

ABB AG - Calor Emag Medium Voltage Products

Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch Type UFES



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Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES The active internal arc protection by ABB



- The Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES
- Active internal arc protection in addition to available passive protection applicable for nearly all short-circuit proof, air-insulated switchgear
- Highest possible protection for switchgear in regard to the hazardous impacts caused by an internal arc



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES S³ – Speed, Safety, Savings

- <u>Speed</u> A question of (Operation-) time Nearly immediate extinction of an internal arc by fastest intervention of the Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch.
- <u>Safety</u> Greatly enhanced protection for personnel, switchgear and the environment
 A drastically reduced internal arc duration ensures minimized pressure and temperature rise. This leads, as a consequence, to minimal impacts at the fault location.
- <u>Savings</u> The "insurance" for your switchgear Greatly increased system and process availability in combination with drastically reduced repair costs.



Arc faults generally cause serious damage Fault characteristics

0.15 sec Copper fire 0.1 sec Cable fire

700

Time/ms



100

150

200

- An arc arises when at least part of the current passes through a dielectric, usually air
- Maximum peak power up to 40 MW
- Arc plasma temperature up to five times the surface temperature of the sun (20 000°C)
- Light intensity more than 2000 times that of normal office light



Internal arc faults Reasons of formation



Typical human and operational errors:

- 1. Work in a wrong cubicle
- 2. Operation of a wrong isolator
- 3. Forgetting to ground the working area
- Forgetting to test the presence of voltage in the working area



Technical reasons to arc faults:

- 1. Faults in equipment and false operation of equipment
- 2. Ageing of insulation and mechanical wear
- 3. Overvoltage
- 4. Overheating
- 5. Moisture, dirt



Other technical reasons to arc faults:

- 1. Corrosion
- Foreign objects (e.g. tools) or small animals in the switchgear
- 3. Installation errors
- 4. Bad cable terminations and loose busbar joints

Internal arc faults Impacts





Internal arc faults Impacts



- Circuit-breaker compartment after internal arc impact
- Cable connection compartment after internal arc impact
- Contact terminal after internal arc impact



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES The basis for effective protection



UFES with electronic tripping unit type QRU100

- Electronic tripping unit
 - Fast and reliable interface to external arc detection systems
 - Tripping of the UFES primary switching elements
- 3 Primary switching elements
 - Ultra-fast initiation of a 3-phase shortcircuit earthing after detection of a fault by the electronic
 - Elimination of the arc by resulting breakdown of the internal arc voltage



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Combinable arc protection by ABB



Combinable arc protection UFES + REA

UFES + REA

- Versatile monitoring options with REA system:
 - Optical detection via line or lens sensors
 - Overcurrent detection
 - Selective protection
 - Circuit-breaker failure protection
- Ultra-fast arc extinction by UFES
- Certified interfaces
- Extremely short tripping times < 4 ms (after detection)



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Example of an application UFES + REA





Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Sequence of tripping operation



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Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Ultra-fast reaction time



- Short-circuit current I_k
- DC component
 - Arcing time with UFES
- Final clearing by upstream circuitbreaker – 80 ms + time x
- **t_{TC}** Reaching time for tripping criteria

- Effective limitation of damage requires fastest intervention
- Extinction time of the Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch:
 < 4 ms after fault detection



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Standard: UFES electronic type QRU100 – Features



Electronic tripping unit type QRU100

Electronic tripping unit

 Full compatible to the ABB arc protection system of type REA

 2 Optolink inputs for connection of the REA101 relay

 2 high-speed inputs (HSI) for connection of external arc detection systems

 Self monitoring including the Optolink connection to the REA system

 Logical combination of the external detection units by use of DIP-switches

- Testing mode for functional check
- Ideal for extension of existing ABB arc protection systems



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Alternative: UFES electronic type QRU1 - Features



Electronic detection and tripping unit type QRU 1



Lens sensor for optical detection

- Electronic detection and tripping unit
- 9 optical inputs for light detection
- 3 current inputs for monitoring of the instantaneous current value
- Up to 5 x 30 additional optical inputs with ABB arc guard type TVOC-2
- Completely in fast analogue technology
- Fast fault localization by use of single lens sensors
- Self monitoring
- Testing mode for functional check
- Simple DIP-switch configuration



