

ENERGY

# Survey on new electrical devices with different technology compared to existing electrical devices

Project KK51525

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# Agenda

## Presentation – August 23, 2017

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### **1. Scope & Objective**

### **2. Methodology**

### **3. Key findings**

- Relay protections
- Circuit breakers, medium voltage
- Surge arresters, medium voltage

### **4. Recommendations**

### **5. Discussion & Questions**

## Scope (original)

Define the current status of relevant equipment, characteristics that matters and important specifications.

	<b>Relay protections</b>	<b>Circuit breakers</b>	<b>Surge arresters</b>
Description			
Key characteristics	Electromechanical, solid state, microprocessor	Air, oil, vacuum, SF6 circuit breakers	Gap, gapless arresters
Specifications	Speed, sensitivity, accuracy, functions, etc	Pre-strikes and re-ignitions, operating time, etc	Discharge/Energy Absorbing Capability, shot durability, etc
Comparisons			
Challenges and risks			
Considerations			
Conclusions and recommendations			

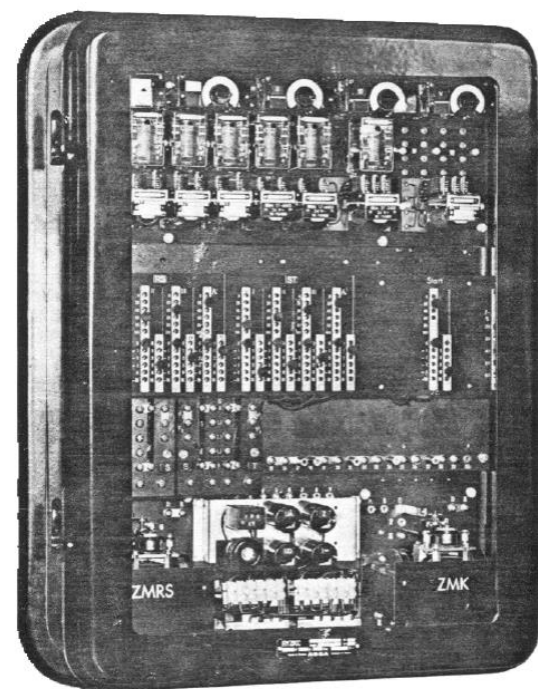
\*Devices to include in the survey shall be decided in the initial stage of the project, from both a technical and an economical perspective and specific requirements operating nuclear power plants must be defined.

# Objective

The project aims to gain a better knowledge of what the market offers regarding relay protections, surge arresters and circuit breakers. This will denote that future changes of specific devices can be done with better knowledge of the individual behavior and characteristics of the device and how it affects the surrounding systems and devices in the plant.



Source: ABB



Source: Distansskydd typ RYZKC  
ASEA Information RFR April 1969 Utgåva 2  
Bl. 720 R (954) 10.68

# Methodology

Different sources were used to identify, study and compare alternatives and characteristics of the different devices

- Literature
  - Textbooks
  - Guides
- Papers and reports
  - Conferences
  - Research
  - Thesis
- Articles
  - Magazines
  - Online publications
- Supplier information
  - Representative selection
  - Contacts
- User input
  - Ringhals
  - Forsmark
  - OKG
  - TVO

General and broad

Specific  
and  
deep

# Key findings

## Relay protections

Relay Protection	Electromechanical	Static Solid State	Numerical Microprocessor
<b>Flexibility</b>	Single function	Essentially single function per unit	Multiple functions
<b>Maintenance</b>	Moving parts require maintenance	Less maintenance	Self-monitoring and self-testing (does not replace all maintenance)
<b>Accuracy</b>	Low accuracy, need for calibration	Better accuracy, less calibration	High, less calibration
<b>Speed</b>	Slow, although some were fast	Higher operating speed Shorter reset time	Sensitive and fast
<b>Environment</b>	Inherently immune to electrical transients (EMI, RFI, etc.) May malfunction during seismic activities	Resistant to seismic forces Susceptible to electrical transients	Resistant to seismic forces Susceptible to electrical transients
<b>Complexity</b>	Rudimentary functionality Logical functions require use of external relays and extensive wiring	Basic adjustment of characteristic curves Logical functions require use of external relays and extensive wiring	Extensive capability gives numerous settings Programmable logic built in
<b>Reporting features</b>	No fault data recording	Like electromechanical until hybrids with a combination of analog analysis and micro-processor logic evolved	Recording and reporting possibilities. Communication for protective functions

