

ABB Medium Voltage Days MEA 2016

Proactive safety ABB medium-voltage switchgear

Technical session

Title of presentation

- Speaker name Martin Kropf
- Speaker title Head of Local Product Marketing Apparatus
- Company name ABB
- Location Ratingen, Germany

Proactive safety

„Session statement“

- Fortunately, flash-overs inside medium-voltage switchgear happen rarely, but they do occur for a number of different reasons.
- The consequences for your personnel, equipment and process may then be devastating.
- Please be welcome to a session discussing how to minimize the risks for and effects of internal arcs in switchgear, by effectively deploying both traditional and new innovative methods.

Internal arc faults

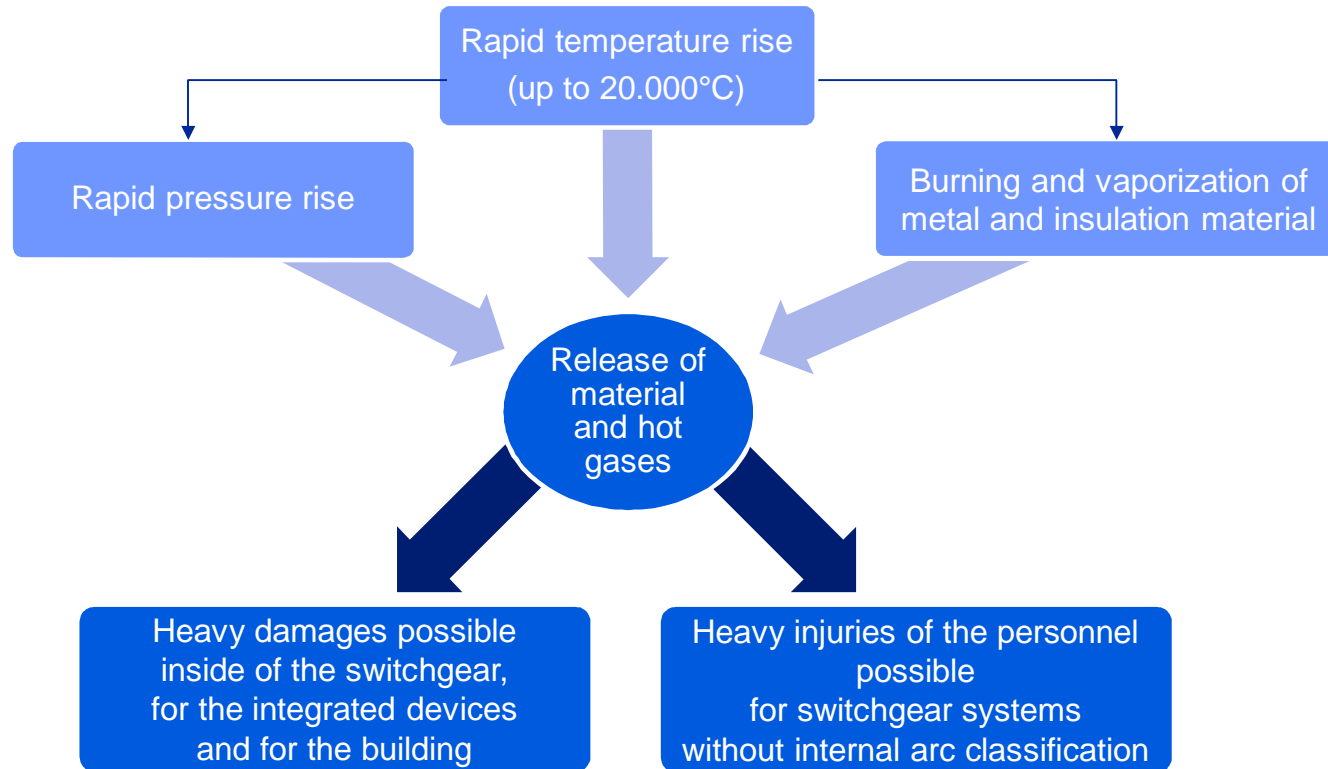
Reasons of formation



1. Human errors
2. Pollution
3. Bad connections
4. Mechanical faults
5. Animals
6. Defective devices









Internal arc faults

Impacts



Proactive safety

Motivation → WHY ?

