



DS- MKS 23

*1<sup>st</sup> amendment*

## To whom it may concern

Dalmine, May 29, 2009

*Amended on November 30, 2009*

**Subject: REF542 Obsolete Notice.**

Dear All,

We would like to inform you that REF542 is going to move to the Obsolete phase of its Life Cycle from January 1, 2010 as per attached policy (page 2). ABB product life cycle policy covers all Power Products, defines the overall support policy for the entire product life cycle and covers support activities.

The product has been launched in 1993 and therefore a consistent part of the relevant electronic components can hardly be found on the market nowadays with a very critical effect on the product availability. For this reason we are pleased to announce a last buy opportunity, valid from now and up to December 31, 2009. We strongly recommend that all REF542 customers take advantage of this time migration program offer. We are experiencing a strong customer response to this program so act fast to reserve your manufacturing slot. Contact your local ABB account manager to answer any question you may have. *Spare parts may still be available later on but we cannot guarantee their full availability and all possible variants.*

*Retrofit solution is also available as per page 3 description.*

This note is not applicable to REF542plus.

For further information we remain at your disposal with.

Best Regards,  
Marco Egman  
Service Product Manager

Notes: amendment text in *blue* italic characters.

**ABB S.p.A.**  
*Power Products Division*

Unità Operativa Sace-MV

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**Una società del Gruppo ABB**

Sede e Stabilimento:  
*Headquarters and Factory:*

Via Friuli, 4  
I-24044 Dalmine (BG)  
Tel.: +39 035 395.111  
Fax: +39 035 395.874

Stabilimento:  
*Factory:*

Contrada Remartello, 14  
I-65014 Loreto Aprutino (PE)  
Tel.: +39 085 8209.1  
Fax: +39 085 8209.219

Sede legale:  
*Registered Office:*

Via Vittor Pisani, 16  
I-20124 Milano

**An ABB Group company**

Capitale Sociale / *Share Capital*: € 107.000.000 - i.v. / *fully paid up*  
P. IVA / VAT: IT11988960156

Codice Fiscale / *Fiscal Code*: 00736410150

Registro delle Imprese di Milano / *Official Company Book*: 00736410150  
R.E.A. Milano: 1513225



## Product Life Cycle

### Active

- Released for sale
- In full manufacture by factory
- Actively promoted in assigned markets
- Available to all customers
- Fully supported both technically and via after sales network
- Periodically enhanced through R&D or product improvements

### Restricted

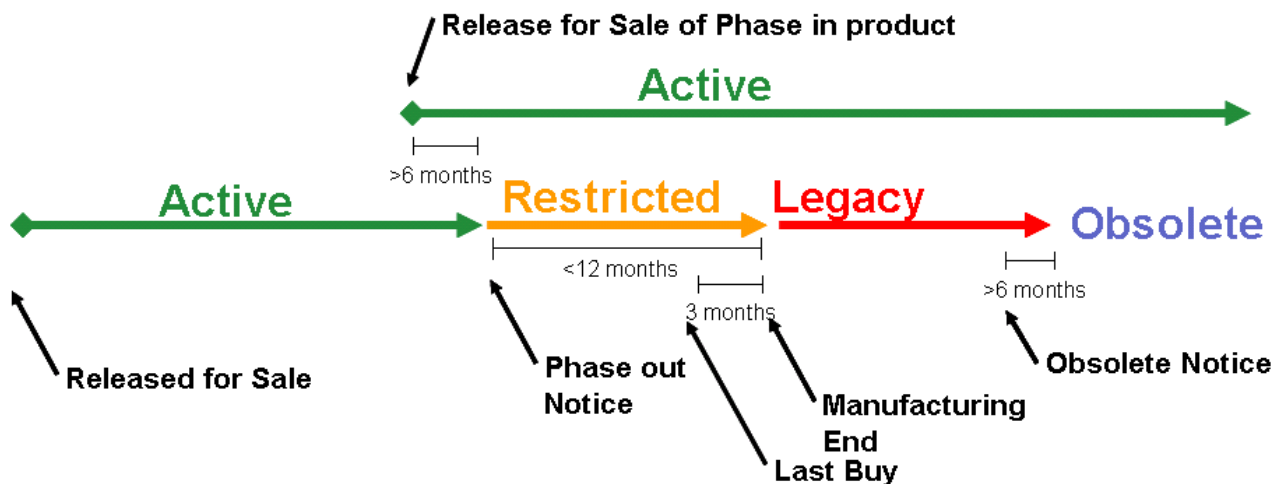
- Product is no longer promoted by the sales force (6 months after new product release)
- Product will be phased out
- 12 months prior to any "Manufacturing End" declaration, ABB will announce the phase out
- Product still available for sale - mainly for expansions of existing systems, supply under frame agreements, in case of space constraints, required functionality not yet covered by the new product, license agreements
- No further enhancements and development maintenance
- Production continues in factory or might already be outsourced

### Legacy

- Product is withdrawn from sales and no longer promoted by the sales force
- Retrofit and Service support continues through the responsible hub but may diminish over time with decreasing installed base
- Price increase (e.g. due to lower volume, vendor component costs, etc.)
- There are no further R&D or design activities on the product
- Product is no longer manufactured by factory

### Obsolete

- Product withdrawn from sales
- Product that is no longer owned by ABB due to divestments
- Product where manufacturing capability is no longer possible
- No longer manufactured as a complete product; only component spares and retrofit solutions available



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## REF542 retrofit solution

REF542 can be replaced with REF542plus and the use of an adaption kit.

One of the main differences between REF542 and REF542plus is the mechanical assembly: REF542 is a sole device while REF542plus is composed by two split units (main device and remote human machine interface connected together with a communication cable).

The retrofit kit consists of a metal frame which allows combining the two units in a single case and perfectly replacing an existing REF542. No any mechanical modification of the auxiliary door compartment is required.

REF542 and REF542plus human machine interfaces are very similar and therefore site operators can easily approach the new devices with a short introduction to the product.

Minor wiring adjustments are needed with respect to current and voltage transformers and sensors terminals while all remaining REF542 plugs fit REF542plus sockets.

All REF542 software features are fully covered by REF542plus. REF542plus protection functions firmware is the improved version of REF542 and therefore all existing parameters can be set into the new device.

Configuration files are not compatible and therefore new files must be drawn up with the use of REF542plus programming tool. Originally produced REF542 configuration files cannot be converted into REF542plus ones automatically.

Estimated average retrofit time is two working days: one for the office work to re-build the configuration file and one at site to replace the units and make all the necessary adjustments and tests.

Retrofit example pictures. REF542plus with retrofit kit has replaced a REF542 onboard a MV switchgear.



REF542



REF542plus with adaption kit

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