SHORT CIRCUITS:

# Expertise, our source of energy 

A GUIDE TO
TERMINOLOGY
AND BASIC CALCULATIONS

## Mrinu




## RESPONSIBILITY

There are many requirements in the National Electrical Code ${ }^{\circledR}$ which pertain to overcurrent protection. These articles provide for equipment and personnel protection. In order to comply with these requirements there is certain information that must be known, such as the value of short-circuit current which can flow through equipment when an electrical fault occurs.

The intent of this guide is to provide a means for estimating the numerical value of the short-circuit current. Once this value is known, safe intelligent protection of personnel and equipment can be accomplished. This booklet is not intended to replace more sophisticated methods such as system analysis software.

The responsibility for meeting Code requirements is everybody's business. It belongs with the specifying engineer, the manufacturer, the contractor, and ultimately with the inspector who has the last word.

It is the inspector who needs to know what equipment to consider for short circuits and how big they will all be. In other words, the inspector must know the available short-circuit current at each fuse and circuit breaker location in order to determine the minimum interrupting rating required as well as the minimum short-circuit current rating (SCCR) of the equipment.

The determination may be as simple as asking the utility company how much short-circuit current is available at the service entrance or getting all the answers from a specifying engineer. In real life, inspectors must make on-the-spot determinations based on an understanding of what to look for and the ability to talk short-circuit language.

## INTERRUPTING RATING

Article 110.9 deals with two levels of current:

- "current at fault levels"
- "current at other than fault levels"
"Currents at fault levels" include short-circuit currents known as phase to phase and phase to ground faults. "Currents at other than fault levels" include current ratings marked on equipment such as switches, relays, or contactors that need only interrupt normal load currents.

This guide deals with short-circuit currents and therefore with the first requirement of 110.9. Recognition of equipment having "an interrupting rating sufficient for the current available at the line terminals" requires knowledge of available shortcircuit currents such as where to expect them, where they come from and how to determine their size. They can vary from a few hundred to a few hundred thousand amperes.

## CIRCUIT IMPEDANCE AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Article 110.10 discusses circuit impedance and other characteristics, but this guide deals only with "the equipment short-circuit ratings" and the extent of damage to components.

Since 2011, the National Electrical Code has steadily increased requirements for installed equipment to have short-circuit current ratings. As of this update, Service Disconnect Switches, Surge Protective Devices, Switchboards, Switchgear, and Panelboards, Industrial Control Panels, Motor Controllers, Elevators, Industrial Machinery, and Transfer Equipment are all required to have shortcircuit current ratings. Most power components utilized in the equipment described above will have short-circuit current ratings as required by Underwriters Laboratories (UL). Busways have short-circuit current ratings but UL and industry standards do not require marked ratings. These ratings can usually be obtained from manufacturers. Some residential meters and metering equipment have marked short-circuit ratings. Withstand ability is sometimes expressed by $I_{p}$ and $I^{2} t$. Only fuses have standardized let-thru ratings based on $I_{p}$ and $1^{2} \mathrm{t}$.

## INTRODUCTION

## NONINTERCHANGEABLE

NEC 240.60(B) is a design requirement and UL listed fuses and fuse holders automatically provide the non-interchangeability required by the Code. All UL listed fuse holders intended for current-limiting fuses have inherent rejection features and physically prevent installation of fuses which are not marked "current limiting" as a part of the UL marking requirements.

## MARKING

UL requirements for fuses and circuit breakers align with NEC Articles 240.60(C) and 240.83(C). This means that fuses and circuit breakers with no marked interrupting ratings are automatically rated 10,000 and 5,000 amperes respectively. UL has three levels of interrupting ratings for fuses above the unmarked 10,000 ampere level, 50,000, 100,000 and 200,000 amperes.

Modern applications utilize UL Class L, Class R, Class J and Class CC fuses which have only one interrupting rating, 200,000 amperes which provides increased system safety. No fuse should ever be installed without knowing the available short-circuit current, and that the short-circuit rating of the fuse is equal to or greater than this available current.

NEC 240.67 and 240.87 has requirements that deal with Arcing fault currents ( $I_{\text {arc }}$ ). These currents are lower-level short circuit currents that can be carried across air between energized parts. The calculation of arcing currents begins with calculating the shortcircuit current ( $I_{b f}$ ). This guide does not discuss how $I_{a r c}$ is derived from $I_{b f}$. Methods for that can be obtained in IEEE 1584 or NFPA 7OE.

It is not the intent of this guide to offer a new approach to this subject or add to the vast amount of material already available on short-circuit calculations, or for that matter even adequately cover the subject in a simple presentation. This guide is limited to a discussion of the principles involved, the phraseology used and a few illustrations, examples and tables which are readily understandable, and which do not require an extensive knowledge of mathematics. For complex mathematical methods, other sources such as IEC 60909, IEEE 3002.3, ANSI C37.10. etc. should be consulted.

Section I - Describes the various sources of shortcircuit current, including a simple summary of transformers and voltages which cannot supply short-circuit currents greater than 10,000 amperes.

Section II - Short Circuit Terminology describes the terminology and basics of short-circuit analysis and component protection in layman's language.

Section III - 3-phase fault current tables showing available currents for different wire sizes at varying distances from various transformers appear on pages 19 through 22.

## Section IV - Quick 3-phase short-circuit

calculations. This is one of the simplest methods available and covers systems having a wide variety of circuit components.

Section V - Classifications of fuse types and applications specifications.

## WHERE DO SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENTS COME FROM?

It is a common misconception to look at the spot where sparks fly and assume that this is the only part of the electrical system involved in a shortcircuit fault. However, the fault current does not originate at the fault but is poured into the fault from other sources. All conductors between the source and fault location carry the fault current.

Possible sources of short-circuit currents include:

1. Utility systems
2. Induction motors
3. Generators
4. Synchronous Motors

These have been listed in their order of importance or likelihood of being present.

Occasionally a user owned generator or synchronous motor will furnish substantial shortcircuit current but this equipment is not as common and will be touched upon only lightly in this document.

This guide does not deal with utility systems that supply customers but starts at the service entrance and continues inside the user's building. Furthermore, it discusses only the most common interior system of all, the radial system. Other types of internal distribution systems such as networks, are considered special cases outside the scope of this document.

The following diagram represents an elementary radial system with a low voltage bus supplied by a transformer, and supplying several circuits feeding induction motors and other loads.

## 1. UTILITY SYSTEMS

Most current furnished to customers by utilities is supplied by transformers. It is a common misconception that transformers are a source of short-circuit current. Transformers merely receive and deliver short-circuit currents from generating stations.

Transformers are rated in kilovolt-amperes (KVA). ( 1 kilovolt-ampere $=1000$ volt-amperes 1000 VA) The short-circuit output of a transformer in KVA is the same as the short-circuit input in KVA less some small losses.


The amount of short-circuit current delivered by a transformer is dependent upon the following factors:
A. Primary source (available KVA)
B. Secondary voltage
C. Size or rating of transformer
D. Impedance of the transformer

## A. Primary Source

In view of the fact that utilities can furnish data on the available KVA at the primary terminals of their transformers it will be unnecessary to concern ourselves with the determination of available primary KVA.

The largest possible primary source is called an 'infinite bus'.

A 500 MVA primary source is generally considered the largest which will be encountered in any practical system. ( $1 \mathrm{MVA}=1000 \mathrm{KVA}=1,000,000$ VA). Any source greater than 500 MVA is considered 'unlimited."

Any method for determining secondary shortcircuit currents of transformers should include a range of available primary MVA.

The Quick 3-phase Short-Circuit Calculations (section IV beginning on page 22) is based on a 500 MVA source. Adjustments can be made to the calculations by applying transformer correction factors (Table A1, page 23) based on primary MVA. Factors are given for the following MVA values: 15, $25,50,100,150$ and 250.

If time is not taken to determine and factor in the available primary MVA, calculated short-circuit currents can vary considerably from the actual values.

## B. Secondary voltage

The most common secondary voltages which may be encountered are:

- 120/240 volt single-phase
- 120/208 volt three-phase
- 240 volt three-phase
- 480 volt three-phase (Delta and 277/480 Wye)
- 575 volt three-phase
- 600 volt three-phase

For any given primary source the available secondary short-circuit currents will be different for each secondary voltage and a good set of shortcircuit current tables should include sections for each of the above voltages.

## C. Size or rating of Transformers

As previously mentioned, transformers are rated in KVA. They may be either single-phase or threephase. Three single-phase transformers can be connected for three-phase service. For example:three 333 KVA single-phase transformers make a 1000 KVA three-phase bank. Some of the more common large transformer ratings are $75,100,112.5$, 150, 225, 300. 500, 750, 1000, 1500, 2000, and 2500.

In view of the importance attached to 10,000 ampere interrupting ratings by the Code, the inspector should be able to recognize transformers which can deliver more than 10,000 amperes of short-circuit current.

## SECTION 1: SOURCES OF SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENTS

The information below is a guide for determining the maximum size transformers which can be used without exceeding 10,000 symmetrical R.M.S. amperes at the transformer terminals under shortcircuit conditions.

- 120/240 volt single-phase system

With the fault occurring on a half-winding, ie. at 120 volts. 50 kVA at $3 \%$ Z or higher at up to 25,000 primary kVA No motor load

- 120/208 volt three-phase system 150 kVA at $3.3 \%$ Z or higher at up to 500,000 primary kVA No motor load
- 240 volt three-phase system 112.5 kVA at 4.19\% Z or higher at up to 500,000 primary kVA $100 \%$ motor load (1,800 amperes contribution)
- $\mathbf{4 8 0}$ volt three-phase system 225 kVA at at $4.17 \% \mathrm{Z}$ or higher at up to 500,000 primary kVA 100\% motor load (1,800 amperes contribution)
- 600 volt three-phase system

500 kVA at at $4.12 \% \mathrm{Z}$ or higher at up to 150,000 primary kVA No motor load

## D. Impedance of Transformers

The word impedance cannot be ignored in determining the available short-circuit current delivered by a transformer, but its meaning can be understood without being technical. It should suffice to say that the impedance of a transformer is the opposition which the transformer exerts to the passage of short-circuit current, or put another way, it is the opposition which the short-circuit current encounters in passing through the transformer.

