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## Self-Ejecting Power Plugs Prevent Equipment Damage and Personnel Hazards

The University of Virginia in Charlottesville has a fleet of about 25 buses that need to have their engine blocks heated electrically overnight so they can be started reliably on cold mornings. Up until recently, each bus was heated by a standard straight blade plug, with each device connected to a power panel located where the buses are garaged. Yet, this presumably simple power connection installation had an inherent flaw.

Prior to departing the garage, each bus's driver was required to manually disconnect the power plug and stow the power cable. But many times, student bus drivers forgot to disconnect the power plug before they drove out of the garage, causing equipment damage and the potential for personnel injury.

In response, the UVA Parking and Transportation Department decided to address the problem before more damage or an injury occurred. After researching different kinds of electrical connecting systems, they discovered that MELTRIC Corporation offered a self-ejecting plug specifically engineered for the problem they were experiencing. So, they contacted MELTRIC to obtain an evaluation sample of its self-ejecting power plug and connector.

### A Steep Decline in Plug Driveaway Incidents

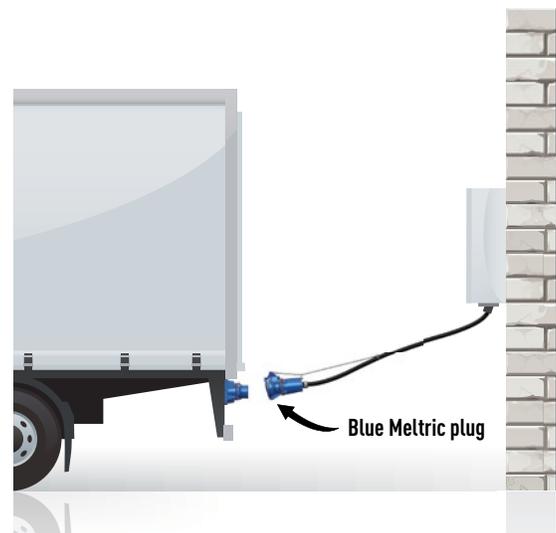
After testing the MELTRIC self-ejecting power plug and connector, they believed it was a far better means of addressing their problem of power plug driveaway incidents than other competing electrical connecting solutions. After installing the MELTRIC self-ejecting plug and receptacle on its bus fleet, UVA experienced a steep decline in power plug driveaway incidents. They concluded that MELTRIC's self-ejecting plug was the safest way to power their bus fleet's engine block heaters as well as a proactive means of preventing future equipment damage or personnel injury.

### How The Meltric Self-Ejecting Plug Works

The potential for personnel hazards or equipment damage is created when a truck, bus, or other type of mobile vehicle drives away prior to having its power plug manually disconnected from electrical power. Personnel hazards and equipment damage are eliminated when a mobile vehicle



*After installing MELTRIC self-ejecting plugs and connectors on its bus fleet, UVA at Charlottesville experienced a steep decline in power plug runaway accidents.*



**Preventing Equipment Damage:** Equipment damage is eliminated when the vehicle is fitted with a MELTRIC self-ejecting device, which will orderly and safely disconnect power prior to the occurrence of damage or injury.