

Re: An electro-political rant

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- *From:* "Arfa Daily" <arfa.daily@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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<ZZactly@xxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1185238922.455723.37550@xx

I don't really know where to start.

I think I shall start with this – Since big business bought our government, it seems like it is open season on the American consumer. I mean that 100% and invite anyone to refute it.

These people are not stupid either. Take the example of the Protron 30 or 32" LCD. You can't get a power supply for it. The name Protron appears nowhere on the power supply. It's made by yHI and has a completely an independent model number.

Now, if I were in charge of yHI I would make a bunch of extras and just stow them away. Unless the contract specifically prohibits me from doing so I would do it. Then just wait several months. Those power supplies that they jewed you down to \$40 each on, people are willing to pay \$150 now because they got this \$800 TV that doesn't work. (no offense intended to Jews, that is a figure of speech)

Why wouldn't yHI make some spares and just sell them later ? I can think of only one reason. They agreed not to.

Does this cross the line into conspiracy ?

How long will it be before nobody can repair anything ?

JURB

I don't think it crosses the line into conspiracy – I think it is just the way it is now. Our government in the UK struggles to know even what industry is any more, let alone control it – except by keeping it cowed under heavy tax and legislation. As far as spares go, such is the way it has been for years now here, so if it's only just starting to filter into your nation, you have indeed had it lucky. There was the time – here at least – when

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spares had to be kept for all products for a certain number of years. I've no idea if this is still the case, and if it is, how the manufacturers / importers get around it. Oh for the days when you could phone a manufacturer, and get someone in service, who knew the product, and better yet, sounded older than 18, and understood as much about electronics and service, as you did yourself, or a stores person who knew what they were talking about, and understood about spares.

But what really hacks me off in all of this, is the way that spares, when available, are prohibitively priced. We keep getting told all manner of hysterical eco-nonsense about pollution and global warming and whatever new fad that they can come up with this week, and are also told that we've got to become much less of a 'throw-away' society, and become a lot more aware of recycling, and the damage done by dumping stuff in landfill.

Fair enough on some of that, but if it's the government-sponsored case that we need to do this, why are they not addressing the problem of spares availability, and pricing ? Quite 'reasonable' home cinema systems can, for example, be had from the local supermarket, for a very sensible price. And I'm not talking 'no-names' here. Often well known brand names, although what you are getting is not, of course, actually manufactured by them. Now what happens when its laser fails just out of warranty ? Well, first off, it's probably not even available as a spare part. If it is, the cost of it is nearly as much, if not more, than the player cost in the first place. Result ? An otherwise perfectly good player goes at worst to landfill, and at best, to be recycled, which uses yet more energy.

It seems to me that if these items can be built cheap enough to sell at that price in the first place, then the component cost of the laser must only be a few pence / cents. So, if governments really want to make a difference, then this kit should be forced to have a 5 year lifetime, by making manufacturers supply spare parts for that period of time, and by making them sell them out at cost plus handling, plus a sensible storage cost. Profit on spares should be secondary, only if the final cost allows for it.

There. That's *my* electro-political rant !! d;~ }

Arfa

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