All transformers have impedance and its magnitude or value is usually expressed in percentage.

The IEEE Definition of IMPEDANCE VOLTAGE OF A TRANSFORMER is: "The voltage required to circulate rated current through one of two specified windings of a transformer when the other winding is short-circuited, with the windings connected as for rated voltage operation." (Note: It is usually expressed in per unit, or percent of the rated voltage of the winding in which the voltage is measured.)

Percentage impedance can be more readily understood from the following explanation:

Percentage impedance is the percentage of the normal rated primary voltage which must be applied to the transformer to cause full rated load current to flow in the short-circuited secondary.

Impedances vary with types and design of transformers. The only way to be absolutely certain is to check the name plate on each transformer.

The impedance for three-phase transformers having ratings of 500 KVA and less varies from $1.6 \%$ to 4.5\%. Larger transformers are approximately 5.5\% impedance. For transformers of the same rating, the one with the lowest impedance will deliver the highest short-circuit current.

Let's illustrate the meaning of \% impedance by an example:

A transformer with a 1000 volt primary and a 250 volt secondary has $5 \%$ impedance. This can be explained two different ways:

1. 50 volts ( $5 \%$ of 1000 volts) on the primary will produce rated current in the secondary, at zero voltage, with the secondary terminals bolted together.
2. If $5 \%$ or $1 / 20$ th of the primary voltage will produce full rated current in the bolted secondary, then full primary voltage will produce 20 times full rated current in a bolted or short-circuited secondary.

## SECTION 1: SOURCES OF SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENTS

The topic of transformer impedance is of importance since it is a determining factor in the amount of short-circuit current that can flow in an electrical system. It can be seen from the example, that when the \% impedance of a transformer is reduced, that amount of short-circuit current is significantly increased (i.e.: $5 \%$ to $2.5 \%$, doubles the amount of short-circuit current).

It is common place today, as a result of energy and cost savings criteria, to reduce transformer \% impedance for use in new applications as well as in the replacement of existing transformers. The resulting increase in short-circuit current could present a serious problem in respect to the interrupting rating of overcurrent devices used and should be carefully analyzed.
(Note: Use of UL Class L, J, R, or CC fuses with 200,000A Interrupting Ratings provides for changes in transformer impedances as well as increases in transformer capacity.)

## 2. INDUCTION MOTORS

During the first few cycles of a fault, induction motors contribute short-circuit current which cannot be ignored in any short-circuit study. Under fault conditions induction motors are driven by the inertia of the loads they have been driving. Momentarily motors act like generators. The output is of very short duration and lasts for only a cycle or two. This contribution is also called feedback.

The short-circuit current delivered by induction motors varies widely from motor to motor. It is seldom possible to determine the motor contribution precisely. First because the number of motors, their size and characteristics are unknown. Secondly, because motors are frequently changed or added in any large building.

An approximate value for the instantaneous shortcircuit current from a motor at an instant $1 / 2$ cycle after the short circuit occurs is 3.6 times the full load current. It doesn't vary appreciably whether the motor is lightly loaded or fully loaded when the fault occurs.

On system studies motors are usually grouped and individual characteristics ignored. A frequent assumption is that $50 \%$ of the total connected load of a system is induction motors particularly on 120/208Y volt systems having a considerable lighting load. An example would be an office or public building with air-conditioning. (The same building without air-conditioning might have 0 motor load.) Another assumption for voltages of 240 V or higher is that $100 \%$ of the connected load is induction motors. A factory would be an example of such a load. For $50 \%$ motor load the contribution is considered to be 2.5 times the normal load rating of the transformer and for 100\% motor load 5 times.

## 3. GENERATORS

As mentioned above, generators on secondary distribution systems are rare. However, we should mention them in passing. Obviously, their contribution of short-circuit current depends upon the size of the generator.

For all practical purposes we can assume that the current delivered by a large generator remains substantially constant during the first few cycles of a short circuit.

## 4. SYNCHRONOUS MOTORS

Synchronous motors act very much like generators except that the short-circuit current does not persist for as long a time, i.e. it decays more quickly. At an instant $1 / 2$ cycle after the short circuit happens the short-circuit current contributed is 4.8 times the full load current.

## SECTION II: SHORT CIRCUIT TERMINOLOGY

Section I is about as free from technical language as it can possibly be. However, it is impossible to discuss shortcircuit currents without some understanding of what happens during a short circuit and the terminology.

Section II explains the following terms:
Direct Current . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 9
Alternating Current . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 9
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Sinusoidal Wave . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 9

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## SECTION II: SHORT CIRCUIT TERMINOLOGY

## DIRECT CURRENT

The introduction of direct current in an alternating current analysis is done to provide a relative comparison, to make the understanding of alternating current easier.

The following diagram represents steady current of 10 amperes direct current. As can be seen, the DC value is constant and theoretically unaffected by time.


FIG. I/-1


FIG. II-2


SINE WAVE
All the alternating current circuits which we will consider have currents and voltages following a sine wave. A sine wave is generated by a revolving vector, i.e. inside a rotating machine.

## SINUSOIDAL WAVE

Same as Sine Wave.

## EFFECTIVE CURRENT

Since an alternating current varies continuously from O to maximum to O first in one direction and then in the other, it is not readily apparent what the true current value really is.

The current at any point on a sine wave is called the INSTANTANEOUS CURRENT. The current at the top of the wave is called the PEAK OR CREST CURRENT. It is also possible to determine the ARITHMETIC AVERAGE VALUE of the alternating current, but none of these values correctly relate alternating current to direct current. It is certainly desirable to have 1 ampere of alternating current do the same work as 1 ampere of direct current. This current is called the EFFECTIVE CURRENT and 1 ampere of effective alternating current will do the same heating as 1 ampere of direct current.

## RMS CURRENT

Effective current is more commonly called RMS current. RMS means root mean square and is the square root of the average of all the instantaneous currents squared.

The RMS value of a sine wave is readily determined by calculus but can be more easily understood by using simple arithmetic. The example below shows a half sine wave with a 10 ampere maximum or peak value. The complete wave would be 20 amperes from positive crest to negative crest. (Fig. II-4)


FIG. II-4

For this example, instantaneous currents at 10 -degree intervals will be used. The value of the instantaneous currents can be easily measured and have been tabulated in the following table. The squares of these values have also been tabulated. The average instantaneous current and the average squared instantaneous current are found by dividing the totals by 18 . The square root of the average squared instantaneous current is shown below the table.

## Calculation of Average and RMS Currents

| Degrees | Instantaneous <br> Amperes | Instantaneous <br> Amperes Squared |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | 1.74 | 3.03 |
| 20 | 3.42 | 11.79 |
| 30 | 6.43 | 25 |
| 40 | 7.66 | 41.35 |
| 50 | 8.66 | 58.67 |
| 60 | 9.4 | 75 |
| 70 | 9.86 | 88.36 |
| 80 | 10 | 97.22 |
| 90 | 9.86 | 100 |
| 100 | 9.4 | 97.22 |
| 110 | 8.66 | 88.36 |
| 120 | 6.66 | 75 |
| 130 | 5 | 58.67 |
| 140 | 3.42 | 41.35 |
| 150 | 1.74 | 25 |
| 160 | 0 | 11.79 |
| 170 | 114.34 | 3.03 |
| 180 | 6.36 | 0 |
| Total | 900.9 |  |
| Average | 50 |  |
|  |  |  |

RMS $=\sqrt{50}=7.07$ amperes
The average current of a sine wave is 0.636 of the peak current and the effective RMS current is 0.707 of the peak current.

Another way to relate this is that the peak is 1.4 times the RMS value. Standard AC ammeters are marked in RMS amperes and unless stated otherwise all AC currents are considered RMS currents.

For currents which flow for a few cycles or less it is necessary to specify whether the current is RMS (effective), Peak (crest), Average, or Instantaneous.


The two currents shown above have the same effective value.

## SYMMETRICAL CURRENT

A symmetrical current wave is symmetrical about the zero axis of the wave. This wave has the same magnitude above \& below the zero axis.


FIG. II-6

## ASYMMETRICAL CURRENT

An asymmetrical current wave is not symmetrical about the zero axis. The axis of symmetry is displaced or offset from the zero axis, and the magnitude above and below the zero axis are not equal.

## OFFSET CURRENT

An asymmetrical wave can be partially offset or fully offset. Fig. II-7 shows a fully offset wave. Offset waves are sometimes called DISPLACED WAVES.


FIG. II-7

## D.C. COMPONENT

The axis of symmetry of an offset wave resembles a DC current and asymmetrical currents can be readily handled if considered to have an AC component and a DC component. These components are theoretical. The DC component is generated within the AC system and has no external source.


FIG. II-8

## SECTION II: SHORT CIRCUIT TERMINOLOGY

Fig. II-8 shows a fully offset asymmetrical current with a steady DC component as its axis of symmetry. The symmetrical component has the zero axis as its axis of symmetry. If the RMS or effective value of the symmetrical current is 1 , then the peak of the symmetrical current is 1.41 . This is also the effective value of the DC component. We can add these two effective currents together by the square root of the sum of the squares and get the effective or RMS value of the asymmetrical current.

$$
\begin{gathered}
I_{\text {asy }}=\sqrt{\left(I^{2}{ }_{\text {DC }}+I_{\text {sym }}^{2}\right)} \\
I_{\text {asy }}=\sqrt{\left((1.41)^{2}+(1)^{2}\right)}=\sqrt{3}=1.73
\end{gathered}
$$

The RMS value of a fully offset asymmetrical current is 1.73 times the symmetrical RMS current. The peak asymmetrical current is twice the peak symmetrical current, i.e. $2 \times 1.41=2.82$.

## TOTAL CURRENT

The term total current is used to express the total or sum of the AC component and the DC component of an asymmetrical current.

Total current and TOTAL ASYMMETRICAL CURRENT have the same meaning and may be expressed in peak or RMS amperes.

