THE ABC OF SWITCHBOARD MAINTENANCE

By Mark Betcher Blacktown City Switchboards







DEFINITIONS

Maintenance – "a combination of acts carried out to retain an item in, or restore it to, an acceptable condition".

Acceptable condition – "the condition in which an item is able to perform its required function and/or meet the relevant specification".



DEFINITIONS

Non-routine maintenance

Preventative maintenance

Post fault maintenance

Repair or corrective maintenance

Routine maintenance



WHY MAINTAIN

Economics

Responsibility

AS3439.1:2002 Clause 5.3

"It is the responsibility of the owner of the ASSEMBLY to institute a system of maintenance. The manufacturer's recommendations should be addressed, together with the recommendations of AS2467, in a planned preventative maintenance programme. This will minimise the risk of injury or breakdown and the consequent human suffering and/or loss of supply".



WHAT & HOW TO MAINTAIN

The Metalwork





WHAT & HOW TO MAINTAIN

The Busbar System





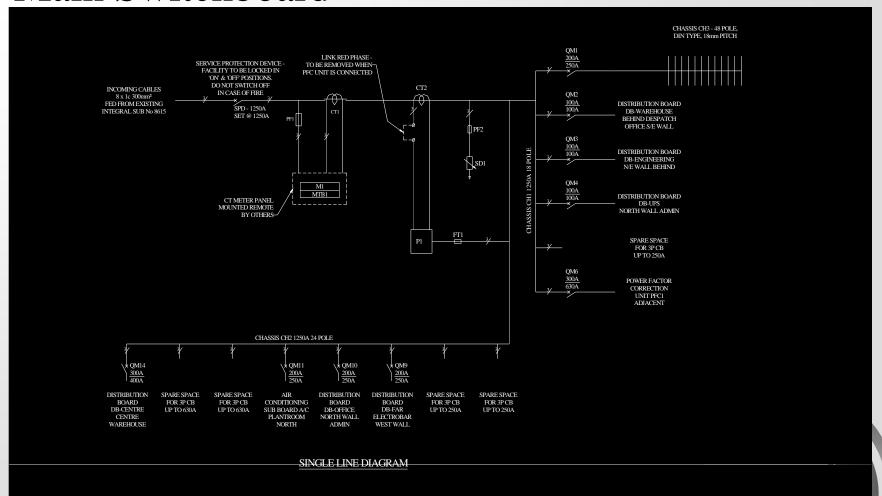
WHAT & HOW TO MAINTAIN

The Busbar System





Main Switchboard





Service Protection Device







Service Protection Device

Why and what has to be maintained on breakers?

- Case
- Mechanism
- Arc chute
- Main contacts
- Control unit
- Connection systems
- Auxiliary Devices
- Communication system



