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Subject: Variac

Posted by [johnnycamp5](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 2018 15:50:59 GMT

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Does this seem like a good little auto transformer?-

<http://www.iseincstore.com/3pn1010bvariabletransformer120vacsinglephaseinput0-140vacoutput10acasedmodelwithcordplugreceptaclelightedswitchandfuse.aspx>

I believe it is American made.

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Subject: Re: Variac

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 2018 16:02:51 GMT

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That's a Staco unit, and it's a good product. We used those on the bench at electronics classes back in school. Staco is an American company and have been around for decades.

You might check to see if Digikey has them, 'cause they're usually really competitive on price.

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Subject: Re: Variac

Posted by [johnnycamp5](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 2018 16:05:57 GMT

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Your right Wayne-

[https://www.digikey.com/product-detail/en/staco-energy-products-company/3PN1010B/452-1003-ND/526078?utm\\_adgroup=Test%20&%20Measurement](https://www.digikey.com/product-detail/en/staco-energy-products-company/3PN1010B/452-1003-ND/526078?utm_adgroup=Test%20&%20Measurement)

Thanks.

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Subject: Re: Variac

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 2018 22:08:42 GMT

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Ouch, \$400+. If you can get by with 5 amps instead of 10 then the one in the link below is just fine.

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/TDGC-0-5KM-500VA-Variable-Output-AC-Convertor-/152215213803>

I use it both on the bench and to control a crock pot. Works fine.

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Subject: Re: Variac  
Posted by [johnnycamp5](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 2018 22:49:09 GMT  
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Yes the Chinese one are much cheaper.

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Subject: Re: Variac  
Posted by [johnnycamp5](#) on Sun, 21 Jan 2018 15:54:56 GMT  
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I ended up getting this one used on Ebay for \$131.-

You can't tell from the crummy i-phone pic, but it appears gently used, and the knob turns nice and smooth.  
Seems built like a tank.

I checked it with one of my cheap ass meters lol.

Plugged into an outlet (which reads 125.9V) at my workstation, it measures as follows-

Set at output 0-120V, it maxes out at 125.2V.

Set at output 0-140V, it maxes out at 151V.

#### File Attachments

1) [IMG\\_2663.JPG](#), downloaded 598 times

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Subject: Re: Variac  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sun, 21 Jan 2018 16:18:33 GMT  
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Oh, very good.

I'll bet your gear will like a nice even 110vrms signal from that.

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