## DECAY

Unfortunately fault currents are neither symmetrical nor fully asymmetrical but somewhere in between. The DC component is usually short lived and decays over time.


FIG II-9
In the above diagram the DC component decays to zero in about four cycles. The rate of decay is
called DECREMENT and depends upon the circuit constants. The DC component would never decay in a circuit having reactance but zero resistance and would remain constant forever. In a circuit having resistance but zero reactance the DC component would decay instantly. These are theoretical conditions and all circuits have some resistance and reactance, and the DC component disappears in a few cycles.

## CLOSING ANGLE

A short-circuit fault can occur at any point on the voltage wave of a circuit. So far, this discussion has avoided voltage characteristics, but the voltage wave resembles the current wave. The two waves may be in phase or out of phase and the magnitude and symmetry of the current wave on a short circuit depends on the point on the voltage wave at which the short occurs.

In laboratory tests it is possible to pick the point on the voltage wave where the fault occurs by closing the circuit at any desired angle on the voltage wave. The closing angle can be chosen to produce the desired current conditions. This is called Controlled Closing.

## RANDOM CLOSING

In real life faults can occur anywhere on the voltage wave and in a laboratory, this can be duplicated by closing the circuit at random. This is known as random closing. The following is true of a short circuit having negligible resistance:

1) If the fault occurs at zero voltage the current wave is fully asymmetrical, thus a maximum value of short circuit current is obtained.
2) If the fault occurs at maximum voltage the current wave is completely symmetrical, and a minimum value of short circuit current is obtained.
3) Most natural faults occur somewhere between these two extremes.

## AVAILABLE SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENT

Figure II-9 shows a waveform that is neither symmetrical or asymmetrical. At first glance, the value of available short circuit current may not be clear. Referring again to Fig II-9. it can be said that it is symmetrical after about 4 cycles, and we can properly talk about the available shortcircuit current in RMS symmetrical amperes after the DC component becomes zero. The total RMS asymmetrical current at 1, 2, 3 cycles or any other time after the short circuit started can also be determined.

## FIRST HALF CYCLE CURRENT

The accepted practice is to use the current which is available $1 / 2$ cycle after the short circuit starts. For a fully offset wave the maximum current occurs at the end of the first half cycle of time. Because this is the worst case, the peak and RMS currents should be determined at this point. Since the DC component has already started to decay, the values shown in Fig. II-8 where there is no decay cannot be used.

As already mentioned, the rate of decay depends upon the circuit constants. A study of actual circuits of 600 volts or less indicates that the proper $1 / 2$ cycle value for the RMS asymmetrical current is 1.4 times the RMS symmetrical current, and the peak instantaneous current is 1.7 times the RMS asymmetrical current.
$1.7 \times 1.4=2.4$ RMS symmetrical current


FIG II-10

## CURRENT LIMITATION

The significant reduction of available short-circuit current, in a circuit, by use of a device that prevents this short-circuit current from reaching its maximum value, is called Current Limitation. Fuses which perform this function are known as Current Limiting. Current Limiting fuses operate in less than $1 / 2$ cycle, thus interrupting the short-circuit current before it can achieve its maximum value. The resultant reduction (refer to shaded segment of Fig. II - 11) is substantially less than the maximum value of available short-circuit current.


This figure shows the current-limiting action of these fuses. The MELTING TIME is the time required to melt the fusible link. The ARCING TIME is the time required for the arc to burn back the fusible link and reduce the current to zero. TOTAL CLEARING TIME is the sum of the melting and arcing times and is the time from fault initiation to extinction.

## LET-THRU CURRENT

The maximum instantaneous or peak current which passes through the fuse is called the letthru current. This value can be expressed in RMS amperes also. The value of let-thru current is used in the determination of electrical equipment protection, as required by the NEC, Article 110.10.

## TRIANGULAR WAVE

The rise and fall of the current through a currentlimiting fuse resembles an isosceles triangle, and can be assumed to be a triangle without introducing an appreciable error. Since this is not a sine wave, we cannot determine the RMS value of the let-thru current by taking . 707 of the peak value as for a sine wave. In this case the effective or RMS value of a triangular wave is equal to the peak value divided by $\sqrt{ } 3$.

$$
I_{\text {rms }}=\frac{I_{\text {peak }}}{\sqrt{3}}=\frac{I_{\text {peak }}}{1.73}
$$

The let-thru current of a current-limiting fuse varies with the design, ampere rating and available shortcircuit current. Fuse manufacturers furnish let-thru curves for their various types of current-limiting fuses.

## THREE-PHASE SHORT CIRCUITS

Three-phase short-circuit currents can be determined using the same method as single-phase currents if we assume one phase is symmetrical. The three phases each have different current values at any instant. Only one can be fully asymmetrical at a given time. This is called the MAXIMUM OR WORST PHASE and its RMS current value can be found by multiplying the symmetrical RMS current by the proper factor. The currents in the three phases can be averaged and the AVERAGE 3-PHASE RMS AMPERES can be determined by multiplying the symmetrical RMS current by the proper factor. The common factor is 1.25 times the RMS symmetrical current which corresponds with an 8.5\% power factor. The table on page 14 includes multiplying factors for various power factors.

## X/R RATIO

Every practical circuit contains resistance (R) and inductive reactance ( $X$ ). These are electrically in series. Their combined effect is called IMPEDANCE (Z). When current flows thru an inductance (coil) the voltage leads the current by $90^{\circ}$ and when current flows thru a resistance the voltage and
current are in phase. This means that $X$ and $R$ must $\mathbf{x}$ be combined vectorially to obtain impedance.

## POWER FACTOR



$$
\mathbf{Z}=\sqrt{\mathbf{R}^{2}+\mathbf{X}^{2}}
$$

$$
\frac{X}{R}=\tan \theta
$$

Power factor is defined as the ratio of real power (KW) to apparent power (KVA).

PF= (KW (Real Power))/(KVA (Apparent Power))
KW are measured with a wattmeter. KVA are determined with a voltmeter and an ammeter and the voltage and current waves may be in a phase or out of phase. KW and KVA can be combined by a rightangle relationship as shown:


The active current is in phase with the voltage. The actual current or line current, as read on an ammeter, lags the voltage by an amount equal to the phase angle.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Power Factor }=\cos \theta \\
\qquad X / R=\tan \theta
\end{gathered}
$$

The power factor is said to be 1 or unity or 100\% when the current and voltage are in phase i.e. when
$\theta=0$ degrees. ( $\cos 0=1$ ). The power factor is 0 when $\theta$ is 90 degrees. $(\cos 90=0)$.

The $\mathrm{X} / \mathrm{R}$ ratio determines the power factor of a circuit and on the following pages gives power factor for various $\mathrm{X} / \mathrm{R}$ ratios.

| SHORT CIRCUIT POWER FACTOR PERCENT | SHORT CIRCUIT X/R RATIO | MULTIPLYING FACTOR |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | MAXIMUM 1-PHASE RMS AMPERES AT $1 / 2$ CYCLE | AVERAGE 3-PHASE RMS AMPERES AT $1 / 2$ CYCLE | MAXIMUM PEAK AMPERES AT 1/2 CYCLE |
| 0 | 0 | 1.732 | 1.394 | 2.828 |
| 1 | 100 | 1.696 | 1.374 | 2.785 |
| 2 | 49.993 | 1.655 | 1.355 | 2.743 |
| 3 | 33.322 | 1.63 | 1.336 | 2.702 |
| 4 | 24.979 | 1.598 | 1.318 | 2.663 |
| 5 | 19.974 | 1.568 | 1.301 | 2.625 |
| 6 | 16.623 | 1.54 | 1.285 | 2.589 |
| 7 | 14.251 | 1.511 | 1.27 | 2.554 |
| 8 | 12.46 | 1.485 | 1.256 | 2.52 |
| 8.5 | 11.723 | 1.473 | 1.248 | 2.504 |
| 9 | 11.066 | 1.46 | 1.241 | 2.487 |
| 10 | 9.95 | 1.436 | 1.229 | 2.455 |
| 11 | 9.035 | 1.413 | 1.216 | 2.424 |
| 12 | 8.273 | 1.391 | 1.204 | 2.394 |
| 13 | 7.627 | 1.372 | 1.193 | 2.364 |
| 14 | 7.072 | 1.35 | 1.182 | 2.336 |
| 15 | 6.591 | 1.33 | 1.171 | 2.309 |
| 16 | 6.17 | 1.312 | 1.161 | 2.282 |
| 17 | 5.797 | 1.294 | 1.152 | 2.256 |
| 18 | 5.465 | 1.277 | 1.143 | 2.231 |
| 19 | 5.167 | 1.262 | 1.135 | 2.207 |
| 20 | 4.899 | 1.247 | 1.127 | 2.183 |
| 21 | 4.656 | 1.232 | 1.119 | 2.16 |
| 22 | 4.434 | 1.218 | 1.112 | 2.138 |
| 23 | 4.231 | 1.205 | 1.105 | 2.11 |
| 24 | 4.045 | 1.192 | 1.099 | 2.095 |
| 25 | 3.873 | 1.181 | 1.093 | 2.074 |
| 26 | 3.714 | 1.17 | 1.087 | 2.054 |
| 27 | 3.566 | 1.159 | 1.081 | 2.034 |
| 28 | 3.429 | 1.149 | 1.075 | 2.015 |
| 29 | 3.3 | 1.139 | 1.07 | 1.996 |
| 30 | 3.18 | 1.13 | 1.066 | 1.978 |
| 31 | 3.067 | 1.121 | 1.062 | 1.96 |
| 32 | 2.961 | 1.113 | 1.05? | 1.943 |
| 33 | 2.861 | 1.105 | 1.053 | 1.926 |
| 34 | 2.766 | 1.098 | 1.049 | 1.91 |
| 35 | 2.676 | 1.091 | 1.046 | 1.894 |
| 36 | 2.592 | 1.084 | 1.043 | 1.878 |
| 37 | 2.511 | 1.078 | 1.039 | 1.863 |
| 38 | 2.434 | 1.073 | 1.036 | 1.848 |
| 39 | 2.361 | 1.068 | 1.033 | 1.833 |
| 40 | 2.291 | 1.062 | 1.031 | 1.819 |