## Key findings

### Relay protections

Main result	Electromechanical / static		Numerical	
	Single (1 of 1)	Redundant (1 of 2)	Single (1 of 1)	Redundant (1 of 2)
Dependability	98.4%	<b>99.5%</b>	99.4%	99.4%
Security	68.1%	49.5%	<b>95.5%</b>	92.1%
Unavailability of line	0.02%	0.03%	0.01%	0.02%

Dependability – to operate when necessary

Security – to not operate on external disturbances

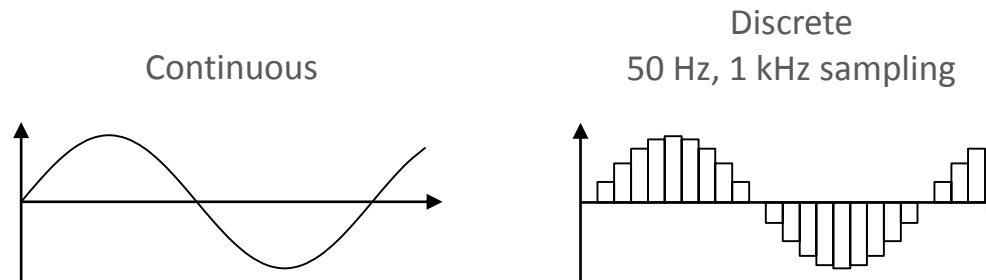
Self-supervision means earlier fault discovery and increase security

## Key findings

### Relay protections

#### Challenges and risks with new technology – Numerical protective relays

- Specialist competence required for each product family
- More possibilities give more complex systems – Risk for design or implementation errors
- Self-test can only verify that it works as programmed
- Product or tools become obsolete
- Firmware upgrades
- Cyber security
- Different behaviour between analogue and digital systems





## Key findings

### Relay protections

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#### Advances in 2<sup>nd</sup> generation numerical protective relays

- Increased recording and reporting capabilities
- Graphical User Interface
- Templates for different applications
- Some relays have offline simulation
- Step by step guided settings

# Key findings

## Relay protections

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### Measures and Considerations

- Invest in training and time to analyse and choose proper settings
- Keep documentation updated
- Adapt maintenance to new technology – Functional or scheme testing
- Evaluate manufacturer and performance of device based on historical data
- Collect information on both disturbed and undisturbed operation
- Evaluate any deviation from correct settings and expected behaviour
- IEC 61850 simplifies integration in local or global communication
- New firmware must be qualified before updating unit
- Special care: correct and verified and controlled installation and wiring
- Redundant systems, where needed, should neither be identical nor duplicated. Different independent systems and components to avoid common mode failures (ex. software bugs, sensor failure, power supply)

