





Study Committee B3 Substations and Electrical Installations

Paper B3-10672

Return of experience on high voltage equipment in operation using C₄F₇N mixtures

Maxime PERRET, Robert LÜSCHER, Clément COCCHI, Yannick KIEFFEL, Diana LEGUIZAMON-CABRA, Thomas BERTELOOT GE Renewable, Grid Solutions

Acting for climate

- IPCC reports are clear: climate change is certain, but we can limit it by immediate global actions
- SF₆ is a high-polluting gas, although SF₆ emissions are only a minor worldwide fraction of GHG
- C4-FN mixtures describe C4-FN (C₄F₇N), O₂ and CO₂ mixtures. This gas has good dielectric and arc-quenching
 properties that allow a design similar to SF₆ with mostly an increased filling pressure.
- Several TSOs are already breaking away from SF₆ by choosing SF₆-free solutions

C4-FN mixtures – Return on experience

Return on experience on a 145kV 40kA GIS installed in 2018 in France

 C₄F₇N / O₂ / CO₂ gas mixture Insulation & interruption medium
 High dielectric strength
 Arc-extinguishing capable
 Arc-extinguishing capable
 Same height as SF₆
 Identical control panel
 Sime height as SF₆
 Identical control panel
 Surfacentiated gas ports
 Variant of DN20 gas valve for C4-FN mixtures

Ensure use of compatible gas equipment

Limited overpressure Lower impact on the cable cones and other accessories



1:1 in length, width and height

That's the achievable dimensional footprint of C4-FN solutions compared to state-of-the-art SF₆ ones







CO also checked

within C4/O₂/CO₂

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Cross-check of mobile analyzer accuracy

- Comparison of mobile analyzer measurement with high-accuracy pre-mixed gas.
- Simple process with several mixtures tested and analyzed evacuation in another volume.

Reference gas

- Independent supplier
- Accurate filling
- Multiple GC-MS checks



Deviation of C4-FN measures before and after recalibration



Deviation of O2 measures



On-site measurement with reference samples

- Application of the above principle: high accuracy known gas (calibrated) is measured by analyzers directly on site
- Very high consistency of measurement before for 2/4 analyzers. Other analyzers not checked.
- Transfer of the calibrated gas in a dedicated bottle was necessary but may have added unknowns.
- Reference gas compatible with the equipment: Pump back of used gas in the equipment in service possible.



C4-FN measurements of the reference gas



Mobile analyzers have demonstrated their capabilities. Frequent calibrations remain necessary. Continuous improvement continuing. New methods can also be implemented

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Legend (one color per device)

Manuf A.

Manuf B.

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Evolution of the mixture in time

- Several analyzers were used to evaluate the mixture composition.
- Analyzer have a defined tolerance and their accuracy depend on their calibration.
- Some data must be converted from vol-% to mol-%.
- Box & Whisker plots are used to show the statistics of the multiple measures

C4-FN content evolution in time



Apr. 2022



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