	for the safety of personnel	Mandatory
	to prevent hazardous situations	Mandatory
	to be able to fulfill legal safety regulations & national standards, e.g. EN 61936-1	Mandatory
	to protect the building	Mandatory
	to protect the switchgear and the equipment	Optional
	to increase the process/system availability	Optional
	to secure the power delivery	Optional
	to save money	Optional

Switchgear with passive internal arc protection

Internal arc classification of medium-voltage switchgear



Video:
Internal arc test (IEC 62271-200) 50kA / 1s
Circuit-breaker compartment
Front, rear and lateral accessibility

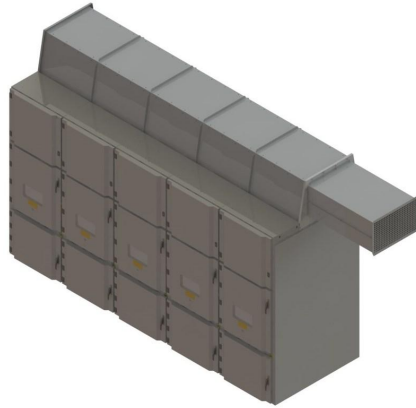
Internal arc classification IAC AFLR according to the IEC 62271-200 Annex A (since 2003)

The switchgear must be in full accordance to all the five criteria:

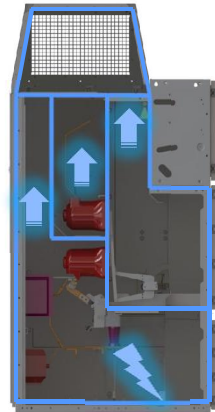
1. The doors of the switchboard must remain closed and no opening of the cover panels must occur
2. Any part of the switchboard which may be hazardous for personnel must not be ejected
3. No holes must appear in the external housing of the switchboard in any parts accessible to personnel
4. The vertically and horizontally arranged fabric indicators placed outside the switchboard must not get burnt
5. All the switchboard earthing connections must remain effective

Switchgear with passive internal arc protection

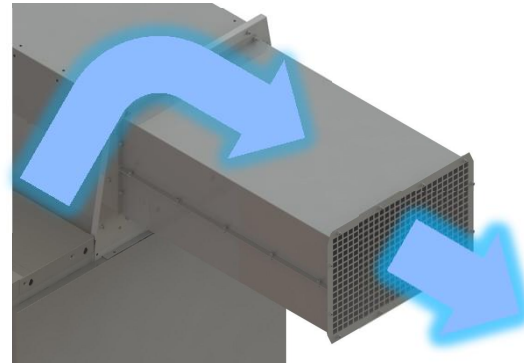
Design of medium-voltage switchgear



Passive arc fault protection
with gas ducts



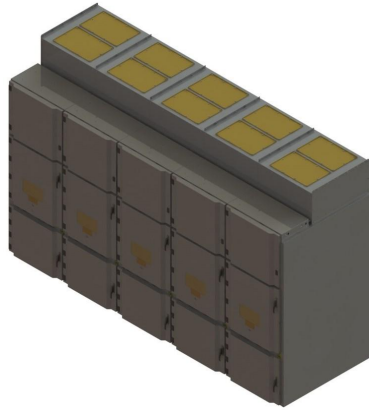
Separate functional
compartments



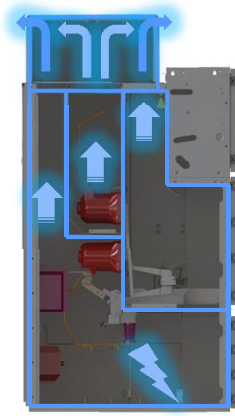
Gas duct to take away the hot gases
out side the switchgear room

