Paris Session 2022



Accelerated aging tests

SC D1 Materials and Emerging Test Techniques

PS2, Q2.04 - Is testing under high temperature representative enough for the determination of thermal index of insulating materials? Are the acceleration factors used for high temperature accelerated tests for different insulation systems well documented? How shall the change of properties and chemical characteristics of the insulating liquid itself be considered under such conditions?

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Summary

• Accelerated aging of insulation systems under high temperature is representative for the determination of thermal index of insulating materials.

- There is long experience in thermal evaluation of dry-type or liquid immersed insulation systems and standard references for it exist.

- Recently, a 3rd party certification of new insulation was performed, which confirms the validity of established methods for ensuring proper insulation system performance.

- Proper evaluation method may be necessary depending on the application.

• Although, majority of thermal evaluation methods focus on solid insulation materials, while liquids are considered only an environment for aging of solid insulation.

- Still missing procedures for evaluating liquids alone or evaluating liquid aging as part of insulation systems.

Accelerated aging tests

• Long experience in accelerated thermal evaluation of dry-type or liquid immersed insulation systems

• Standards existing, e.g. IEEE Std. C57.100.

• The first ever 3rd party UL certification for new liquid filled insulation system. (confirms the trust at the industry and validity of established methods)

• Choice of proper evaluation method is necessary for the application and equipment type:

- **Complete equipment model** – the most precise but limited to specific design,

- Sealed tube – the most simplified and practical; allowing long term evaluation in given environment and with other materials included,

 Dual temperature cell – advanced model allowing for separating temperatures for solid insulation (insulated heating element) and liquid (bulk liquid temperature)

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Missing procedures for liquids

- Today liquids considered to be an environment for aging of solid insulation.
- Missing procedures for evaluating liquids alone or evaluating liquid aging as part of insulation systems:
 - Understanding of thermal aging behavior,
 - Guidelines for accelerated aging tests,
 - Criteria for end-of-life determination.



- Developing of CIGRE guidelines for aging and evaluation proposed in 2014, but the topic was considered too complex at that time (too many factors to consider).
- An active IEEE Working Group investigates aging factors for liquids.

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