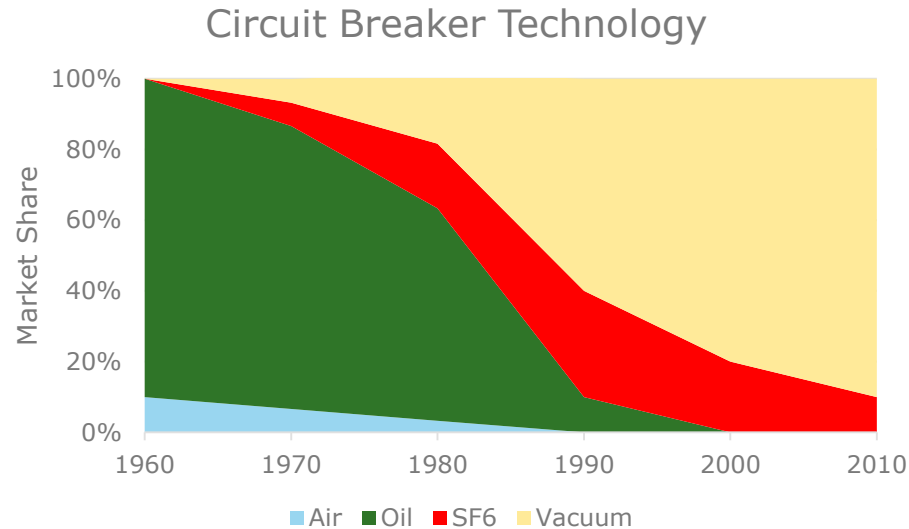
# Key findings

## Circuit breakers, medium voltage

Circuit Breakers	Oil	Air	SF <sub>6</sub>	Vacuum
Market introduction	1910's Minimum oil: 1930's	1930's	1960's for HV 1980's for MV	1960's
No. of operation: Short circuit Full load Mechanical			Typical 10-50 5000-10000 5000-20000	Typical <b>30-100</b> <b>10000-20000</b> <b>10000-30000</b>
Dielectric strength	High	Low	~3x higher than air	~2x higher than SF <sub>6</sub>
Application	Outdated in MV	Obsolete technology	MV, HV	LV, MV, low end of HV
Breaking capability	Insufficient at times			
Advantages	Oil absorbs arc energy Good cooling	Airblast: Higher speed and faster arc quenching vs oil CB		
Disadvantages	Flammable Explosive	Large and bulky, air compressor required	<b>Greenhouse effect is 23 500 vs 1 for CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>Over voltage issues</b>
Maintenance	High cost	High cost, less required vs oil CB	Low cost	Low cost, long intervals
Maintenance procedures (shortened)	Extensive checking, cleaning, filtering, changing, adjusting, lubrication and/or testing of different parts	Clean, check, lubricate, replace and/or adjust different parts	Normal procedures consist of removing SF <sub>6</sub> , filtering and storing until breaker maintenance and test has been performed when it is transferred back. Some CB:s are sealed for life with similar maintenance as VCB	Measuring change in external shaft position can indicate extent of contact erosion Condition of vacuum can be checked by a high potential test procedure Sealed for life
Speed	Slow	Airblast: Fast vs oil CB		Fast
Complexity	Simple construction			<b>~50% less components vs SF<sub>6</sub></b>

## Key findings

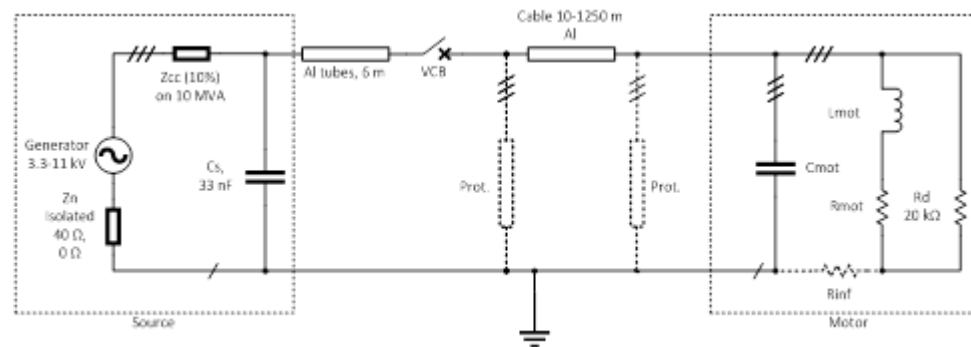
### Circuit breakers, medium voltage



SF<sub>6</sub> circuit breaker's market share is decreasing much for environmental reasons  
SF<sub>6</sub> has soft interruption characteristics – normally no need for protective devices  
Vacuum circuit breaker dominate the market

# Key findings

## Circuit breakers, medium voltage

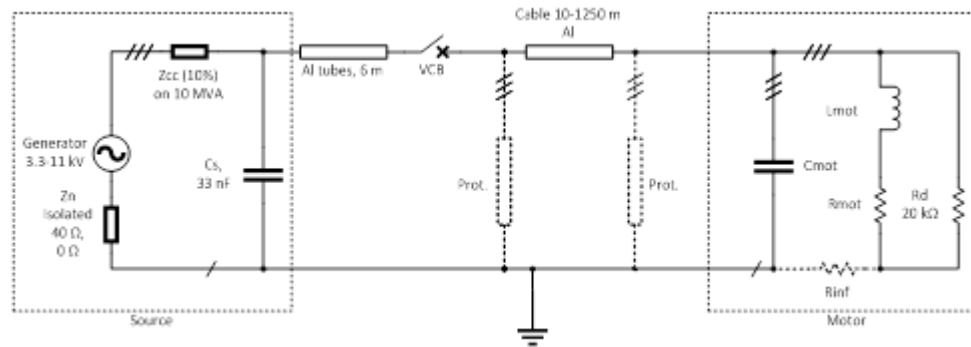


### Overvoltage Protection Study on Vacuum Breaker Switched MV Motors\*

- No protection
  - Overvoltage levels far above recommended dielectric strength for lightning strike

