Paris Session 2022



Sustainability through CO₂ emission reduction on HV/E-HV cable accessories

SC B1 Insulated Cables – PS3-Q3 Paolo Boffi, Italy



Group Discussion Meeting

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SF6 consumption in HV/E-HV Accessories

- For many years SF6 has been the preferred dielectric medium in electrical power applications, particularly in high voltage gas-insulated equipment. However, with the recognition that SF6 has very high global warming potential, strong efforts are in place in the industry to reduce its consumption.
- In the cable industry, high focus on the accessories because of their extensive use of SF6 gas: as part of the equipment to carry out routine tests of cable drums and associated accessories, and through their interface to the gas-insulated electrical equipment. SF6 is also still used as insulating medium of Outdoor Terminations.





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Main Challenges – Alternative gases

- Alternative gases to SF6, with much lower environmental impact, have been developing in the last years, based on natural dried air or gas mixtures containing fluorinated compounds. Being the required operating pressure higher, a mechanical assessment of the insulators is needed to maintain the same long-term performance.
- Potential compatibility issues between the alternative gases and the cable termination itself shall be assessed and mitigated.
- SC B3 (TB 802) and SC D1 (TB 849) have already established guidelines on applications and electric performance of alternative gases.
- SC B1 has recently activated a task force focused on the SF6 replacement within cable accessories.



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Main Challenges – Dry-Type solutions

- Development of prefabricated asymmetric joints with wide cable and voltage range is key to shut down the SF6 consumption in the cable plants.
- An important R&D workstream deals with the progressive introduction and extension at higher voltage level of Dry-Type Outdoor Terminations, aimed to provide a solution to abandon the SF6 where still used.
- SC B1 shall provide guidelines on the assessment of full Dry-Type ODSE whereas not yet covered by any domestic or international standard (e.g., internal arc test,..).





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