable, comprehensive power solution to protect uninterrupted learning, operations, and events.

CyberPower Solution: A custom power protection solution featuring both online and line-interactive UPS systems.

Results: Lethbridge School Division now ensures smooth operation for their students and broader community with reliable power protection.

CyberPower®

About CyberPower

Founded in 1997, CyberPower designs, manufactures, and delivers award-winning power protection solutions, including uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems, power distribution units (PDUs), surge protectors, mobile charging devices, connectivity, and power management software to customers worldwide.



ABOUT LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DIVISION

Lethbridge is a rural community situated about 200 kilometers south of Calgary, Alberta with a large public school division that serves over 12,000 students across 25 locations. Founded in 1886, several school buildings in the division are showing their age, which presents challenges for air conditioning and temperature-control systems. The schools also serve the community on evenings and weekends, hosting community events, youth sports, and even e-sports tournaments.

The Lethbridge Schools IT department uses uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems in their server rooms, meeting rooms, gymnasiums, and to support central operations that includes phones, audio/video, security, and environmental systems. The demand for reliable power is critical, and each school also has a backup generator.

PARTNER AND PIVOT TO PROGRESS

SITUATION: CHALLENGING POWER CONDITIONS

In rural areas, utility power can be notoriously unreliable. Distortions like voltage sags, surges, and electrical noise can create power outages. Lethbridge's central operations system was particularly sensitive to these power fluctuations, which caused disruptions to education, assessments, and community events. Further, there are very few IT technicians in the immediate area to solve power problems when they occur.

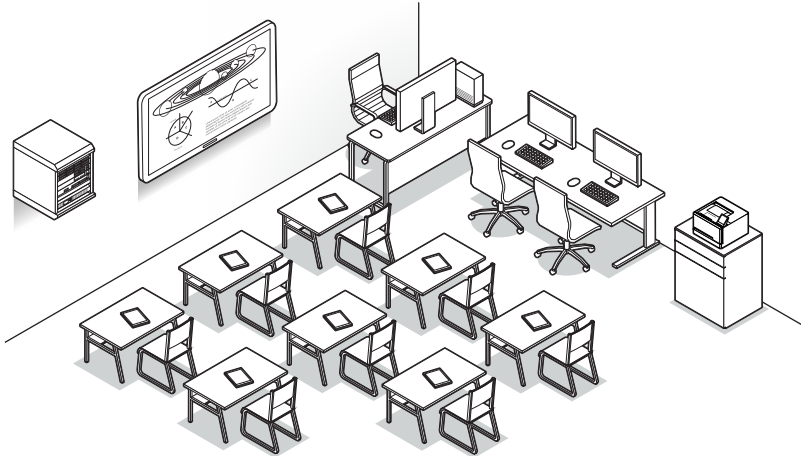
Back in 2020, the Lethbridge School Division had a supplier that provided a basic UPS system that failed to serve their complex power protection needs. Lethbridge utilized line-interactive UPS systems, which are not compatible with a generators and constant resets were required. Over time, the entire division experienced several power disruptions and while the generator did engage, the milliseconds of transfer time created power gaps, which led to complete system shutdowns and restarts.



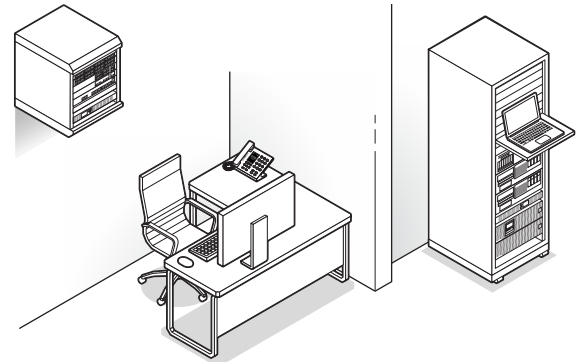
TASK: INTEGRATE NEW POWER TECHNOLOGY INTO OLD BUILDINGS

The constant power gaps resulted in frustrated students, teachers, administrators, and event attendees. These issues sometimes required expensive service calls. The need for more reliable power was apparent, especially if Lethbridge schools were to meet their educational requirements and continue to host large-scale events for the community.

CLASSROOM



BACKROOM

**ACTION: A ROBUST SOLUTION TO MEET RURAL POWER NEEDS**

Lethbridge needed more durable and reliable UPS systems – one that was generator-compatible, could handle the power demands of a large rural school district and a supplier who prioritized customer service.

“CyberPower has the best logistics and service in the business.”