| SHORT CIRCUIT POWER <br> FACTOR PERCENT | SHORT CIRCUIT X/R RATIO |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | MAXIMUM 1-PHASE RMS |  |  |
|  |  | AVERAGE 3-PHASE RMS <br> AMPERES AT 1/2 CYCLE | MAXPERES AT 1/2 CYCLE <br> AT 1/2 CYCLE |  |
| 41 | 2.225 | 1.057 | 1.028 | 1.805 |
| 42 | 2.161 | 1.053 | 1.026 | 1.791 |
| 43 | 2.1 | 1.049 | 1.024 | 1.778 |
| 44 | 2.041 | 1.045 | 1.022 | 1.765 |
| 45 | 1.985 | 1.041 | 1.02 | 1.753 |
| 46 | 1.93 | 1.038 | 1.019 | 1.74 |
| 47 | 1.878 | 1.034 | 1.017 | 1.728 |
| 48 | 1.828 | 1.031 | 1.016 | 1.716 |
| 49 | 1.779 | 1.029 | 1.014 | 1.705 |
| 50 | 1.732 | 1.026 | 1.013 | 1.694 |
| 55 | 1.519 | 1.015 | 1.008 | 1.641 |
| 60 | 1.333 | 1.009 | 1.004 | 1.594 |
| 65 | 1.169 | 1.004 | 1.002 | 1.553 |
| 70 | 1.02 | 1.002 | 1.001 | 1.517 |
| 75 | 0.882 | 1.001 | 1 | 1.486 |
| 80 | 0.75 | 1 | 1 | 1.46 |
| 85 | 0.62 | 1 | 1 | 1.439 |
| 100 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1.414 |

## $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I}^{2}$, AND $\mathrm{I}^{2} \mathrm{t}$



FIG I/-14
The small triangle shows current and time variation when a current-limiting fuse interrupts a high fault current. The current starts to rise but the fuse element melts before the available current can get through. The current drops to zero in the duration marked as 'time". The peak of the triangle shows the peak current which the fuse lets through. This current can also be expressed in RMS amperes. It should be noted that current-limiting fuses limit both current and time.


FIG. II-15
$I^{2}$ is a measure of the Mechanical Force caused by peak current $\left(I_{p}\right)$. This is the electro-magnetic force which mechanically damages bus structures, cable supports and equipment enclosures.

Squaring the available peak current of the circuit gives a very large number in comparison to the square of the peak let-thru current of the currentlimiting fuse. The difference in the size of the two squares indicates the difference between having and not having a current-limiting fuse in a circuit.
$1^{2} t$ is a measure of the heating effect or Thermal Energy of a fault. $I^{12 t}$ current uses RMS amperes instead of peak amperes, used for mechanical

forces. The difference in size of the large cube-like figure and the small cube-like figure represents the difference in heating effect between having and not having a current-limiting fuse in a circuit. $1^{2} \mathrm{t}$ is a measure of the heating effect which burns off conductors such as pigtails in breakers and heater coils in motor controllers. It also welds butt contacts in contactors and breakers. $I^{2} \mathrm{t}$ units are ampere squared seconds.

These values of Mechanical Force $\left(I_{p}^{2}\right)$ and Thermal Energy ( $1^{2} \mathrm{t}$ ) are valuable in determining the protection of electrical equipment. At any point in a distribution system the equipment must be capable of handling the Mechanical Force and Thermal Energy available. Should these values exceed the capabilities of the equipment, either the equipment must be reinforced, or a current limiting fuse used to reduce the amount of force and energy available to the equipment. This is referred to in article 110.10 of the National Electrical Code.

## SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENT RATING

The maximum specified value of Voltage and Current that equipment can safely "handle" is known as its "SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENT RATING", or SCCR As previously shown short-circuit current translates into Mechanical Force $\left(\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{p}}{ }^{2}\right)$ and Thermal Energy $\left(1^{2} \mathrm{t}\right)$ which can destroy equipment and create hazardous conditions.

Therefore, for equipment protection, the SCCR should never be less than the available short-circuit current at the equipment location. Such conditions cannot always be avoided. Hence, the currentlimiting ability of fuses is utilized to reduce the shortcircuit current to a value LESS THAN the equipment Short-Circuit Current Rating.

## INTERRUPTING RATING

The maximum specified value of short-circuit current that an overcurrent protective device (fuse or circuit breaker) can safely open or clear is known as its INTERRUPTING RATING. For circuit breakers there are numerous ratings ranging from 10,000 up. (i.e. 10,000, 14,000, 22,000, 42,000, 65,000 etc.). In the case of modern current-limiting fuses (UL class R, J and L) there is one rating, 200,000 ampere RMS. Older fuse types (UL Class H and K) had 10,000, 50,000 and 100,000 ampere ratings.

The Interrupting Ratings of overcurrent protective devices must never be exceeded if serious damage is to be avoided. Hence, the use of One-Time or Renewable, 10,000 ampere Class H fuses can create serious concern. Extreme caution must be exercised so that their 10,000-ampere rating is not exceeded. Further, NEC only permits installing these fuses for "replacement in existing installations where there is no evidence of overfusing or tampering." This problem is eliminated with the application of 200,000 ampere rated fuses.

It is worthwhile to note that switches which have a rating greater than 10,000 Amps. (i.e.; 100,000 or 200,000 Amps) must utilize UL Class J or Class R 200,000 ampere current-limiting fuses along with their respective fuse clip assemblies.

## AVAILABLE FAULT CURRENT

The value of the available fault current can be determined by using the tables in Section III or by using the quick 3 phase short-circuit calculation method shown in Section IV. The Short Circuit calculation method is more accurate because it considers all components in the system to the actual fault point. Either method allows quick determination of fault levels. Familiarity with these methods is essential to assure the proper choice of equipment and protective devices.

NOTE: For further detailed information regarding overcurrent protection of electrical equipment and compliance with the National Electrical Code, refer to the Application Information section of the Advisor, Mersen's full-line catalog.

USE OF FAULT CURRENT TABLES


FIG. III-1

A 500 KVA liquid filled transformer with nominal impedance of $4.12 \%$ and a secondary voltage of 120/208 volts feeds a small industrial system as indicated in the above one-line diagram. Although two lighting panels are included, they are only a small part of the total load and therefore the 100\% motor load on which the tables are based will give conservative results.

From the 208 volts short-circuit current tables on

| Location | Symmetrical <br> (rms amperes) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Switchboard | 38,200 |
| Power Panel | 34,600 |
| Distribution Panel \#1 | 29,400 |
| Distribution Panel \#2 | 3,200 |
| Lighting Panel \#1 | 29,400 |
| Lighting Panel \#2 | 4,000 | page 19 the following values of fault current (to the right) are obtained by reading down to 500 KVA for the conductor size used and reading across to distance from the switchboard.


| Table 1: 3 o Fault Current Available [symmetrical rms amperes) 208 Volts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KVA Rating of Transformer | Copper <br> Conductor Size Per Phase | Distance from Transformer to Point of Fault - Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 0 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 50 | 100 | 200 | 500 | 1,000 |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 150 \\ (4.19 \% ~ Z) \end{array}$ | \# 4 | 11,500 | 10,700 | 10,000 | 8,500 | 5,400 | 3,200 | 1,750 | 720 | 350 |
|  | \# 0 | 11,500 | 11,120 | 10,750 | 10,050 | 8,070 | 5,850 | 3,600 | 1,620 | 860 |
|  | 250 MCM | 11,500 | 11,300 | 11,050 | 10,550 | 9,250 | 7,600 | 5,550 | 3,000 | 1,600 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 11,500 | 11,400 | 11,250 | 11,050 | 10,300 | 9,240 | 7,600 | 4,820 | 3,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 255 \\ & (4.17 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 17,220 | 15,700 | 13,950 | 12,000 | 6,100 | 3,400 | 1,800 | 750 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 17,220 | 16,450 | 15,600 | 14,100 | 10,400 | 6,750 | 3,600 | 1,700 | 900 |
|  | 250 MCM | 17,220 | 16,700 | 16,200 | 15,200 | 12,600 | 9,750 | 6,500 | 3,200 | 1,700 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 17,220 | 17,000 | 16,700 | 16,200 | 14,700 | 12,700 | 9,600 | 5,600 | 3,250 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 17,220 | 17,100 | 16,900 | 16,500 | 15,300 | 13,700 | 11,300 | 7,200 | 4,500 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 300 \\ & (4.16 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 23,000 | 20,400 | 17,100 | 12,600 | 6,500 | 3,500 | 1,800 | 750 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 23,000 | 21,600 | 20,200 | 17,500 | 13,950 | 7,500 | 4,000 | 1,750 | 900 |
|  | 250 MCM | 23,000 | 22,100 | 21,200 | 19,500 | 15,300 | 2,200 | 7,300 | 3,350 | 1,750 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 23,000 | 22,500 | 22,000 | 21,200 | 18,500 | 15,300 | 11,300 | 6,000 | 3,300 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 23,000 | 22,750 | 22,450 | 21,700 | 19,550 | 16,800 | 13,300 | 7,900 | 4,550 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 500 \\ & (4.12 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 38,200 | 30,800 | 24,000 | 15,400 | 6,900 | 3,500 | 1,800 | 800 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 38,200 | 34,400 | 30,400 | 24,000 | 14,200 | 8,000 | 4,000 | 1,800 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 38,200 | 36,000 | 33,800 | 29,400 | 20,100 | 13,600 | 8,000 | 3,400 | 1,800 |
|  | 2 -250 MCM | 38,200 | 36,900 | 35,700 | 33,300 | 27,000 | 20,100 | 13,200 | 6,400 | 3,500 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 38,200 | 37,400 | 36,500 | 34,600 | 29,400 | 23,800 | 17,000 | 9,000 | 5,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { P50 } \\ & \text { (5.19\% Z) } \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 47,200 | 35,800 | 26,000 | 16,000 | 6,900 | 3,400 | 1,900 | 800 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 47,200 | 41,900 | 36,300 | 27,300 | 14,800 | 8,000 | 4,100 | 1,800 | 950 |
|  | 250 MCM | 47,200 | 43,600 | 40,000 | 34,300 | 23,000 | 14,000 | 8,000 | 3,200 | 1,700 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 47,200 | 45,100 | 43,300 | 40,000 | 31,200 | 22,800 | 14,400 | 6,900 | 3,500 |
|  | 2 - 500 MCM | 47,200 | 45,900 | 44,300 | 41,700 | 34,600 | 27,000 | 18,300 | 9,200 | 5,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1000 \\ & (5.19 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 62,700 | 43,000 | 29,100 | 17,000 | 7,800 | 3,700 | 1,800 | 200 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 62,700 | 53,500 | 44,300 | 31,200 | 16,000 | 8,500 | 4,400 | 1,800 | 950 |
|  | 250 MCM | 62,700 | 56,600 | 51,000 | 42,000 | 26,000 | 15,900 | 8,800 | 3,400 | 1,870 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 62,700 | 59,900 | 56,300 | 50,400 | 37,800 | 25,900 | 1,500 | 6,900 | 3,500 |
|  | 2.500 MCM | 62,700 | 61,800 | 58,200 | 54,700 | 42,400 | 31,500 | 21,000 | 10,000 | 5,300 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1500 \\ & (5.18 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 92,400 | 53,000 | 33,000 | 18,100 | 7,800 | 3,900 | 2,000 | 800 | 600 |
|  | \# 0 | 92,400 | 73,500 | 57,000 | 36,500 | 17,800 | 9,200 | 4,600 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 92,400 | 80,000 | 69,500 | 52,000 | 30,000 | 17,400 | 9,200 | 3,800 | 2,000 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 92,400 | 85,700 | 79,500 | 68,500 | 46,000 | 30,000 | 17,600 | 7,000 | 3,800 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 92,400 | 88,000 | 83,000 | 74,000 | 57,000 | 38,000 | 23,800 | 11,000 | 6,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2000 \\ & (5.17 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 121,800 | 58,000 | 33,800 | 18,200 | 7,200 | 3,800 | 1,800 | 600 | - |
|  | \# 0 | 121,800 | 88,000 | 63,700 | 38,000 | 17,000 | 8,800 | 4,200 | 1,800 | 800 |
|  | 250 MCM | 121,800 | 100,200 | 83,800 | 60,000 | 31,000 | 17,000 | 8,500 | 3,200 | 1,800 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 121,800 | 110,800 | 100,500 | 83,000 | 50,000 | 30,000 | 17,000 | 6,800 | 3,500 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 121,800 | 114,200 | 106,000 | 91,000 | 62,000 | 40,000 | 23,900 | 10,000 | 5,000 |


