20Amps or 16Amps / 15Amps or 12Amps. What is the rating?

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This is a question that we have often been asked by our customers.

Users of the iVAC Pro System may notice that the User Guide indicates that the product has been designed to operate from either a 20Amp or 15Amp AC mains circuit.

On the TUV approval label of the product, it identifies a current rating of either 16Amps or 12Amps. This is a requirement of the safety approval organisations that have the following guidelines.

Where equipment is intended to be connected to a standard US or Canadian source of supply by a power supply cord, the attachment plug shall be rated not less than 125% of the rated current of the equipment at the nominal system voltage range as defined by the configuration of the plug.

In simple terms it means that the approved rating of the product can only be equal to 80% of the power supply plug rating. This results in either 16Amps or 12Amps.

The circuit breakers used on the products are rated at either 20Amps or 15Amps.

In the design process, BCT iVAC has considered the fact that the end user can in fact plug the unit into either a 15Amp or 20Amp AC Mains receptacle and then connect any device that has the appropriate AC mains plug. As a result all of the components have been selected, and the product has been rigorously tested under the 15Amp or 20Amp conditions. The two circuit breakers on the product are rated at either 15Amps or 20Amps.