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Primary switching element

Primary switching element - section view



- 1. Epoxy insulator
- 2. Fixed contact
- 3. Ceramic insulator
- 4. Moving contact pin
- 5. Rupture joint

- B. Piston
- 7. Cylinder
- 8. Moving contact system
- 9. Micro gas generator

Primary switching element type U1

- Vacuum interrupter and operating system integrated in one compact unit
- Fast and reliable micro gas generator operating mechanism
- Fast switching time of ~ 1.5 ms
- Easy handling
- Low-maintenance
- Flexible installation



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Switching principle



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Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Speed – Differentiation

Conventional protection device

- Fault detection by standard relay
- Clearing of the arc fault current by the upstream circuit-breaker

Fast-acting protection relay with supplementary equipment

- Fast fault detection by special protection relay
- Clearing of the arc fault current by the upstream circuit-breaker

Ultra Fast Earthing Switch type UFES

- Fast fault detection by UFES electronic or REA system
- Ultra-fast extinction of an internal arc by switching of the UFES primary switching element type U1
- · Final clearing of the fault current by the upstream circuit-breaker



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES **S**peed – Differentiation



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Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Speed & Safety – Pressure curves

Exemplary pressure curve, with and without UFES, in a compartment of an air insulated medium voltage switchgear, for an internal arc fault current of 130 kA (peak) / 50 kA (rms)

Pressure rise without UFES



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Safety & Savings – The internal arc test with UFES



 Busbar compartment after internal arc impact <u>with</u> active UFES protection



 Point of fault initiation in the busbar compartment



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES S³ – Comparison



 Busbar compartment after internal arc impact <u>with</u> active UFES protection



 Busbar compartment after internal arc impact <u>without</u> active UFES protection (50 kA / 100 ms)



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES The formula for effective internal arc protection



- Speedy arc suppression
- Safety for investment and personnel
- Savings in regard of repair and downtime costs



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Applicable for highest requirements



Maximum rated voltage: $U_r = 40.5 \text{ kV} \rightarrow I_k = 40 \text{ kA} (3s)$

Maximum rated short-time withstand current for medium voltage: $I_k = 50 \text{ kA} (3s), 63 \text{ kA} (1s) \rightarrow U_r = 17.5 \text{ kV}$

Maximum rated short-time withstand current for low voltage: $I_k = 100 \text{ kA} (0.5\text{s}) \rightarrow U_r = 1.4 \text{ kV}$



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Available as ... loose components



Standard: UFES-Kit-100* as OEM produkt, consisting of:

- Electronic detection and tripping unit type QRU100
- 1 set (3 off) Tripping cables (10 m) with special plug for PSE and electronic
- 3 Primary switching elements (PSE)

* For extension of existing or new arc protection systems. Full compatibility to the ABB arc protection system type REA.



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Available as ... loose components



Alternative: UFES-Kit-1 as OEM produkt, consisting of:

- Electronic detection and tripping unit type QRU1
- 1 set (3 off) Tripping cables (10 m) with special plug for PSE and electronic
- 3 Primary switching elements (PSE)



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Available as ... ABB Service retrofit solution





 Service-Box (Illustration: Side-mounted)



Draw-out technology



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Available for ... ABB switchgear (AIS)



UFES in UniGear – Top-Box installation

UFES in UniGear - Installation in cable compartment



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES Available for ... ABB dry type transformer



ABB Resibloc with UFES protection



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES S³ - Unbeatable advantages



Indirect benefit

- Greatly increased system and process availability by avoidance of heavy damages inside the switchgear, of the equipment and the direct environment
- Drastic reduction of downtimes and repair costs
- Example for a production site (e.g. chemical-, paper- or oil industry)
- Risks: Exchange of damaged switchgear panel(s) or equipment necessary
- Consequence: Loss of production for possibly some days or weeks
- Costs: Up to multiple 100.000 EUR / day possible



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES S³ - Unbeatable advantages



Direct benefit

- Greatly increased operator safety for switchgears
- Minimization of pressure rise and gases in the faulty compartment and surrounding switchgear building





Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES UFES = S³



Are you attracted by the UFES?

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