| Table 2: 3 o Fault Current Available (symmetrical rms amperes) 240 Volts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KVA | Copper | Distance from Transformer to Point of Fault - Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rating of Transformer | Conductor Size Per Phase | 0 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 50 | 100 | 200 | 500 | 1,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 150 \\ & {[4.19 \% \mathrm{Z}]} \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 9,980 | 9,520 | 9,000 | 8,000 | 5,580 | 3,440 | 1,900 | 800 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 9,980 | 9,700 | 9,450 | 9,000 | 7,600 | 5,850 | 3,900 | 1,800 | 9,500 |
|  | 250 MCM | 9,980 | 9,820 | 9,660 | 9,350 | 8,500 | 7,220 | 5,550 | 3,200 | 1,900 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 9,980 | 9,900 | 9,800 | 9,650 | 9,200 | 8,400 | 7,200 | 4,900 | 3,200 |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 255 \\ (4.17 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{array}$ | \# 4 | 14,940 | 13,800 | 12,800 | 10,600 | 6,500 | 3,800 | 2,000 | 800 | 450 |
|  | \# 0 | 14,940 | 14,500 | 14,000 | 12,900 | 10,100 | 7,100 | 4,300 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 14,940 | 14,600 | 14,300 | 13,600 | 11,800 | 9,500 | 6,800 | 3,500 | 1,800 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 14,940 | 14,700 | 14,500 | 14,300 | 13,200 | 11,700 | 9,400 | 6,000 | 3,500 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 14,940 | 14,800 | 14,700 | 14,500 | 13,600 | 12,500 | 10,600 | 7,500 | 5,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 300 \\ & (4.16 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 19,970 | 18,000 | 16,000 | 12,200 | 7,000 | 4,000 | 2,000 | 800 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 19,970 | 19,100 | 18,100 | 16,200 | 11,800 | 7,800 | 4,500 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 19,970 | 19,300 | 18,700 | 17,500 | 14,500 | 11,200 | 7,500 | 3,600 | 2,000 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 19,970 | 19,500 | 19,300 | 18,700 | 17,000 | 14,500 | 11,200 | 6,400 | 3,600 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 19,970 | 19,600 | 19,400 | 19,000 | 17,600 | 15,600 | 13,000 | 8,200 | 5,200 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 500 \\ & (4.12 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 33,100 | 28,000 | 22,900 | 15,900 | 7,800 | 4,200 | 2,200 | 900 | 500 |
|  | \# 0 | 33,100 | 30,800 | 28,000 | 23,100 | 14,800 | 9,000 | 4,900 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 33,100 | 31,500 | 30,000 | 27,000 | 20,300 | 14,200 | 8,800 | 4,000 | 2,000 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 33,100 | 32,300 | 31,400 | 29,800 | 25,300 | 20,100 | 14,000 | 7,000 | 3,900 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 33,100 | 32,600 | 32,000 | 30,700 | 22,200 | 22,500 | 17,000 | 9,600 | 5,500 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 750 \\ & (5.19 \% \text { Z } \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 40,900 | 33,000 | 26,000 | 17,000 | 8,000 | 4,000 | 2,000 | 900 | 500 |
|  | \# 0 | 40,900 | 37,400 | 33,900 | 27,000 | 15,900 | 9,200 | 5,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 40,900 | 38,300 | 36,000 | 32,000 | 23,000 | 15,000 | 8,900 | 3,900 | 2,050 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 40,900 | 39,800 | 38,500 | 36,000 | 30,000 | 22,900 | 15,000 | 7,300 | 4,000 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 40,900 | 40,100 | 39,100 | 37,100 | 32,000 | 26,100 | 19,000 | 10,100 | 5,600 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1000 \\ & (5.19 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 54,400 | 41,000 | 29,500 | 18,000 | 8,200 | 4,200 | 2,100 | 950 | 400 |
|  | \# 0 | 54,400 | 48,800 | 42,200 | 32,100 | 17,900 | 9,900 | 5,000 | 2,050 | 1,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 54,400 | 50,100 | 46,300 | 39,900 | 27,000 | 17,000 | 9,500 | 4,000 | 2,050 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 54,400 | 52,100 | 50,000 | 46,000 | 36,800 | 26,900 | 17,000 | 8,000 | 4,050 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 54,400 | 52,800 | 51,000 | 48,000 | 40,300 | 31,800 | 22000 | 11,200 | 6,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1500 \\ & (5.18 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 80,100 | 53,200 | 35,500 | 20,500 | 9,900 | 4,800 | 2,500 | 1,200 | 900 |
|  | \# 0 | 80,100 | 66,500 | 55,000 | 40,000 | 20,000 | 10,500 | 5,800 | 2,800 | 1,800 |
|  | 250 MCM | 80,100 | 22,000 | 64,500 | 52,000 | 32,000 | 19,500 | 10,100 | 4,500 | 3,000 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 80,100 | 76,000 | 22,000 | 64,000 | 47,000 | 32,000 | 19,500 | 8,500 | 4,800 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 80,100 | 72,500 | 74,000 | 68,000 | 53,500 | 40,000 | 25,500 | 12,000 | 6,500 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2000 \\ & (5.17 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 105,600 | 60,500 | 38,000 | 21,000 | 8,800 | 4,300 | 2,200 | 800 | - |
|  | \# 0 | 105,600 | 83,000 | 64,000 | 42,000 | 20,000 | 10,300 | 5,500 | 2,500 | 1,200 |
|  | 250 MCM | 105,600 | 90,500 | 79,000 | 60,000 | 34,500 | 19,800 | 10,200 | 4,500 | 2,400 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 105,600 | 97,500 | 91,000 | 78,000 | 54,000 | 34,000 | 19,000 | 8,500 | 4,600 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 105,600 | 100,000 | 94,500 | 84,000 | 62,500 | 43,500 | 2,700 | 12,000 | 6,200 |