# Key findings

## Circuit breakers, medium voltage

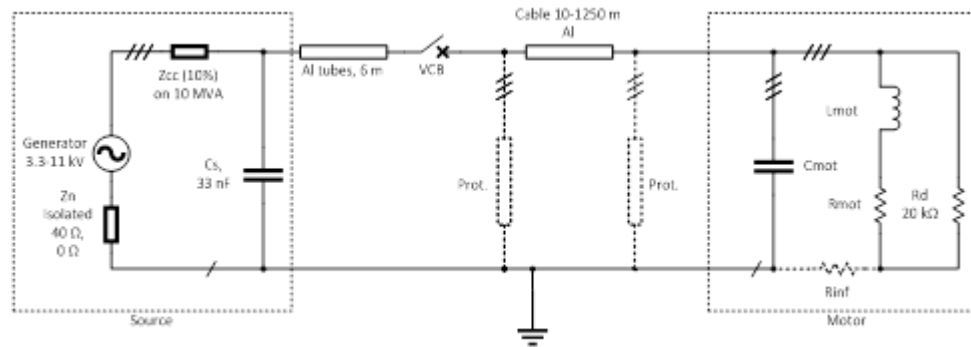


### Overvoltage Protection Study on Vacuum Breaker Switched MV Motors\*

- Protection by Surge Arrester (does not limit  $dV/dt$ )
  - 1 m cable surge arrester to motor terminal and arrester to ground. Overvoltages sometimes below 3 pu and average level never above 5 pu. Best result single core cable, with screens grounded on both sides
  - 3 m cable surge arrester to motor terminal and arrester to the ground blinded the surge arrester
  - 1 m cable surge arrester to circuit breaker terminal and arrester to the ground is less efficient. Possible to get an overvoltage level about 4 pu

# Key findings

## Circuit breakers, medium voltage

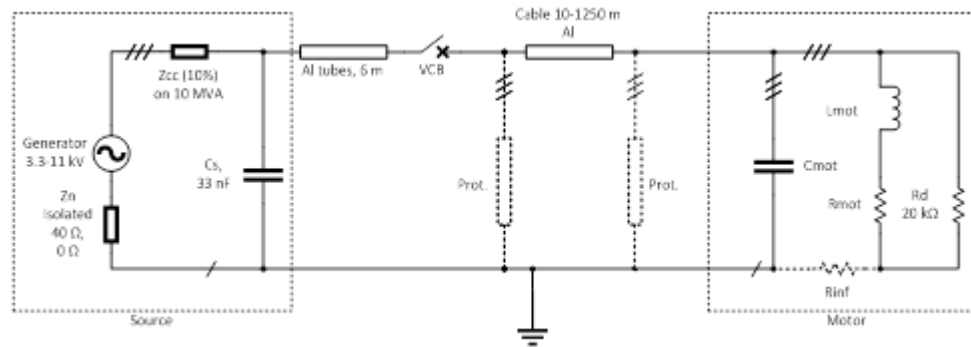


### Overvoltage Protection Study on Vacuum Breaker Switched MV Motors\*

- Protection by Surge Capacitor (3 m cable)
  - The overvoltage level  $< 3$  pu (typically  $< 2$  pu)  
Capacitor 500 nF. The capacitor quite independent of cable type (single or multicore)  
Motor starting current  $< 300$  A @ 3.3 kV and  $< 200$  A @ 11 kV.  
(Larger motors similar situation to the one without protection)

