

9 ways BEER and UPSs are alike.

Have you ever thought, “This crisp, cold beer really reminds me of my uninterruptible power supply?” Well, the beer you drink and the UPS power you use are arguably of equal importance, and more of a science than one may think. Here are 9 ways the beer in your glass matches the UPS in your server room.

Best if used by [this date]

Beer expires, especially the hoppy kinds like an IPA. Make sure you don't leave the store with an expired beer. Do this once and you'll understand the importance of checking expiration dates on everything including your UPS batteries. It's beneficial to check and note the expiration date to ensure a replacement plan is in place.

Power is in the watts

UPSs are typically rated in volt amperes (VA) but you should be looking at the wattage. For example, think of a 1 kVA UPS as a six pack. Would you rather have a six pack of 8 oz. or 12 oz. beers? Similarly, the wattage rating of a 1 kVA UPS typically ranges from 600 to 1000 watts. The higher the wattage rating, the more IT equipment you can power! For more information, check out our Professor Wattson video: [VA vs Watts](#).

Pairing matters

To bring out its full potential, a UPS needs to be paired with the right equipment. Think racks, rack power distribution units (PDUs) and software. You'll be as pleased with your full solution as when you pair chocolate with a stout or a burger with a pale ale.

Now trending

Though we advise to tread lightly when considering industry trends, a New England Style IPA is delicious! Some flash in the pan trends should be avoided, like Gose IMO—there's a reason that style died 70 years ago. But other trends like **lithium-ion batteries** can change the UPS landscape in your favor by lowering your total cost of ownership (TCO).

Temperature is everything

There's a reason some cans have mountains that turn blue when cold . . . no one wants to drink that stuff warm! Similarly, heat can significantly diminish the performance, safety and lifetime of a battery. Both UPSs and beer perform better when stored and used at the proper temperature.

How bold should you go

How full-flavored or feature-rich do you want to go? An online UPS, similar to an imperial chocolate coffee stout, has a lot to offer but could be too much depending on your needs. Some applications only call for a standby UPS the same way a cold, crisp light beer makes for a perfect after-mowing-your-yard treat.

Redundancy

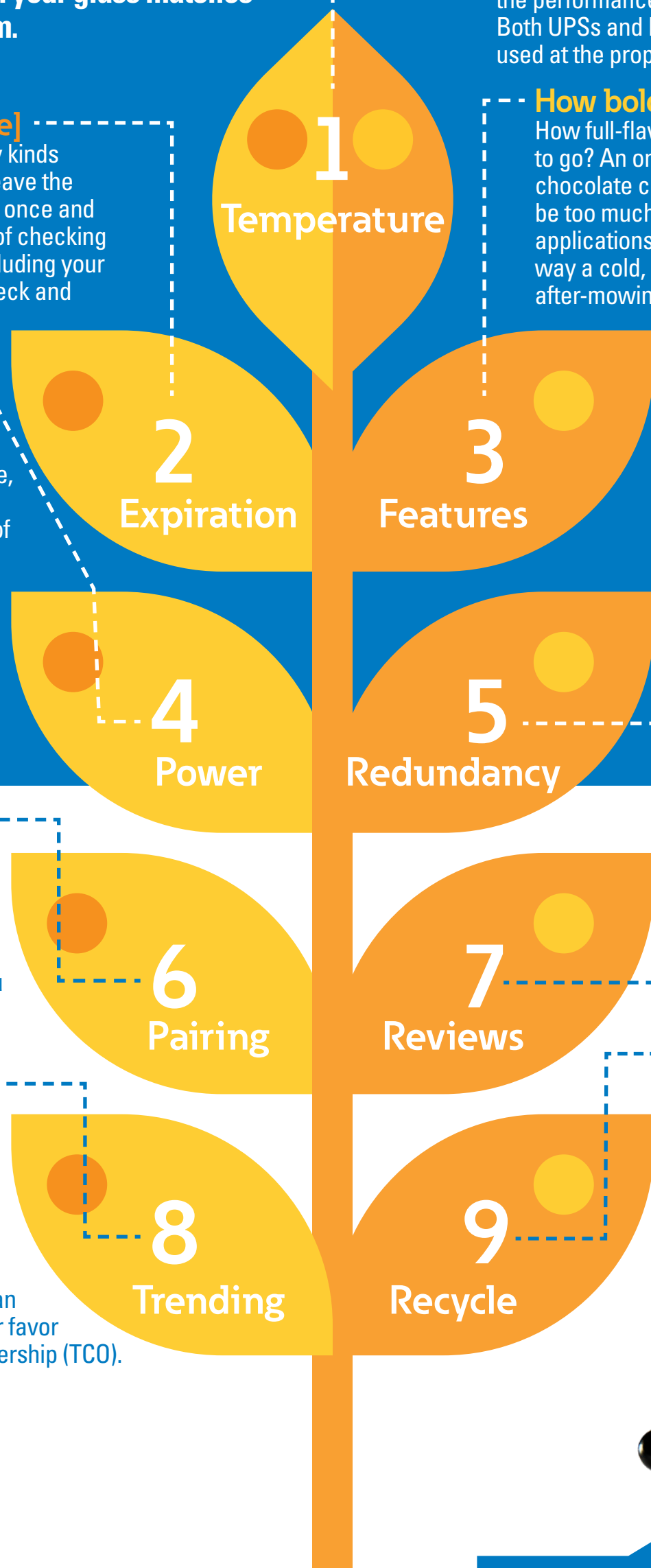
Make sure you have a backup. You may think you're only going to drink one, and then Billy stops by empty-handed and thirsty after the stores have closed. Redundancy is key! The surest way to increase your UPS availability is to incorporate a 2N or N+X redundant configuration for fault tolerance. And let's face it—a redundant environment can protect you from the Billy's of the world.

Reviews are key

It's important to get the insider knowledge before you buy. Spiceworks.com and StorageReview.com are to IT pros as Untapped and NextGlass are to beer enthusiasts.

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Whether a beer or a battery, don't forget to do your part to save the world. Both UPS batteries and cans/bottles can be recycled by Heritage Environmental Services. And for those empty cans and bottles, be sure to dispose in your nearest “blue bin.”



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