| Table 3: 3 o Fault Current Available (symmetrical rms amperes) 480 Volts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KVA | Copper | Distance from Transformer to Point of Fault - Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rating of Transformer | Conductor Size Per Phase | 0 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 50 | 100 | 200 | 500 | 1,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 150 \\ & (4.19 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 4,990 | 4,930 | 4,880 | 4,7>0 | 4,420 | 3,800 | 2,800 | 1,480 | 790 |
|  | \# 0 | 4,990 | 4,940 | 4,920 | 4,880 | 4,700 | 4,400 | 3,850 | 2,650 | 1,680 |
|  | 250 MCM | 4,990 | 4,960 | 4,930 | 4,910 | 4,800 | 4,600 | 4,250 | 3,350 | 2,500 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 4,990 | 4,970 | 4,940 | 4,920 | 4,900 | 4,800 | 4,600 | 4,050 | 3,350 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 255 \\ & (4.17 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 7,470 | 7,380 | 7,240 | 7,000 | 6,140 | 4,880 | 3,300 | 4,600 | 840 |
|  | \# 0 | 7,470 | 7,400 | 7,320 | 7,200 | 6,800 | 6,200 | 5,100 | 3,180 | 1,860 |
|  | 250 MCM | 7,470 | 7,420 | 7,360 | 7,300 | 7,040 | 6,640 | 5,900 | 4,400 | 3,000 |
|  | 2. 250 MCM | 7,470 | 7,440 | 7,400 | 7,350 | 7,220 | 7,000 | 6,600 | 5,580 | 4,300 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 7,470 | 7,460 | 7,450 | 7,400 | 7,300 | 7,100 | 6,800 | 6,000 | 5,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 300 \\ & (4.16 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 9,985 | 9,800 | 9,600 | 9,100 | 7,600 | 5,600 | 3,560 | 1,620 | 840 |
|  | \# 0 | 9,985 | 9,840 | 9,750 | 9,520 | 8,800 | 7,650 | 5,900 | 3,400 | 1,920 |
|  | 250 MCM | 9,985 | 9,880 | 9,800 | 9,660 | 9,240 | 8,500 | 7,300 | 5,000 | 3,240 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 9,985 | 9,920 | 9,825 | 9,790 | 9,580 | 9,200 | 8,450 | 6,200 | 5,020 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 9,985 | 9,950 | 9,850 | 9,800 | 9,660 | 9,400 | 8,820 | 7,500 | 5,880 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 500 \\ & (4.12 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 16,550 | 16,000 | 15,400 | 14,000 | 10,250 | 6,800 | 3,800 | 1,600 | 800 |
|  | \# 0 | 16,550 | 16,200 | 15,950 | 15,250 | 13,250 | 10,500 | 7,400 | 3,500 | 1,900 |
|  | 250 MCM | 16,550 | 16,300 | 16,050 | 15,200 | 14,500 | 12,700 | 10,000 | 5,900 | 3,500 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 16,550 | 16,350 | 16,250 | 16,100 | 15,450 | 14,400 | 12,500 | 9,000 | 6,000 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 16,550 | 16,400 | 16,350 | 16,300 | 15,700 | 14,800 | 13,400 | 10,500 | 7,500 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { P50 } \\ & (5.19 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 20,450 | 19,700 | 18,700 | 16,800 | 11,700 | 7,500 | 4,000 | 1,600 | 800 |
|  | \# 0 | 20,450 | 20,000 | 19,500 | 18,700 | 16,000 | 12,400 | 8,100 | 3,800 | 2,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 20,450 | 20,200 | 19,800 | 19,250 | 17,500 | 1,500 | 11,500 | 6,600 | 3,800 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 20,450 | 20,250 | 20,200 | 19,200 | 19,000 | 17,500 | 15,000 | 10,500 | 6,600 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 20,450 | 20,400 | 20,250 | 19,900 | 19,300 | 18,200 | 16,300 | 12,000 | 8,400 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1000 \\ & (5.19 \% \mathrm{z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 27,200 | 26,000 | 24,200 | 21,000 | 13,400 | 7,900 | 4,400 | 1,800 | 800 |
|  | \# 0 | 27,200 | 26,700 | 25,900 | 24,300 | 20,000 | 14,400 | 9,000 | 4,100 | 200 |
|  | 250 MCM | 27,200 | 26,900 | 26,400 | 25,300 | 22,400 | 18,600 | 13,600 | 7,200 | 4,000 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 27,200 | 27,000 | 26,700 | 26,200 | 24,500 | 22,200 | 18,500 | 12,100 | 7,200 |
|  | 2.500 MCM | 27,200 | 27,100 | 26,800 | 26,500 | 25,300 | 23,300 | 20,300 | 14,500 | 9,500 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1500 \\ & (5.18 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 40,050 | 37,000 | 33,100 | 26,000 | 14,400 | 8,200 | 4,000 | 1,400 | 600 |
|  | \# 0 | 40,050 | 38,800 | 36,800 | 33,200 | 24,500 | 16,000 | 9,200 | 4,000 | 2,000 |
|  | 250 MCM | 40,050 | 39,100 | 37,800 | 35,600 | 29,900 | 23,000 | 15,200 | 7,500 | 4,000 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 40,050 | 39,600 | 39,000 | 37,900 | 34,100 | 29,000 | 22,500 | 13,000 | 7,400 |
|  | 2.500 MCM | 40,050 | 39,200 | 39,200 | 38,200 | 35,500 | 31,600 | 25,900 | 16,400 | 10,100 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2000 \\ & (5.17 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 52,800 | 47,400 | 40,700 | 30,000 | 15,100 | 8,200 | 4,200 | 1,900 | 1,000 |
|  | \# 0 | 52,800 | 50,200 | 47,000 | 42,200 | 28,000 | 17,000 | 9,700 | 4,200 | 2,400 |
|  | 250 MCM | 52,800 | 51,000 | 49,000 | 45,400 | 36,200 | 26,500 | 16,500 | 8,000 | 4,200 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 52,800 | 51,800 | 50,900 | 48,900 | 43,100 | 36,000 | 26,700 | 14,000 | 8,000 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 52,800 | 52,100 | 51,300 | 49,900 | 45,100 | 39,200 | 30,800 | 18,500 | 11,000 |


| Table 4: 3 o Fault Current Available [symmetrical rms amperes) 600 Volts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KVA | Copper | Distance from Transformer to Point of Fault - Feet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rating of Transformer | Conductor Size Per Phase | 0 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 50 | 100 | 200 | 500 | 1,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 150 \\ & (4.19 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 3,990 | 3,950 | 3,910 | 3,850 | 3,670 | 3,340 | 2,710 | 1,640 | 960 |
|  | \# 0 | 3,990 | 3,960 | 3,930 | 3,880 | 3,820 | 3,670 | 3,360 | 2,600 | 1,850 |
|  | 250 MCM | 3,990 | 3,970 | 3,950 | 3,910 | 3,860 | 3,780 | 3,580 | 3,080 | 2,430 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 3,990 | 3,980 | 3,970 | 3,940 | 3,910 | 3,860 | 3,760 | 3,480 | 3,100 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 255 \\ & (4.17 \% \text { Z }) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 5,980 | 5,920 | 5,870 | 5,740 | 5,300 | 4,610 | 3,500 | 1,880 | 1,010 |
|  | \# 0 | 5,980 | 5,940 | 5,900 | 5,850 | 5,640 | 5,300 | 4,700 | 3,820 | 2,100 |
|  | 250 MCM | 5,980 | 5,950 | 5,920 | 5,890 | 5,760 | 5,550 | 5,150 | 4,180 | 3,090 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 5,980 | 5,960 | 5,940 | 5,930 | 5,860 | 5,750 | 5,540 | 4,920 | 4,140 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 5,980 | 5,970 | 5,960 | 5,950 | 5,900 | 5,820 | 5,650 | 5,180 | 6,420 |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 300 \\ (4.16 \% \mathrm{Z}) \end{array}$ | \# 4 | 7,990 | 7,880 | 7,800 | 7,560 | 6,800 | 5,560 | 3,900 | 2,000 | 1,050 |
|  | \# 0 | 7,990 | 7,920 | 7,880 | 7,740 | 7,380 | 6,800 | 5,800 | 3,740 | 2,300 |
|  | 250 MCM | 7,990 | 7,940 | 7,910 | 7,800 | 7,600 | 7,200 | 6,540 | 5,000 | 3,500 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 7,990 | 7,960 | 7,940 | 7,850 | 7,760 | 7,580 | 7,200 | 6,200 | 5,000 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 7,990 | 7,980 | 7,960 | 7,900 | 7,840 | 7,700 | 7,400 | 6,600 | 5,600 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 500 \\ & (4.12 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 13,230 | 13,000 | 12,700 | 12,000 | 9,980 | 7,350 | 4,600 | 2,000 | 1,000 |
|  | \# 0 | 13,230 | 13,100 | 12,960 | 12,600 | 11,600 | 10,180 | 7,700 | 4,200 | 2,400 |
|  | 250 MCM | 13,230 | 13,130 | 13,100 | 12,920 | 12,300 | 11,300 | 9,650 | 6,400 | 4,200 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 13,230 | 13,170 | 13,130 | 13,060 | 12,720 | 12,180 | 11,200 | 9,000 | 6,580 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 13,230 | 13,200 | 13,170 | 13,120 | 12,880 | 12,500 | 11,200 | 9,800 | 7,650 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 750 \\ & (5.19 \% \text { Z) } \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 16,360 | 16,100 | 15,750 | 14,800 | 11,800 | 8,200 | 5,000 | 2,200 | 1,050 |
|  | \# 0 | 16,360 | 16,200 | 16,000 | 15,550 | 14,200 | 12,000 | 8,700 | 4,800 | 2,550 |
|  | 250 MCM | 16,360 | 16,250 | 16,100 | 15,800 | 1,950 | 13,400 | 11,200 | 7,100 | 4,300 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 16,360 | 16,350 | 16,150 | 16,000 | 15,600 | 14,800 | 13,300 | 10,200 | 7,300 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 16,360 | 16,350 | 16,200 | 16,050 | 15,800 | 1,500 | 14,000 | 11,400 | 8,700 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1000 \\ & (5.19 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 21,750 | 21,100 | 20,250 | 18,500 | 13,800 | 9,000 | 5,000 | 2,200 | 1,200 |
|  | \# 0 | 21,750 | 21,500 | 21,000 | 20,250 | 17,800 | 14,400 | 9,800 | 4,800 | 2,550 |
|  | 250 MCM | 21,750 | 21,570 | 21,200 | 20,750 | 19,300 | 16,900 | 13,400 | 8,000 | 4,700 |
|  | 2.250 MCM | 21,750 | 21,650 | 21,500 | 21,250 | 20,500 | 19,200 | 16,800 | 12,000 | 8,200 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 21,750 | 21,730 | 21,600 | 21,400 | 10,750 | 19,200 | 17,900 | 13,800 | 10,000 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1500 \\ & (5.18 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 32,050 | 30,550 | 28,700 | 25,250 | 16,300 | 9,600 | 5,300 | 2,300 | 1,200 |
|  | \# 0 | 32,050 | 31,250 | 39,500 | 2,800 | 12,800 | 17,500 | 10,800 | 4,800 | 2,500 |
|  | 250 MCM | 32,050 | 31,500 | 30,800 | 29,800 | 16,600 | 2,250 | 16,300 | 8,800 | 4,800 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 32,050 | 31,800 | 31,500 | 31,000 | 29,200 | 26,600 | 22,800 | 14,300 | 8,800 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 32,050 | 31,900 | 31,600 | 31,200 | 29,800 | 27,600 | 29,000 | 17,200 | 11,500 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2000 \\ & (5.17 \% ~ Z) \end{aligned}$ | \# 4 | 42,200 | 39,200 | 36,300 | 30,000 | 17,400 | 10,000 | 5,100 | 2,100 | 1,200 |
|  | \# 0 | 42,200 | 40,900 | 39,500 | 36,000 | 27,800 | 19,000 | 11,500 | 5,000 | 2,600 |
|  | 250 MCM | 42,200 | 41,300 | 40,050 | 38,100 | 32,900 | 26,000 | 1,800 | 9,100 | 5,000 |
|  | 2-250 MCM | 42,200 | 41,700 | 41,000 | 40,000 | 36,900 | 32,200 | 25,900 | 15,800 | 9,200 |
|  | 2-500 MCM | 42,200 | 42,000 | 41,300 | 40,600 | 38,100 | 34,200 | 28,800 | 19,600 | 12,500 |

## SECTION IV: QUICK 3-PHASE SHORT-CIRCUIT CALCULATIONS

 AND TABLESShort circuit levels must be known before fuses can be correctly applied. For fuses, unlike circuit breakers, there are only three levels of interest. These are 10,000, 50,000, and 200,000 RMS Symmetrical amperes. The use of Class J or R fuses with 200,000 A interrupting rating, however, eliminates concerns for the lower levels.