Jesse Sadlowski,
IT Administrator,
Lethbridge School Division

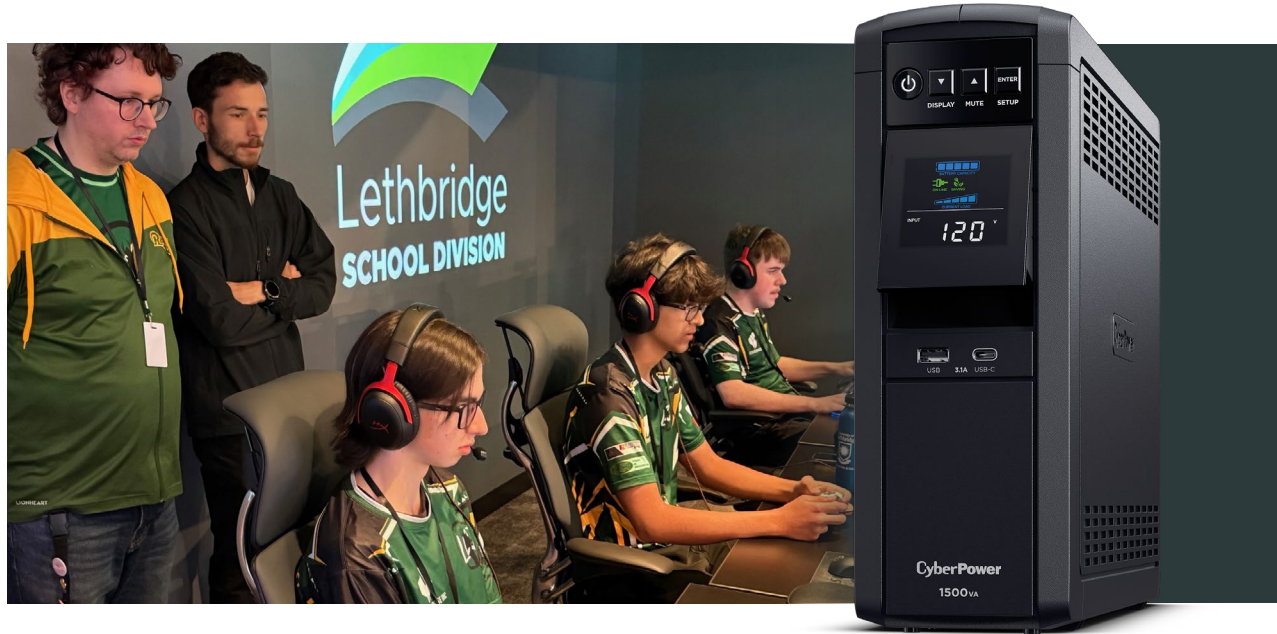
Lethbridge Schools IT administrator, Jesse Sadlowski, reached out to their technology distribution partner TLD Computers, Inc., who recommended CyberPower and connected Jesse with Senior Channel Leader, Noah Jacobs. Noah and the CyberPower engineering team conducted a full power assessment. Together, they selected a power protection solution featuring the CyberPower OL2200RTXL2U, an Online Double-Conversion rackmount UPS system with 2200 VA capacity for critical equipment and devices linked to the central operating system.

The CyberPower Online UPS systems were a significant upgrade from the previous UPS systems due to their compatibility with backup generators. In a power outage, these UPS systems would provide a bridge of power with zero transfer time until the backup generators engaged and were fully powering the critical equipment.

For devices not connected to backup generator, CyberPower opted for the PR1500LCD, a tower-style line-Interactive, 1500 VA capacity UPS system featuring sine wave output for server rooms and individual workstation battery backup.

CyberPower delivered the power protection equipment to each of the remote locations of Lethbridge Schools. While the battery backups themselves were a welcome improvement over their previous UPS systems, it was the dedicated ongoing customer service provided by Noah and the CyberPower Engineering Team made the transition process easier.

POWERED, PROTECTED, AND PRODUCTIVE



RESULT: SMOOTH OPERATION

The result was a more affordable, reliable power protection plan with ongoing support that achieved sustained success for several years. Lethbridge Schools Division can now boast more “up time” than ever. After the installation, Noah provided guidance to Jesse and the Lethbridge IT team on maintaining their UPS systems and since then, they have reported no service calls. When power events do occur, the generator-compatible online UPS systems deliver seamless power with zero-transfer time to minimize, and even eliminate power disruptions.

“Any UPS that can outlive my dishwasher is a good product.”

Jesse Sadlowski,
IT Administrator,
Lethbridge School Division

In the years that followed, Noah continued to check in on Lethbridge Schools to ensure their power needs were being met. When the time came for to service the units, the CyberPower warranty allowed for the flexibility to determine if maintenance or replacing the UPS system was the most economical solution. Looking forward, CyberPower is considered the long-term partner for any future power initiatives.

GAME ON

In fact, Lethbridge was able to host the inaugural Alberta E-Sports Championships in 2024, one of the largest E-Sports competitions in North America. The event featured 350 student gamers and several internationally ranked players on over 100 gaming PC rigs, each paired with a CyberPower Sine Wave UPS system. The event was a huge success and cemented CyberPower as their long-term power partner.



From basic to advanced power protection and monitoring, CyberPower is your ultimate ally in power. To learn more, contact a CyberPower sales associate or visit www.CyberPowerSystems.com/products



CYBER SNAP SHOT

- Who?** Lethbridge School Division in Lethbridge, AB
- What was learned?** The right type and topology of UPS systems and support are critical to providing an effective power protection plan, especially in rural areas.
- Why it matters?** Reliable backup and power protection are critical to ensuring continuous learning, operations, and events

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