Revenue CT's





Surge Diverter

ATS /MTS





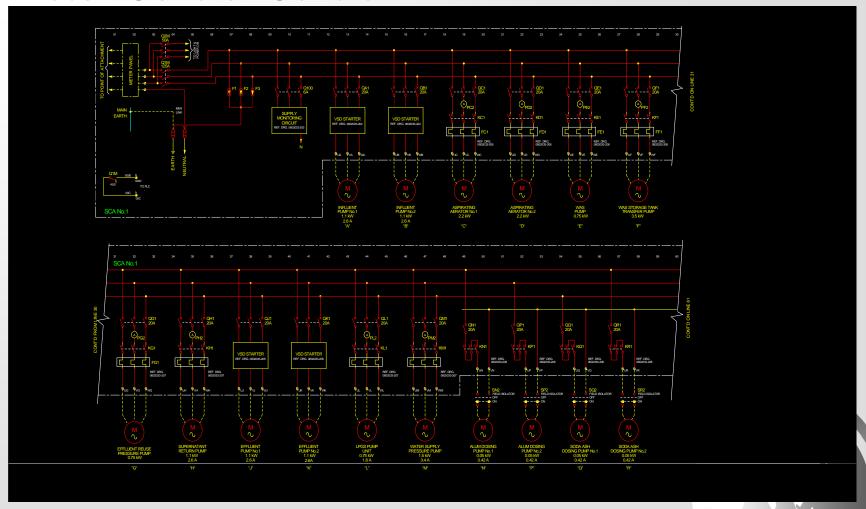


Outgoing Circuit Breakers



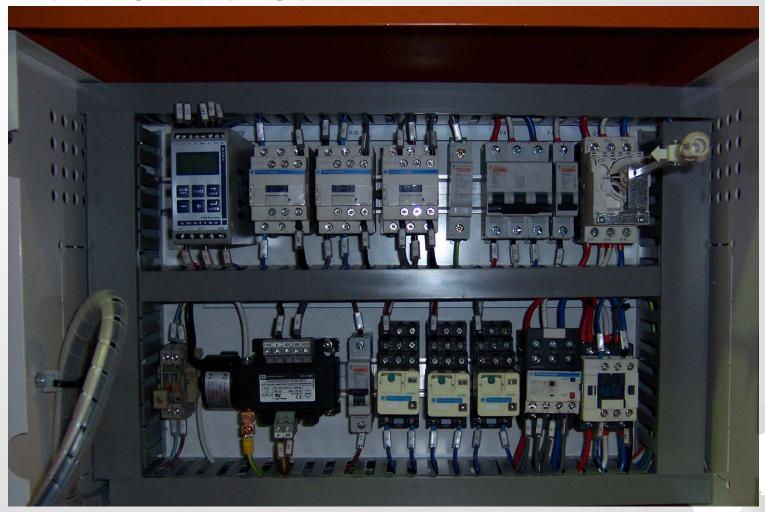


Motor Control Centre





Motor Control Centre



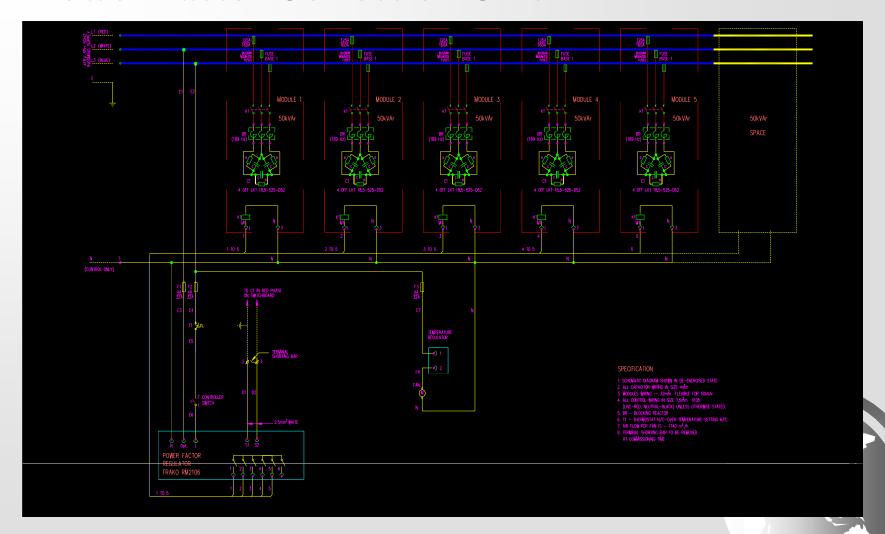


Motor Control Centre





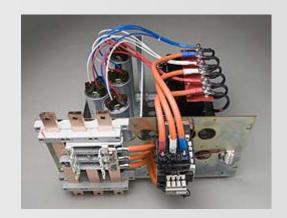
Power Factor Correction Unit





Power Factor Correction Unit









Power Factor Correction Unit

9.0 Maintenance

CAPTECH power factor correction system operates automatically and is designed to operate for a long time with regular preventative maintenance. To avoid reactive power penalty charges suddenly being incurred or the correction system being damaged by an undetected fault, we recommend that regular preventative maintenance to be carried out.

9.1 Alarm Signal

The reactive power control relay is provided with a built-in alarm contact (terminals a and b), which can be connected to an alarm system. If the set power factor is not achieved, a signal is given and the Alarm LED on the instrument itself lights up continuously. The operating manual for the control relay contains more information on the types of alarm and the programming of its set points.