Rigorous determination of short circuit currents requires accurate reactance and resistance data for each power carrying component from the utility generating station to the point of the fault. If the information has not been collected ahead of time, this can be a time-consuming process.

The method described here is not new, but it is updated and more comprehensive than before and is the simplest of all approaches.

In summary, each basic component of the industrial electrical distribution system is pre-assigned a
single factor based on the impedance it adds to the system. For instance, a 1000KVA, 480 volt, $5.75 \%$ Z transformer has a factor of 4.80 . This factor corresponds with 25,000 RMS short circuit amperes. (directly read on Scale 1 on page 25 .)

Note: Factors change directly with transformer impedance. If this transformer were $5.00 \%$ Z, the factor would be $5.00 / 5.75 \times 4.80=4.17$.

Cable and bus factors are based on 100 foot lengths, shorter or longer lengths have proportionally smaller or larger factors (i.e. 50' length $=1 / 2$ factor; 200' length $=2 \times$ factor).

To find the short circuit current at any point in the system, simply add the factors as they appear in the system from the entrance to the fault point and read the available current on Scale 1, page 25. The short circuit current can also be determined from the factor by dividing 120,000 by the factor.

Example 1: What is the potential short circuit current at various points in a 480V, 3 -phase system fed by a 1000 KVA, $5.75 \%$ Z transformer? (Assume primary short circuit power to be 500 MVA.)

Answer:


FIG. IV-1

## SECTION IV: QUICK 3-PHASE SHORT-CIRCUIT CALCULATIONS AND TABLES

QUICK 3-PHASE SHORT CIRCUIT TABLES

## Factors

## A. Transformers - 3ø

(Transformer factors are based on available primary short circuit power of 500MVA.)

| Table A: Three-phase Transformer factors |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Transformer |  | Factor 3 Phase Voltage |  |  | 600V |
| KVA | \%Z | 208V | 240V | 480V |  |
| 75 | 1.6 | 9 | 10 | 20 | 24 |
| 100 | 1.7 | 7 | 8 | 16 | 20 |
| 112.5 | 2 | 7.4 | 8.5 | 17 | 21 |
| 150 | 2 | 5.4 | 6 | 12 | 15 |
| 225 | 2 | 3.7 | 4 | 8 | 10 |
| 300 | 2 | 2.7 | 3 | 6 | 7.5 |
| 500 | 2.5 | 2.15 | 2.25 | 4.5 | 5.6 |
| 750 | 5.75 | 2.78 | 3.25 | 6.5 | 8 |
| 1000 | 5.75 | 2.24 | 2.4 | 4.8 | 6 |
| 1500 | 5.75 | 1.48 | 1.6 | 3.2 | 4 |
| 2000 | 5.75 | NA | 1.2 | 2.4 | 3 |
| 2500 | 5.75 | NA | 0.95 | 1.91 | 2.4 |

## A1. Transformer correction factors

For systems with less than 500 MVA primary short circuit power, add the appropriate correction factors in this table to the transformer factor.

| Table A1: Transformer Correction Factors |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Primary | Facto | se Volt |  |  |
| MVA | 208V | 240V | 480V | 600V |
| 15 | 2.82 | 3.24 | 6.43 | 8.05 |
| 25 | 1.65 | 1.9 | 3.78 | 4.73 |
| 50 | 0.78 | 0.9 | 1.74 | 2.24 |
| 100 | 0.34 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1 |
| 150 | 0.2 | 0.23 | 0.46 | 0.58 |
| 250 | 0.08 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.25 |
| Infinite | -0.08 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.25 |

Example 2: If the primary short circuit power were 50MVA (instead of 500 MVA ) in this same system, what would the Isc be at the transformer? At the end of the bus duct run?

Answer: From the Primary MVA correction factor table above (Table A1), the factor for 50MVA (at 480 V ) is 1.74 . The new factor at the transformer is $4.80+1.74=6.54$ and Isc is reduced to 18,000A. The new Factor at the bus duct is $9.67+1.74=11.41$ and Isc is $11,000 \mathrm{~A}$.

## NOTES:

- 208 volt transformer factors are calculated for 50\% motor load.
- 240, 480 and 600 volt transformer factors are calculated for 100\% motor load.
- A phase-to-phase fault is 866 times the calculated 3 -phase value.


## A2. Second 3ø Transformer In System

1. Determine System Factor at the second transformer primary.
Example: $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{sc}} @ 480 \mathrm{v}=40,000 \mathrm{~A}$. Factor is 3.00 (from Scale 1, P. 25)
2. Adjust factor in proportion to voltage ratio of 480/208V Transformer

Example: For 208V, Factor changes to (208 $\div$ $480) \times 3.00=1.30$
3. Add factor for second 3-phase transformer. 208V 14,500A
Example: Factor for 100KVA, 208v, 1.70\%Z
Transformer is 7.00 (from Table A)
Total Factor $=7.00+1.30=8.30(\mathrm{Isc}=14,500 \mathrm{~A})$


FIG. IV-2

## A3. Single Phase Transformer in $3 \varnothing$ System

Transformer connections must be known before factor can be determined.

See Figures IV-3 and IV-4.

1. Determine system factor at 1-phase transformer primary, with 480v primary, 120/240v
secondary (Figure A)
Example: $I_{s c} @ 480 v=40,000 \mathrm{~A}, 3 \varnothing$.
Factor is 3.00 (from P. 24)
$1 \varnothing$ Factor $=\frac{3 \varnothing \text { Factor }}{.866}=\frac{3.00}{.866}=3.45$
2. Adjust Factor in proportion to voltage ratio of 480/240V transformer.
Example: For 240v, 1ø, factor is:

$$
\frac{240}{480} \times 3.45=1.70
$$

3. Add Factor $1 \varnothing$ transformer (from Table A3) with Figure IV-3 connection.
Example: Factor for 100KVA, 120/240v, 3\%Z transformer is:
a. 120 v - Total factor $=6.22+1.70=7.92$ ( $\mathrm{Isc}=$ 15,000A)
b. 240 v - Total factor $8.64+1.70=10.34$ (Isc $=$ 11,600A)

| Table A3: Transformers - 1 Phase |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Transformer |  | Factor 3 Phase Voltage |  |  |
|  |  | 120V | 240V | 120V |
| KVA | \%Z | Fig. A | Fig. A | Fig.B |
| 15 | 2.5 | 34.6 | 48 | 24 |
| 25 | 2.5 | 20.7 | 28.8 | 14.4 |
| 37.5 | 2.8 | 16.6 | 23 | 11.5 |
| 50 | 3 | 12.5 | 17.3 | 8.65 |
| 75 | 3 | 8.28 | 11.5 | 5.75 |
| 100 | 3 | 6.22 | 8.64 | 4.32 |
| 150 | 2.5 | 3.46 | 4.8 | 2.4 |
| 167 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 4.31 | 2.16 |
| 225 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 1.6 |
| 300 | 3 | 2.07 | 2.88 | 1.44 |
| 500 | 4.5 | 1.86 | 2.59 | 1.3 |

NOTE: Factor varies with \%Z
Example: 50KVA, 240 V secondary with a $1.5 \% \mathrm{Z}$ has a factor of $(1.5 \% Z \div 3.0 \%$ Z $) \times 17.3=8.65$


| Total | $I_{\text {sc }}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Factor | (RMS Amperes) |
| . $6 \xrightarrow{7}$ 200,000 |  |
|  | -150,000 |
| 1.9 - 120,000 |  |
|  | - 110,000 |
|  | - 100,000 |
|  | -90,000 |
| 1.5 | -80,000 |
|  | -75,000 |
|  |  |
|  | -70,000 |
|  |  |
|  | -65,000 |
| 2 | [60,000 |
|  |  |
|  | -55,000 |
|  | -50,000 |
| $2.5-45,000$ |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 3 - 40,000 |  |
|  |  |
|  | -35,000 |
|  |  |
|  | -30,000 |
| 5 | -25,000 |
|  |  |
| 6 20,000 |  |
|  | -15000 |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 12 | 10,000 |
| 14 | -9,000 |
| 16 | -7,000 |
| 20 | -6,000 |
| $24 \frac{22}{40}$ | -5,000 |
|  | - 3,000 |
| 60 | -2,000 |
| 80--1,500 |  |
| $120 \stackrel{100-\quad 1,000}{=}$ |  |
|  |  |
| Scale 1 |  |


