

Advances in Medium and Low Voltage Power Distribution

ESS Metron Expo and Technical Seminars

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LOW VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR & LOW VOLTAGE SWITCHBOARDS







Low Voltage Switchboard and Switchgear Application Possibilities

- Stationary or drawout power breakers
- Front or rear accessible
- Steel or stainless steel construction
 - Coastal environments to ANSI C57.12.29
- Custom protective relaying schemes
- Custom controls including
 - Main/Tie/Main throw-over
 - PLC based SCADA monitoring and breaker control
 - Generator paralleling
- Energy management







What Is The Definition of Switchboard

- A wall or floor mounted electrical power distribution device intended for industrial and commercial applications
- Provides over current protection for power circuits to direct power from one source to another
- Designed in accordance to UL891 standards for deadfront switchboards non compartmentalized with density rated bus
- May contain fused switches, or circuit breakers molded case, group mounted, insulated case fixed or drawout
- Typical ratings up to 600 volts, 6000 Amps, 200kAlC, 50/60Hz, 3 cycle short circuit, indoor type 1 and outdoor type 3R





What Is The Definition of Switchgear

- A robust electrical power distribution device intended for industrial applications
- Rear connected only, metal enclosed compartmentalized, isolated bus compartments
- More reliable over current protection for power circuits to direct power from one source to another ie UL1066 power circuit breakers
- Designed in accordance to ANSI C37.20.1 and UL1558 standards for metal enclosed compartmentalized gear with heat rated bus
- Utilizes insulated case drawout circuit breakers
- Typical ratings to up to 635 volts, 6000 Amps, 150kAIC & 200kAIC 4 cycle short circuit, 100kAIC 60 cycle short time, 50/60Hz, indoor type 1 and outdoor type 3R





UL 1558 Switchgear

- UL1558 reference standards ANSI C37.20.1 and C37.51-2003 conformance test procedures
 - UL witnessing and file generation
 - Heat rise How heat dissipation is affected by different manufacturers breakers – OEM advantages
 - Importance of breaker placements in feeder stacks cross/riser bus ratings for cumulative and additive loading
 - Short circuit testing Short circuit withstand vs. short time withstand ratings
 - Differences in withstand capabilities and testing up to 100kAIC, 150kAIC and 200kAIC
 - Utilization of UL1066 power breakers for low voltage metal enclosed switchgear assemblies
 - Rain testing for 65 mph wind driven rain challenges
 - Type 3R walk-in and non walk-in
 - Fuse limiters in high kAIC and marine applications
 - Prevalent in heavy industrial, mining, oil & gas, data centers, and some commercial power distribution





Breaker Trip Units and SCADA

- LSIG Long Time, Short Time, Instantaneous and Ground Fault trip functions
- Zone Selective Interlocking options
- Power Metering Functions
 - Voltage, Current, Power, Energy, Power Factor, Frequency, Alarm Setpoints, Waveform Capture, Harmonic analysis – C20 Accuracy
- Breaker Status Monitoring/Control including
 - Device identification Comm address, trip unit identification, comm status
 - Remote control commands Open, close, trip reset
 - Breaker status Opened, closed, charged, tripped, position, temperature, contact erosion, number of operations, number and type of trips, event history
- Communicate to PLC with protocols such as Modbus or Profibus via Serial or Ethernet







Power Monitoring and Management

Remotely monitor and manage energy usage over local SCADA system or the internet









Low Voltage Switchboard and Switchgear Application Possibilities







Operator Safety and Protection





Arc Flash Statistics

- 5th leading cause of workplace injuries in the US
- Electrical shock is 2nd leading cause of lost time on the job
- 97% of electricians have been shocked or injured on the job
- Every 30 minutes a worker experiences an electric shock on the job that required time off for injury
- 46,000 workers injured in the last 10 years due to electrical shock on the job
- More accidents occur on low voltage equipment than medium voltage equipment
- Incident energy in low voltage equipment is higher due to increased current and slower clearing times
- Per Bureau of Labor Statistics and NFPA70E





Arc Resistant Switchgear

- Channel energy released during an internal fault through plenum
- Minimize potential for injury to personnel or damage to nearby equipment
- Breakers interlocked with gear doors to prevent open/close and racking operation with doors open





Arc Flash Mitigation – Preventative Measures

- Arc flash maintenance reduction features on low voltage breaker trip units – ARMS, Arc Sentry, RELT
 - Activation methods
- Feeder protection relays with light and current sensing
 - Utilizes fiber or point sensors
 - Typical 5 cycle clearing time
 - Cost effective in comparison to arc resistant switchgear







Arc Flash Mitigation – Preventative Measures

- Insulating and booting bus bars, joints, and cable lug connections
- Isolated/Insulated bus practices
- These methods can help reduce the risk of arc flash or electrocution
- Service entrance rating