Switchgear with passive internal arc protection

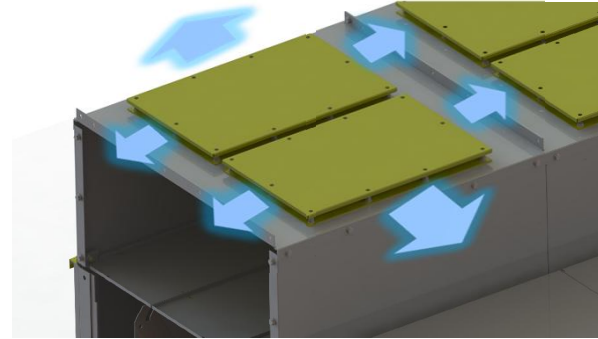
Design of medium-voltage switchgear



Passive arc fault protection
with top chimney



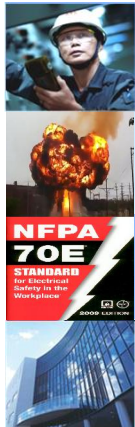
Separate functional
compartments



Top chimney to reduce the pressure
and cool down the hot gases

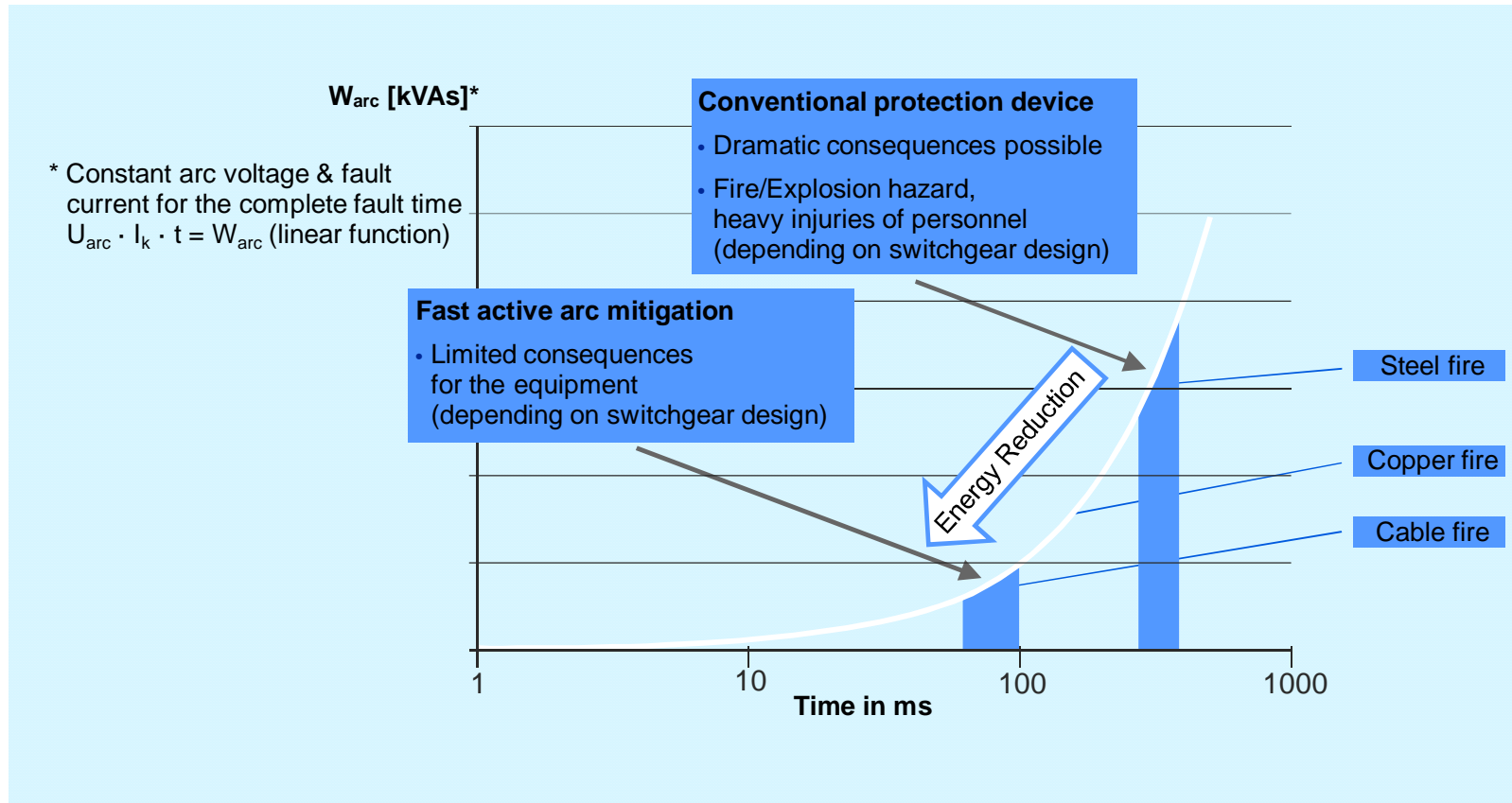
Proactive safety

Switchgear with passive internal arc protection

	Ensures personnel safety under normal operating conditions	Mandatory	✓
	Prevents hazardous situations	Mandatory	✓
	Enables compliance to legal safety regulations & national standards, e.g. EN 61936-1	Mandatory	✓
	Protects the building	Mandatory	✓