9.2 Fuses

Low voltage, high breaking capacity fuses undergo an ageing process when carrying the high-switched currents associated with capacitors. They must be inspected at least once per year. We recommend replacing the fuse links after ten years at the latest.

9.3 Contactors

CAPTECH system uses contactors specially designed for capacitor switching only. Please ensure that only matching contactors are fitted when replacing.

The contacts of capacitor switching contactors have a particularly demanding duty. They are tested for 80,000 switching cycles and must be completely replaced once this number has been reached. If the power factor correction system has a control relay with a switching cycle counter, a separate message is given for each stage after 80,000 switching cycles (factory setting which can be reprogrammed) to inform the operator that contactor replacement is due.

The current counter readings can be accessed via the control relay. When capacitor stages are switched in manually, the number of switching cycles appears briefly in the display (multiply reading by 1000).

Wear and tear of the switching contacts has an adverse effect on the service life of the capacitors!

9.4 Discharge Resistors

The discharge resistors are fitted to the capacitor terminals for safety reasons in compliance with VDE (German Association of Electrical Engineers) and AS 2897 regulations. In addition to their safety function, they are also indispensable for problem-free operation of the system and must not, in any account, be removed. Attention must be paid to this point particularly when capacitors are replaced!

9.5 Capacitors

The capacitors must be checked at regular intervals for any mechanical changes. Any variation in capacitance or distortion by harmonics can be inferred from the operating currents measured. If any irregularities are detected, please contact Capacitor Technologies directly.

.6 General

Please ensure that the system is kept clean at all times. During inspection, the system must be given a visual check by an electrician to verify its good working order, ie sound electrical contacts, no evidence of over

Components, bus-bar system and control circuitry connections should remain tight. However, carelessness or thermal expansion/contraction could result in improper connections. A resistive joint may thus occur. This is usually recognised by discolouration of cable insulation near the connectors, inability to get rated power where it had been obtained previously, or unstable operation of equipment. During periods of diagnosis for unusual troubles or annual shutdown maintenance, it is good to check connections.

Table 1 below is a guide in periodic preventative maintenance checks. Failure to provide proper maintenance may result in component failure and/or system breakdown.

	Before	Initial	Every
	Start Up	First Week	Six Months
Tighten Bolts	1	1	1
& Screws	٧	٧	٧
Cleaning			1
Equipment			٧

Table 1: Recommended minimum maintenance schedule



When working inside enclosure, disconnect and padlock off incoming power.



WHEN TO MAINTAIN

The effect on business

Form of Construction

Location

Environment

Duty





WHEN TO MAINTAIN

AS 2467 clauses 4.4.3, 4.4.4 & 4.4.5

Inspect – 12 months

Examine – 5 years

Overhaul – 15 years





CONCLUSION





Predictive maintenance



Predictive maintenance

Predictive maintenance, based on the recording and analysis of system parameters, is the means to detect drift from the initial state and significant trends. Using predictive maintenance, the customer can anticipate on the corrective action required to ensure equipment safety and continuity of service, and plan the action for the most convenient time.

To ensure the highest possible level of installation reliability and optimise the service life of equipment, it is advised to establish a maintenance plan. The plan indicates for each piece of equipment:

- the most suitable type of maintenance
- the recommended frequency of maintenance. The plan is based on two criteria:
- the criticality of each device in the installation
- device operating conditions.

Criticality depends on the consequences of device failure in terms of the safety of life and property, production losses, the cost of repair and start-up, etc. An empirical estimate may be sufficient for simple cases, but it is recommended to undertake a reliability analysis of the installation for more complex architectures involving backup sources, transfer mechanisms, etc. Check with your Schneider Service Centre for more information.

The operating conditions reflect the environment in which the device is installed (relative humidity, heat, dust, etc.) and how the device is used (load, frequency of operation, quality of the supply current, etc.). These conditions are discussed in detail in this document, as well as the ensuing maintenance recommendations.

