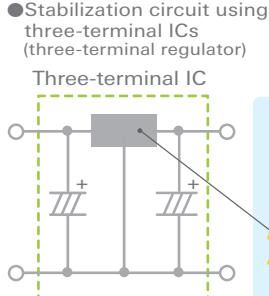
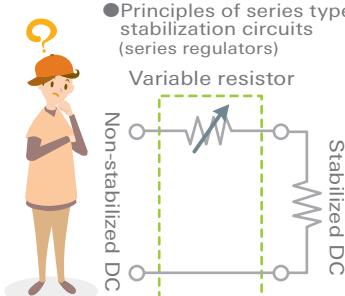
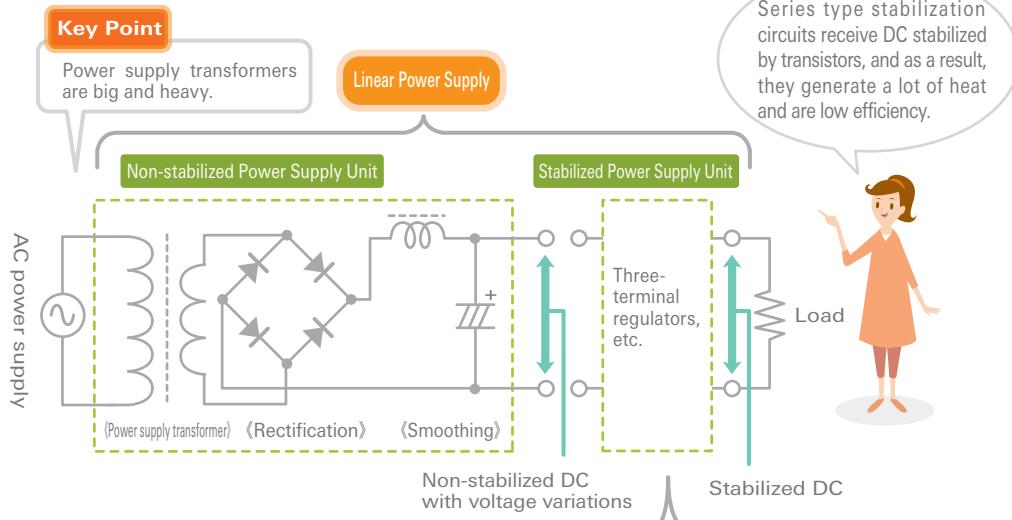


# ▶ Structure of Linear Power Supplies

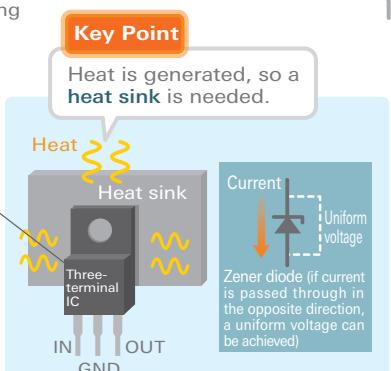
Even after commercial AC is rectified and smoothed, the DC that is produced is not stable (see page 7). A stabilization circuit converts this to DC with little variation in voltage. Let's first examine a linear type **stabilization circuit**, which was once the most common type of stabilization circuit.

**Linear power supplies require large and heavy power supply transformers.**

<Linear Power Supplies Use Three-Terminal ICs>



**Key Point:** Linear power supplies place resistors in series to control the current, so they are also called **series power supplies**. They use resistance to reduce the voltage, so they are also called **dropper** and **series dropper** power supplies.



Three-terminal ICs are integrated circuits made from transistors, Zener diodes, and other components. They generate heat, so a heat sink is attached.