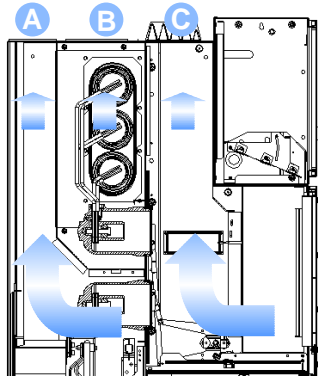
Protection systems for advanced protection

Fast active arc mitigation



Protection systems for advanced protection

Fast active arc mitigation with the I_{th} -Limiter



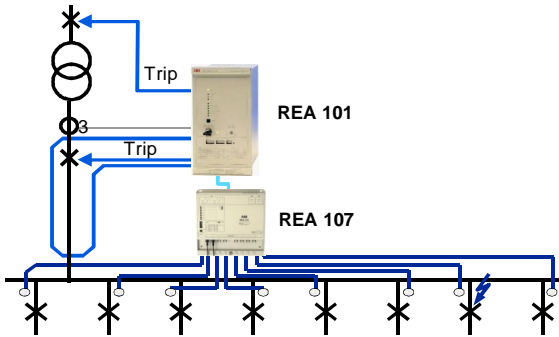
- Operates based on the indirect detection of overpressure
- Mounted on the pressure relief flaps
- Minimum time to clear the arc:
70 ... 90 ms
 - 15 ms I_{th} -Limiter
 - +
 - 40 ... 60 ms
Circuit-breaker operating time
 - +
 - 10 ... 15 ms
Circuit-breaker clearing time

Protection systems for advanced protection

Fast active internal arc mitigation with REA System



- Operates based on the detection of the light and current from arc
- Adjustable threshold levels
- Upgradable with UFES
- Minimum time to clear the arc:
60 ... 80 ms
 - 2,5 ms REA
 - +
 - 40 ... 60 ms
Circuit-breaker operating time
 - +
 - 10 ... 15 ms
Circuit-breaker clearing time