Consequently, for a given device, the recommended maintenance may vary substantially both in terms of the necessary operations and their frequency.

Example of Masterpact predictive maintenance

Monitoring and recording	Goal	Tool	Service offered
Number of operating cycles	Monitor manufacturer limits and determine the probable replacement date	Electronic counter with the communication module + MPS100 server	Remote monitoring by: customer supervisor or Serenity service (1)
Trip and alarm histories	Analyse the distribution-system phenomena that resulted in tripping or alarms caused by transient overloads, setting changes or a modification in the installation	Micrologic P/ H event log + MPS100 server	Remote monitoring by: customer supervisor or Serenity service (1)
Contact wear	Monitor (without dismantling) the arc chutes on the circuit breakers and plan their replacement	Micrologic P/ H event log + MPS100 server	Remote monitoring by: customer supervisor or Serenity service (1)
Percent load	Estimate as precisely as possible the probable service life of the device		Remote monitoring by: customer supervisor or Serenity service (1)
Pole opening and closing speed	Monitor any mechanical drift in devices and evaluate their condition	Prodiag tester	Remote monitoring by: customer supervisor or Serenity service (1)

(1) Serenity is a Schneider Electric service providing installation diagnostics and analysis of distribution systems.

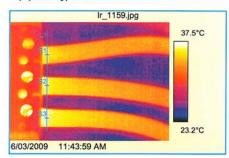
For more information on the possibilities offered by predictive maintenance, contact your Schneider after-sales support department.

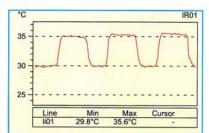


SCANNING SCHEDULE

LOCATION	DESIGNATION	RESULTS
Main Switchroom	Main Switchboard	
	Busbar Section	OK
	Incoming Supply	Sealed
	Main Switch No.1	ок
	Main Switch No.2	OK, See Report Page 3
	Main Switch No.3	OK, See Report Page 4
	Local Distribution Board Isolators	See Report Pages 5 & 6
	Cable Zone	OK
Warehouse, Picking Area	Distribution Board No.1	See Report Pages 7 & 8
Warehouse, Under Mezzanine	Distribution Board No.4	ок
	Air Conditioning Distribution Board	See Report Pages 9 - 11
	Essential Services Panel	ок
Warehouse, Bulk Storage	Distribution Board No.3	See Report Page 12
	Distribution Board No.3A	Minimal Load At Time Of Scan
Warehouse, Dock Area	Roller Door Control Panel	Minimal Load At Time Of Scan
Security Office, Plant Room	Air Conditioning Control Panel	ОК
Level 1, Office Area	Distribution Board Office	OK, See Report Page 13
Level 1, Plant Room	Air Conditioning Control Panel	OK

Equipment Type: MAIN SWITCHBOARD:- MAIN SWITCH No.2.





6	

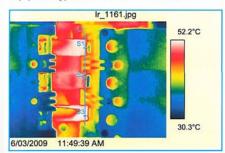
IR information	Value					
Date of creation	6/03/2009					
Time of creation	11:43:59 AM					
File name	lr_1159.jpg					
Object parameter	Value	_				
Ambient temperature	24.0°C					
Label	Value	_				
IR : max	36.7°C					
IR : min	28.8°C	T				
S1	35.1°C					
S2	35.3°C					
S3	35.6°C	_				
L1 : max	35.6°C					
L1 : min	29.8°C					
L1 : avg	32.9°C					

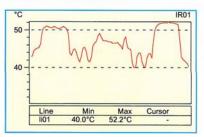
COMMENTS

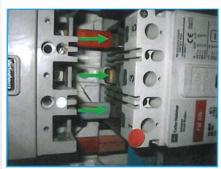
At the time of scanning all temperatures were within equipment rating. No faults were detected and no further action is required.



Equipment Type: MAIN SWITCHBOARD, LOCAL D/B ISOLATORS:- ISOLATOR D/B No.4.







