

## Re: LCD Monitor Problem – Turns on and off

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech–archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.repair/2006–03/msg00624.html>

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- *From:* Bill Simpson <[plusnetfiles@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:plusnetfiles@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 09 Mar 2006 07:41:03 –0600
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Thanks again Arfa...I think we're done.

Bill

On Wed, 08 Mar 2006 11:12:10 GMT, "Arfa Daily" <[arfa.daily@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:arfa.daily@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

"Bill Simpson" <[plusnetfiles@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:plusnetfiles@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:qids02pd1js4o7rlf6labhan24s755bq92@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:qids02pd1js4o7rlf6labhan24s755bq92@xxxxxxxxxx)

Thanks for all the help. Since you introduced the concerns about maintaining the proper polarity. Is there a simple way to verify this? I recently pick up a new Greenlee DM–810 True RMS Digital Multimeter at a garage sale for \$5. Does this have a function that would test polarity?

Bill, I'm assuming that this is a digital meter – yes ? OK. Making sure that you have the red probe in the red socket, and the black in the black socket, then just go ahead and measure the output. If you have your red lead connected to the positive output wire, then the meter will just read " 12.00 " or whatever. If you have your red lead connected to the negative output wire, then the meter will read " – 12.00 " ie a minus sign at the front of the number.

As additional confirmation, the original power supply may well have a little picture of the output connector, indicating polarity, as might the monitor by its input socket. Additionally, as any replacement you buy is likely just a generic type, it will probably also have a picture of its plug, indicating polarity. For what it's worth, you very likely will not have to do any cutting and grafting. In general, there seems to be a loose " standard " on the plug size and polarity sense, employed by the current crop of externally powered LCD monitors and TVs. But that said, I emphasise, better to be safe than sorry ...

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Arfa

On Mon, 06 Mar 2006 14:06:46 GMT, "Arfa Daily"  
<arfa.daily@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"Bill Simpson" <plusnetfiles@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in  
message  
[news:aj9o02dm6d2n47hu4qlusena3qnlvf3o1d@xxxxxxxx](mailto:news:aj9o02dm6d2n47hu4qlusena3qnlvf3o1d@xxxxxxxx)

On Mon, 06 Mar 2006 09:03:42 GMT, "Arfa  
Daily"  
<arfa.daily@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I see that my reply did get double posted.  
Thanks for the very  
precise information. With my rather low  
level of technical knowledge,  
do you think it more advisable that I just  
replace the power supply?

The power supply that I currently have is

Sunny  
Input :100–240 – 1.6A Max, 50–60Hz,  
70–80VA  
Output: +12V – 4.0A

I contacted the manufacturer of the monitor  
and they want \$75 for a  
replacement power supply (More on that  
later). I've found some others,  
more reasonably priced online. One is a 12V  
5A (60W) and the other is  
a 12V 4.16A (50W). Am I correct in  
assuming that both should work?  
If the connector is different in these power  
supplies, would cutting  
and soldering the original connector to the  
new power supply be  
acceptable rather than the more complicated  
and dangerous course that  
professionals with your expertise would  
take? I know it's a crude  
solution, but it's something I would feel  
comfortable with.

The rest if off topic, but if you have some  
time, I would like your

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opinion. I had mentioned earlier that I contacted the manufacturer about a new power supply. I went to their home page and read the FAQ ahead of time. I found this in the FAQ:

"My screen comes on for a second and then goes black. How do I resolve this issue?

1. Please contact Customer Service for further assistance at 323-346-0888. There is a possible short in the ac adapter. "

It seems that the manufacturer knew about this problem for some time. I had registered my monitor and asked the representative when I called why they hadn't notified me of the problem (As the warranty on the monitor had just run out). I also asked if this wasn't a potential fire hazard. I got a typical rebuff. My question is: Could a short in the power supply cause a fire? Is this a dangerous situation or would normal internal safeguards keep anything hazardous from happening?

Thanks again for all of the expert help. You all went above and beyond what I expected.

Bill

If you don't feel qualified to go inside the supply, then I would not be comfortable advising you to do so. The fault almost certainly will be one of the things I suggested, but it's not worth risking injury to try to repair it, if you're not absolutely confident of what you're doing.

Either of the two power supplies should be ok rating-wise. Any power supply

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with a rating of 4 amps, will be a switch mode type, so by very nature will be regulated to its declared 12v output. Cutting and joining on the output lead is fine, BUT make absolutely sure that you get the polarity the same as original. The monitor will not like having reverse polarity DC shoved up it ...

If ever I join wires in this way, I always use heatshrink sleeving, which you could probably get from your local Radio Shack. It shrinks easily with a small paint stripper gun on 'low', and does a nice neat job of re-insulating the cable, and reinforcing the join.

As far as the manufacturer's statement about a " short in the power supply " goes, it's probably a bit of generic techno-babble that means nothing more than ' a faulty power supply '. Joe public can equate with a " short ". It sounds just technical enough to be describing something real, but is basically meaningless in this context. It is unlikely that any fire would ensue from any of the typical ( and much more likely ) faults that the power supply would really be suffering from. It's probably just a typical switch mode power supply design issue, where whoever laid out the board, decided, as they always seem to, to place an important cap right next to a resistor that gets hot. It probably just happens that the fallout from this has been particularly bad for this manufacturer, using this ( almost certainly bought-in ) power supply on his particular product.

Arfa

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