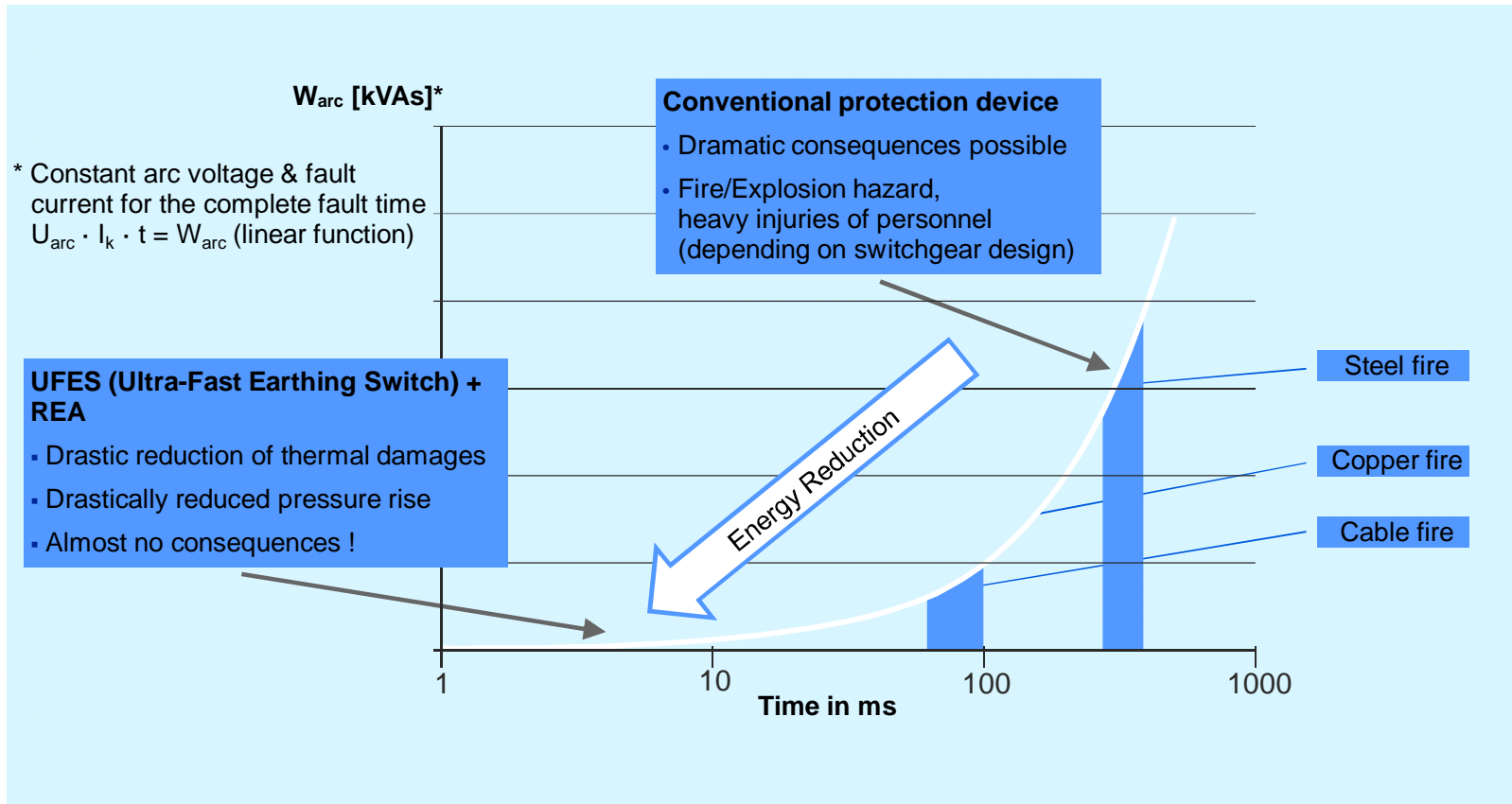
Proactive safety

Active internal arc mitigation

	Ensures personnel safety under normal operating conditions	Mandatory	✓
	Prevents hazardous situations	Mandatory	✓
	Enables compliance to legal safety regulations & national standards, e.g. EN 61936-1	Mandatory	✓
	Protects the building	Mandatory	✓
	Reduces the damage of the switchgear to one compartment	Optional	✓
	Enables money savings	Optional	✓

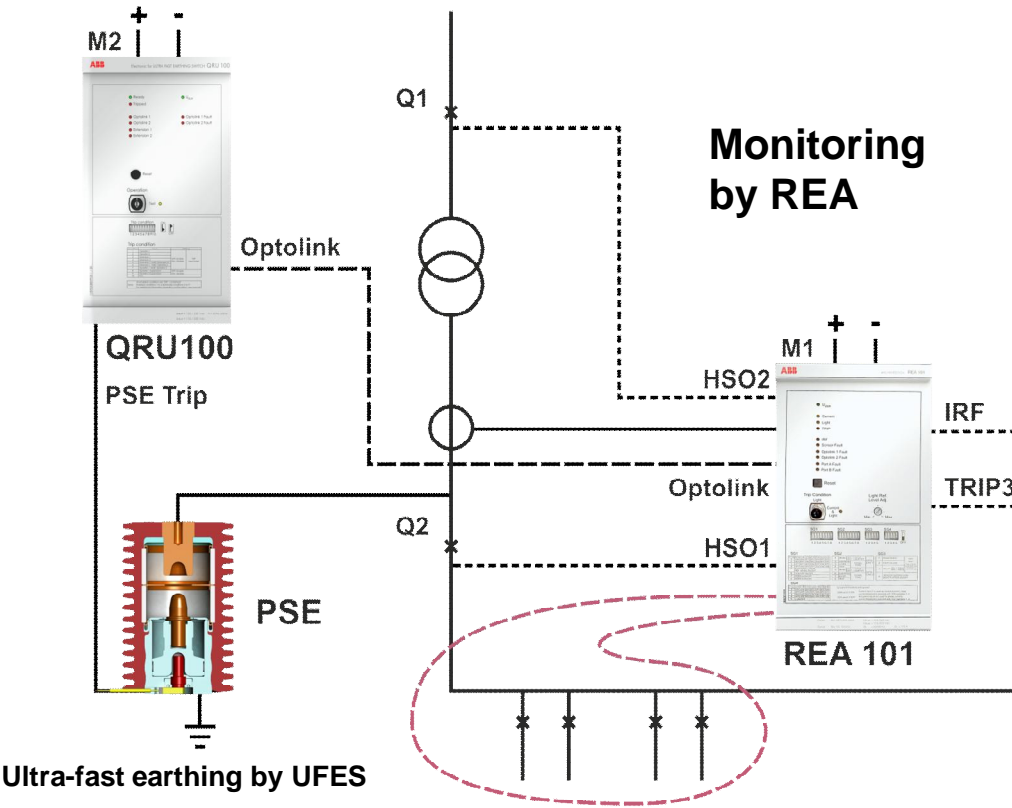
Protection systems for advanced protection