IR information	Value					
Date of creation	6/03/2009	7				
Time of creation	11:49:39 AM					
File name	lr_1161.jpg					
Object parameter	Value	ī				
Ambient temperature	24.0°C	Ī				
Label	Value	ī				
IR : max	52.5°C					
IR : min	29.7°C	Ī				
S1	50.8°C	_				
S2	46.9°C					
S3	51.9°C					
L1 : max	52.2°C	-				
L1 : min	40.0°C	_				
L1 : avg	46.7°C					

COMMENTS

A high resistance joint was found on the line side C phase termination to Isolator Distribution Board No.4. Suggest repairs be carried out as soon as possible. Isolator Rating = 160Amps.

Load Current: A Phase = 58Amps, B Phase = 71Amps, C Phase = 64Amps.





COMMENTS

The busbar chassis insulation was found to be cracked on all three phases to the Local Distribution Board Isolators Section of the Main Switchboard. Suggest further investigation and repairs to be carried out if deemed necessary.



Equipment Type: AIR CONDITIONING DISTRIBUTION BOARD:- DOOR HANDLE.



COMMENTS

The door handle to Air Conditioning Distribution Board was found to be missing. Suggest replacement handle be installed as soon as possible.



DATE:				P/O DATE: B No:	TYPE:	EQUIPMENT:				No.			
			•••••				ONTACT:						
		VISU	ALLY CHECKEL);			ME	ASUREMENTS:					
	NAME		CHECKED	COMMENT	\neg	SUPPLY VOLTAGE (V)							
FUSES						R-N	W - N				B-N		
CAPACITORS													
RIPPLE REJECT BLOCKING REA						R-W	W-B				B-R		
DISCOLORATIO	N OF BUSBA	RS			STAGE				CL	IRRENTS	(A)		
DISCOLORATIO			TIGHTNESS:	ITNESS:		INSULATION RESISTANCE of CONDUCTORS	RESISTANCE of EARTHING SYSTEM	CAPACITANCE	R	W	В		
	BOLTS		CHECKED	COMMENT	1		and the contract						
CONTACTOR					2								
FUSE BASES					3								
BLOCKING REA					4								
CONTROL CIRC	UIT				5								
OTHERS:					6								
NAME			PERATION:		7								
FAN	_		CHECKED	COMMENT	8								
CONTROLLER	AUTOMAT	TC ON											
CONTROLLER	MANUAL	ON			_								
ALARM	MANUAL	UN	+ +		-				_	_			
			CLEANING:		_								
VACUUMED INS	IDE UNIT			S LI NOLI	_					_			
Air Filter Exch	anged/Clea	nod:		Damage: YES NO				MATERIA					
				Damaye. 123 NC		QTY PART I	No. DESCRIPTION		L.		PRICE		
				·····		QII PANII	VO. DESCRIPTION	OIV		- '	PRICE		
Unfinished We	ork:			·····	•				-	+			
Unit has been	found in sa	tisfactory c	ondition and god	d working order: YES NO	,					_			
Recommende	d Action:				1//					+			
Recommende	d Next Main	tenance:								-	100		
ENGINEERS N	VAME:		SIGNA	TURE;					TOTAL:	-			
cortification cubio	at to the assessed	an Estad at a seco	the most has been a	arriad out satisfactorily Nan			Cianatu						

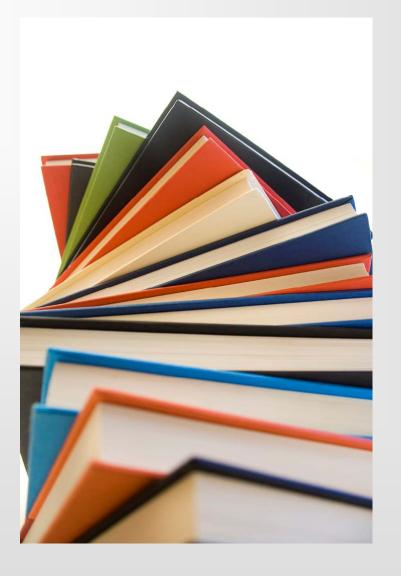


Design





Manufacturer's Literature





3rd PLACE





2nd PLACE







WINNER