Arc Flash Mitigation – Preventative Measures

- Remote breaker racking mechanisms
 - Most low voltage arc flash incidents occur during the rack-in/rack-out process
 - Rack in a drawout breaker from a safe distance – 30 to 50 feet typical
 - Stand outside the arc flash boundary





Arc Flash Mitigation – Preventative Measures

- Remote breaker operating/status panels
 - Various location possibilities
 - Eliminate danger from closing a breaker on a fault by not standing in front of the gear
 - Local remote, auto manual, electrical and mechanical interlocking
 - Hard wired or PLC controlled
 - Does not apply to manually operated breakers





Arc Flash Mitigation – Preventative Measures

- High resistance grounding systems
 - Limit ground fault current to just a few amps
 - Allow operation to continue while ground fault is located – reduce down time
 - Saves time, money, and potential damage to equipment and switchgear
 - Features include:
 - Resistor path monitoring
 - Pulsing system
 - Data logging
 - Communications via Serial and Ethernet
 - Type 1 stand alone and OEM version for installation into switchgear







UL1558 Switchgear









UL1558 Switchgear

Standard Features:

- UL listed to UL1558
 - NEMA 1, NEMA 3R walk-in, or NEMA 3R non walk-in construction
- Short Circuit ratings up to 200kAIC at 6000 amps.
 - Short Time ratings up to 100kAIC at 60 cycles
- Maximum horizontal bus at 6000 amps
- Maximum vertical bus at 5000 amps
- Built and tested per ANSI C37.20.1 and C37.51.
- Applications up to 635 volts, 50/60Hz, 3 phase 3wire and 3 phase 4 wire.
- Rugged corner post construction and standard powder coated structures for industrial, commercial, and utility applications.
- Exterior paint processes meet ANSI C57.12.29 for Coastal Environments.
- Robust Steel or Stainless steel construction.
- Easily accessible wiring channels.
- Available in standard 22" and 32" widths. Custom depths starting at 60" deep.
- UL1066/ANSI fused and no-fused power circuit breakers from various manufactures, both electrically and manually operated.
- Isolated breaker cubicles, bus compartment, and rear cabling compartments.

Optional Features:

- Custom transition sections for transformer connections.
- Insulated bus bar.
- Remote breaker racking.
- Sectional heaters with thermostat or humidistat.
- Power monitoring.
- Integrated TVSS.
- Harmonic mitigation devices.
- Power factor correction devices.
- Keyed Interlocks.
- Top mounted traveling breaker lifting hoist.
- Integrated high resistance grounding/neutral systems.
- Automatic throw over (ATO) schemes open & closed transition.
- Custom integrated PLC controls.
- Integration with building management and SCADA systems.
- Custom metering and protective relaying.
- Collective bus for multiple utility or generator feeds.
- Paralleling/load shedding controls
 - Emergency or standby
 - Prime power
 - Co-gen
 - Controls for all types of generators
 - Load sharing for multiple generators
 - Speed and voltage control components
- Rear accessible.



UL891 Switchboards









UL891 Switchboards

Standard Features:

- UL listed to UL891
 - NEMA 1, NEMA 3R walk-in, or NEMA 3R non walk-in construction
- Short Circuit withstand ratings up to 100kAIC.
- Available in amperage ratings from 800 to 6000 amps.
- Applications up to 600 volts, 50/60Hz, 3 phase 3wire and 3 phase 4 wire.
- Rugged corner post construction and standard powder coated structures for industrial, commercial, and utility applications
- Exterior paint processes meet ANSI C57.12.29 for Coastal Environments.
- Steel or Stainless steel construction.
- Thru-the-door circuit breaker operation.
- UL/ANSI circuit breakers/protection devices from various manufactures, both electrically and manually operated.
- Front access to control and communications devices and wire connections.

Optional Features:

- Custom transition sections for transformer connections.
- Insulated bus bar.
- Remote breaker racking.
- Sectional heaters with thermostat or humidistat.
- Power monitoring.
- Integrated TVSS.
- Harmonic mitigation devices.
- Power factor correction devices.
- Keyed Interlocks.
- Top mounted traveling breaker lifting hoist.
- Integrated high resistance grounding/neutral systems.
- Automatic throw over (ATO) schemes open & closed transition.
- Custom integrated PLC controls.
- Integration with building management and SCADA systems.
- Custom metering and protective relaying.
- Collective bus for multiple utility or generator feeds.
- Paralleling/load shedding controls
 - Emergency or standby
 - Prime power
 - Co-gen
 - Controls for all types of generators
 - Load sharing for multiple generators
 - Speed and voltage control components
- Front/Rear accessible.



UL50 Custom UL Switchboards

Standard Features:

- UL listed to UL50
 - NEMA 1, NEMA 3R, NEMA 4, and NEMA 4X stainless steel construction.
- Can be applied to non-standard locations such as corrosive environments requiring closed loop cooling or classified areas requiring purge air.
- Exterior paint processes meet ANSI C57.12.29 for Coastal Environments.
- Steel or Stainless steel construction.
- Control and automation options are available.

