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Megger.

VIDAR Vacuum Interrupter Tester



- Tests the integrity of vacuum interrupters quickly, safely and easily
- User defined voltage selection
- Extensive voltage range
- Easy to operate. Follows ANSI/IEEE standardized DC test methods
- Lightweight and portable

Description

When a vacuum circuit breaker is commissioned or undergoes routine tests, it is very important to be able to ascertain whether or not the Vacuum Interrupter (VI) is intact before putting it back into operation.

VIDAR enables you to check the integrity of the vacuum interrupter quickly and conveniently by means of the known relationship between the flashover voltage and the vacuum interrupter. A suitable test voltage (DC) is applied to the breaker, and the result is known immediately.

VIDAR permits you to select among test voltages from 10 to 60 kV DC. One of these voltages is customized and specified by the customer when ordering. A green lamp indicates approval of the VI. A red lamp indicates that it is defective. Two-hand control and a high-voltage warning lamp enhances safety.

VIDAR has been developed in close collaboration with leading manufacturers of vacuum circuit breakers. It weighs only about 6 kg (15 lbs), and it is easy to use since interrupters do not have to be dismounted for testing. VIDAR is therefore ideal for use in the field or shop floor applications.

Applications

The VIDAR vacuum tester is used to test the ability of the VI in a vacuum circuit to inhibit flashover. The rugged, lightweight, compact and portable VIDAR is ideal for field work and shop floor applications.

The VI in vacuum breakers do not last forever. Leakage starts after years or decades and the interrupters fill with air making the breaker unreliable. In most cases, the leakage process is rapid once it has started. In addition to leakage, dirt on the poles and on the exterior surface of the interrupter can make it unsafe during operation. The mechanics of the breaker can become misaligned so that the distance between the poles no longer is adequate. VIDAR, introduced in 1985, uses high voltage DC to test the integrity of vacuum breakers.



Connection diagram for the VIDAR

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Flashover Threshold Voltage

The curve shown in Fig. 1 illustrates the relationship between the VI's internal pressure and its ability to inhibit flashover. This relationship permits the vacuum to be checked indirectly by measuring the voltage threshold. One special advantage of this method is that you do not need to disassemble the circuit breaker in order to test it.

The voltage shall be selected so that test point A is sufficiently far from point B (when the chamber is filled with air). However, the electric stress in the chamber must not be too high. In normal situations, the pressure is less than 10^{-2} mbar.

For guidance on test voltage refer to IEC 694 and ANSI C37-06 standards



Fig. 1: Flashover threshold voltage plotted against pressure in vacuum interrupter.

Features and Benefits

- 1. **High voltage cable**. For connection of the test voltage and ground to the vacuum breaking chamber.
- 2. CANCEL lamp. Lights up when:
 - the test interval has exceeded one minute.
 - you try to conduct a one minute test less than two minutes after the latest test.
 - the HIGH-VOLTAGE indicator malfunctions.
- 3. HIGH-VOLTAGE warning lamp. Shows that the high voltage is applied.
- 4. **Test voltage selector.** 10 to 60 kV DC. One of these voltages is customized and specified by the customer when ordering.
- 5. Protective earth (ground) terminal.
- 6. Large test clip connectors provides for quicker connection and more efficient testing process
- 7. **TEST Safety control knobs**. Both knobs must be turned simultaneously to apply high voltage to the test object.
- 8. ACCEPTABLE green lamp. Lights up when the breaking chamber test result is positive.
- 9. **DEFECTIVE red lamp.** Lights up when the breaking chamber test result is negative, when the flashover threshold voltage is too low.





Specifications VIDAR

Specifications are valid at nominal input voltage and an ambient temperature of +25°C, (77°F). Specifications are subject to change without notice.

Environment

Environment	
Application field	The instrument is intended for use in medium and high-voltage substa- tions and industrial environments.
Temperature	
Operating	0°C to +50°C (32°F to +122°F)
Storage & transport	-40°C to +70°C (-40°F to +158°F)
Humidity	5% – 95% RH, non-condensing
CE-marking	
LVD	2006/95/EC
EMC	2004/108/EC
General	
Mains voltage	115/230 V AC (switchable), 50/60 Hz
Power consumption	69 VA (max)
Protection	Overload cut-out
Dimensions	
Instrument	250 x 210 x 125 mm (9.8" x 8.3" x 4.9")
Transport case	460 x 430 x 210 mm (18.0" x 17" x 8.3")
Weight	6.9 kg (15.5 lbs) 10.7 kg (23.6 lbs) with accessories and transport case
Measurement section	
Indicators	
Green lamp	Indicates an approved breaking chamber
Red lamp	Indicates a defect breaking cham- ber, lights up if the current exceeds 0.3 mA
Yellow lamp	Indicate that the test was inter- rupted

Output

output	
Standard voltages, switcha- ble	10, 14, 25, 40 and 60 kV DC
Customized voltage	Between 10 and 60 kV DC. De- termined at the factory. Default voltage is 50 kV.
Ripple	Max 3%

Ordering information

BR-29090

SWEDEN

Megger Sweden AB Eldarvägen 4, Box 2970 SE-187 29 TÄBY T +46 8 510 195 00 F +46 8 510 195 95 E seinfo@megger.com UK Archcliffe Road Dover CT17 9EN England T +44 (0) 1304 502101 F +44 (0) 1304 207342
 Other Technical Sales Offices
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