# Key findings

## Circuit breakers, medium voltage



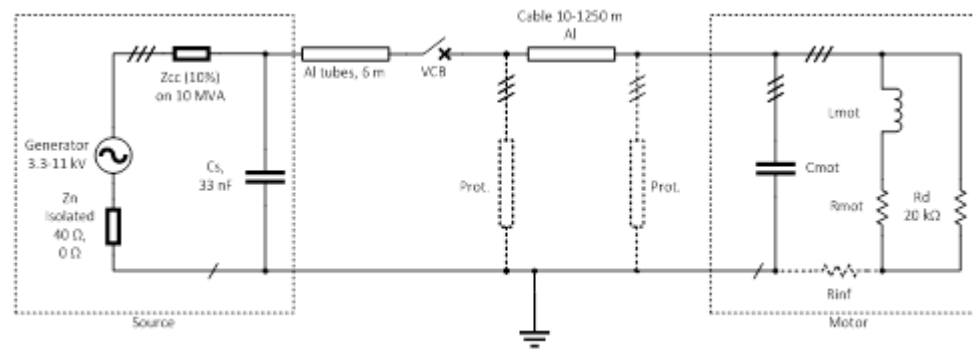
### Overvoltage Protection Study on Vacuum Breaker Switched MV Motors\*

- Protection by R-C (3 m cable)
  - Overvoltages  $\ll$  below 3 pu (motor side)  
 $R=30\ \Omega$ ,  $C=500\ \text{nF}$   
(stronger effect than  $R=30\ \Omega$ ,  $C=250\ \text{nF}$ )  
Single core cables grounded on each side limited
- Limitations on breaker side
  - starting current  $< 600\ \text{A}$  @ 3.3 kV and  $< 200\ \text{A}$  @ 11 kV
  - Overvoltage limitation  $< 3\ \text{pu}$
  - Breaker side connection generally overvoltage  $< 5\ \text{pu}$  with some exception on 11 kV



# Key findings

## Circuit breakers, medium voltage



## Conclusion

- Surge arrester at motor (single core cable < 1 m) => 3-5 pu
- Surge capacitor 500 nF (cable < 3 m) => 2-3 pu
- R=30 Ohm, C=500 nF at motor (single core cable < 3 m) => far below 3 pu for all motors

## Key findings

### Circuit breakers, medium voltage

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#### Replacement of air-magnetic circuit breakers (or obsolete circuit breakers)

- Examine mechanical interlocks to avoid failures
- Ensure matching with original cell on-site. Include adjustable interface points
- Preferably, have factory representative present at initial installation to resolve problems
- Circuit breaker interchangeability definition must be clearly understood by vendor and user

## Key findings

### Circuit breakers, medium voltage

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#### Recommendation and considerations

- Vacuum Circuit Breakers if
  - Frequent switching
  - Protection of sensitive or older equipment possible
- SF<sub>6</sub> Circuit Breakers if
  - Soft interruption characteristics required
  - Protective measures can not be made

# Key findings

## Surge arresters

Surge Arresters	SiC, Porcelain	MO gapless
Market introduction	1940s	1970s
Expected life span	13 years	30+ years, but it is sacrificial to protect other equipment (not failure)
Acceptance	Obsolete	Superior
Maintenance	Regular inspections for damages	No maintenance under normal conditions. In some conditions inspection if cleaning is necessary
Isolation		Silicon potentially better short-circuit capability
Complexity	Gaps require elaborate designs for consistent spark-over level and resealing after a surge	Simpler design

## Key findings

### Surge arresters

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- Metal oxide surge arresters have become the preferred technology and replaced silicon carbide
- Silicon moulded housing
  - No gas volume remains
  - No sealing problems
  - No inner partial discharges
  - Elastic
  - Self extinguishing
  - Water repellent even with pollution
- Metal oxide have lower losses than SiC
- HV station class MOV arresters typically claim energy capabilities exceeding twice those demonstrated by the SiC arresters

*Information from different sources*

# Key findings

## Surge arresters

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### Considerations

- Ideal location is at terminal of device to be protected
- Lower protective voltage level to absorb energy from vacuum circuit breakers
- Higher energy absorption level for handling lightning and switching surges from other sources
- Generally an arrester is dimensioned for a lightning level of 4 pu (ABB)
- Cool down period for a fully loaded arrester is normally 45-60 min

*Information from different sources*

## Discussion & Questions

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Vacuum Circuit Breakers

Electromechanical protective relays

Nuclear industry specific requirements

Common mode failures

Human factor or capability

# Thank you!

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