Ultra-Fast active internal arc mitigation & quenching



Protection systems for advanced protection

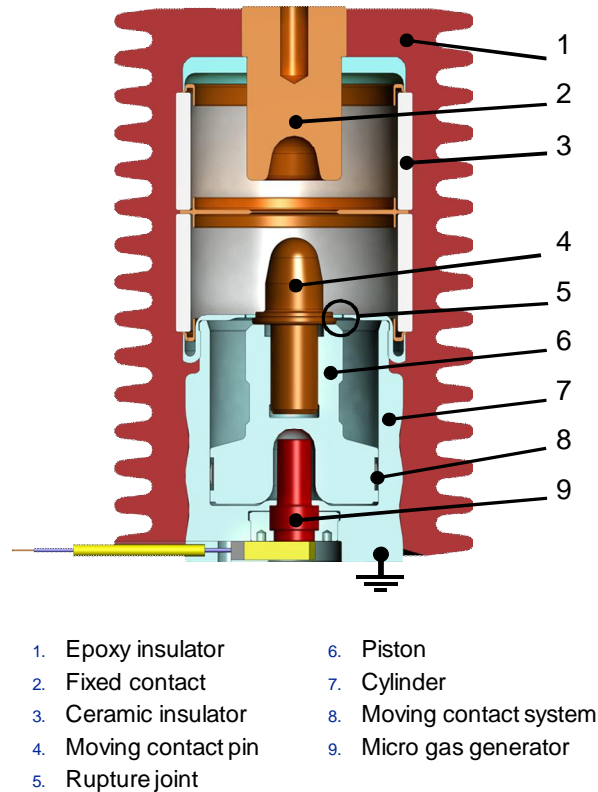
Example of an application UFES + REA



Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch type UFES

Primary switching element

Primary switching element – section view



Primary switching element (PSE) 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

Protection systems for advanced protection

Combinable internal arc protection by ABB

Combinable arc protection
UFES + REA











UFES (Ultra-Fast Earthing Switch) + REA

- Extinction of an internal arc in **less than 4 ms** after its detection
- Versatile monitoring options with REA system:
 - Optical detection via line or lens sensors
 - Overcurrent detection
 - Selective protection
- Ultra-fast switching by UFES

Proactive Safety

Ultrafast active internal arc mitigation & quenching

	Ensures personnel safety under normal operating conditions	Mandatory	✓
	Enables personnel safety under maintenance conditions	Optional	✓
	Prevents hazardous situations	Mandatory	✓
	Enables compliance to legal safety regulations & national standards, e.g. EN 61936-1	Mandatory	✓
	Protects the building	Mandatory	✓
	Minimization of pressure rise, gases and damages in the faulty compartment of the switchgear	Optional	✓
	Increases the process/system availability	Optional	✓
	Secures the electrical power delivery	Optional	✓
	Enables money savings	Optional	✓

Proactive safety

References world wide, available for new and existing switchgear



- Overall more than 450 system sold world wide
 - Already successful tripping at customer site (Oil&Gas)!
- Available as option for new medium voltage switchgear
 - UniGear ZS1, up to 24 kV
- Available for retrofit application for already installed switchgear
 - First reference in the gulf currently under installation
- Available as loose component for OEM partners



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