| Table B. Copper Cables in Magnetic \& Non-Magnetic Duct \{per 100'\} |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cable Size | B - Magnetic Duct 3 Phase Voltage |  |  |  | B1 - Non-Magnetic Duct 3 Phase Voltage |  |  |  |
| \#8 | 79 | 68 | 34 | 27 | 78 | 67.6 | 33.8 | 27.1 |
| \#6 | 50 | 43 | 22 | 17.5 | 47.9 | 41.5 | 20.7 | 16.6 |
| \#4 | 32 | 28 | 14 | 11.15 | 30.7 | 26.7 | 13.3 | 10.7 |
| \#2 | 21 | 18 | 9 | 7.23 | 19.9 | 17.2 | 8.61 | 6.89 |
| \#1 | 17.5 | 15 | 7.4 | 5.91 | 16.2 | 14 | 7.07 | 5.6 |
| 1/0 | 14 | 12.2 | 6.1 | 4.85 | 13.2 | 11.4 | 5.7 | 4.57 |
| 2/0 | 11.8 | 10.2 | 5.1 | 4.05 | 10.6 | 9.21 | 4.6 | 3.68 |
| 3/0 | 9.8 | 8.5 | 4.27 | 3.43 | 8.87 | 7.59 | 3.85 | 3.08 |
| 4/0 | 8.4 | 7.3 | 3.67 | 2.94 | 7.57 | 6.55 | 3.28 | 2.62 |
| 250 MCM | 7.7 | 6.7 | 3.37 | 2.7 | 6.86 | 5.95 | 2.97 | 2.38 |
| 300 MCM | ? | 6.1 | 3.04 | 2.44 | 5.75 | 4.98 | 2.49 | 1.98 |
| 350 MCM | 6.6 | 5.7 | 2.85 | 2.28 | 5.36 | 4.64 | 2.32 | 1.86 |
| 400 MCM | 6.2 | 5.4 | 2.7 | 2.16 | 5.09 | 4.41 | 2.2 | 1.75 |
| 500 MCM | 5.8 | 5 | 2.49 | 2 | 4.66 | 4.04 | 2.02 | 1.62 |
| 600 MCM | 5.5 | 4.8 | 2.4 | 1.91 | 4.29 | 3.72 | 1.86 | 1.49 |
| 750 MCM | 5.2 | 4.5 | 2.26 | 1.8 | 4.05 | 3.51 | 1.76 | 1.41 |

For parallel runs at 250 through 750MCM divide factor by conductors per phase.
Example: $3-500$ MCM per phase, 480 v . New Factor $=(2.49 \div 3)=.83$

| Table C. Aluminum Cables in a Magnetic Duct [per 100'] |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cable Size | B - Magnetic Duct 3 Phase Voltage |  |  |  | B1 - Non-Magnetic Duct 3 Phase Voltage |  |  |  |
| \#8 | 129 | 112 | 56 | 45 | 129.75 | 112.45 | 56.2 | 45 |
| \#6 | 83 | 72 | 36 | 29 | 80 | 69.1 | 34.6 | 27.7 |
| \#4 | 53 | 46 | 23 | 18.5 | 51.1 | 44.2 | 22.1 | 17.7 |
| \#2 | 35 | 30 | 15 | 12 | 33 | 25.7 | 14.3 | 11.4 |
| \#1 | 28 | 24 | 12 | 9.5 | 26.3 | 22.8 | 11.4 | 9.12 |
| 1/0 | 21.5 | 18.5 | 9.7 | 7.7 | 21.2 | 18.4 | 9.2 | 7.36 |
| 2/0 | 18.5 | 16 | 8 | 6.4 | 17 | 14.7 | 7.34 | 5.87 |
| 3/0 | 15 | 13 | 6.5 | 5.2 | 13.8 | 12 | 6.02 | 4.79 |
| 4/0 | 12.5 | 11 | 5.5 | 4.4 | 11.5 | 9.95 | 4.98 | 3.99 |
| 250 MCM | 11.1 | 9.6 | 4.8 | 3.85 | 10.1 | 8.72 | 4.36 | 3.49 |
| 300 MCM | 9.9 | 8.6 | 4.3 | 3.42 | 8.13 | 7.04 | 3.52 | 2.81 |
| 350 MCM | 8.6 | 7.4 | 3.7 | 3 | 7.49 | 6.5 | 3.07 | 2.45 |
| 400 MCM | 8.3 | 7.2 | 3.6 | 2.9 | 6.87 | 5.95 | 2.98 | 2.38 |
| 500 MCM | 7.4 | 6.4 | 3.2 | 2.6 | 6.12 | 5.31 | 2.66 | 2.13 |
| 600 MCM | 7.2 | 6.2 | 3.1 | 2.44 | 5.3 | 4.59 | 2.29 | 1.83 |
| 750 MCM | 6.5 | 5.6 | 2.8 | 2.22 | 4.85 | 4.2 | 2.1 | 1.69 |


| Table D. Factors for Feeder* Bus Duct [Per 100'] |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Duct Ampere Rating | 3 Phas <br> Copper <br> 208V | 240 V | 480V | 600V | Aluminum 208V | $240 \mathrm{~V}$ | 480V | 600V |
| 600 | 2.85 | 2.48 | 1.24 | 0.99 | 2.54 | 2.19 | 1.1 | 0.88 |
| 800 | 1.61 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.56 | 2.54 | 2.19 | 1.1 | 0.88 |
| 1000 | 1.61 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.56 | 1.9 | 1.65 | 0.82 | 0.66 |
| 1200 | 1.21 | 1.06 | 0.53 | 0.42 | 1.6 | 1.36 | 0.66 | 0.54 |
| 1350 | 1.17 | 1.01 | 0.51 | 0.4 | 1.32 | 1.14 | 0.5 ? | 0.46 |
| 1600 | 1.03 | 0.89 | 0.45 | 0.36 | 1.19 | 1.03 | 0.52 | 0.41 |
| 2000 | 0.9 | 0.78 | 0.39 | 0.31 | 0.9 | 0.77 | 0.39 | 0.31 |
| 2500 | 0.63 | 0.54 | 0.27 | 0.22 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.24 |
| 3000 | 0.51 | 0.44 | 0.22 | 0.18 | 0.6 | 0.52 | 0.26 | 0.21 |
| 4000 | 0.37 | 0.32 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.43 | 0.38 | 0.19 | 0.15 |
| 5000 | 0.3 | 0.26 | 0.13 | 0.1 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| * These factors may be used with feeder duct manufactured by I-T-E, GE, Square D and Westinghouse. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



## UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES INC.

UL listed cartridge fuses are tested on AC and are marked either " 250 Volt AC or Less" or "600 Volt AC or Less." These fuses should be used on DC applications only if recommended by manufacturer as suitable for DC use.

The following are some of the major UL listings for fuses:

UL Class J, K, L, R and CC - these fuses are tested at several different available currents and must meet other UL requirements before being assigned a specific interrupting rating.

Further, Class J, L, R and CC fuses have unique dimensions or rejection features which meet the non-interchangeability requirement of the NEC for current-limiting fuses. As a result, these fuses provide a significant increase in equipment and personnel protection over the older, underrated Class H fuses.

The popular Mersen Amp-trap 2000 ${ }^{\text {® }}$ family was selected from Class J, L, RK1 and CC fuses with time delay because they have the best credentials for industrial use. Properly applied, these fuses can give "no damage" protection to equipment.

UL Class H - fuses in this class are tested on a 10,000 ampere short-circuit. This is not considered an interrupting rating by UL but is by the National Electrical Code. "Renewable" fuses comprise the fuse types in this class. Also, NEC only allows renewable fuses to be "used for replacement in existing installations where there is no evidence of overfusing or tampering." (Note: Mersen One-Time fuses are UL Class K-5, with an Interrupting Rating of 50,000 amperes.)

It should be noted that fuses are single-phase devices and any one of three fuses on a threephase fault may see the worst current condition, ie: asymmetrical current - approximately 2.4 times the symmetrical current. For this reason,
the Underwriters Laboratories tests fuses on 'controlled closing" (see page 12). Some low voltage fuse standards require investigating all "degrees of asymmetry." This is not practical, so a few critical conditions are specified by UL.

POINTS OF INTEREST

1. There may frequently be need for current- limiting fuse characteristics on circuits which cannot deliver more than 10,000 amperes. In these cases, current-limiting fuses with interrupting ratings of 200,000 amperes are used for reasons other than their interrupting ability. For example, a 200,000-ampere interrupting capacity current limiting fuse can be used to provide overcurrent protection to downstream components whose SCCR is less than 10,000 amperes. (i.e.: Utilizing the current-limiting ability of the fuse to protect a motor controller with a 5,000 ampere SCCR).
2. There are many current-limiting fuses in existence with Class H and K dimensions, with interrupting ratings of $50,000,100,000$ or 200,000 amperes. These cannot be marked current limiting because they are interchangeable with non-currentlimiting fuses. Utilizing UL Class R or J for these applications eliminates this problem and ensures protection for the electrical distribution system.
3. In order that a fused switch may have a rating of greater than 10,000A (i.e.: 100,000A or 200,000A) it must be fitted with rejection clips that accept only Class R, J or CC fuses. This assures that lower rated, less current-limiting fuses are not installed into the switch which could jeopardize the switch capacity.
4. The tables in Section III show where fuses or circuit breakers of various interrupting ratings should be used. These charts give symmetrical shortcircuit currents. UL listed fuses can be selected by matching their interrupting rating with the available currents shown in any of these tables. Fuses without marked interrupting ratings (OneTime and Renewable Class H) can only be used for conditions below 10,000 amperes.

When circuit breaker interrupting ratings are compared with the tables, conditions will arise where the breaker rating will be inadequate for the available short-circuit current shown. Further discussion and application on this topic is given in the Mersen bulletin "Fuse Protection of Molded-Case Circuit Breakers."

## AMP-TRAP® 2000 <br> SUGGESTED FUSE SPECIFICATIONS

### 1.0 General

The electrical contractor shall furnish and install a complete set of fuses for all fusible equipment on the job as specified by the electrical drawings. Final tests and inspections shall be made prior to energizing the equipment. This shall include tightening all electrical connections and inspecting all ground conductors. Fuses shall be as follows:

### 2.0 Mains, Feeders and Branch Circuits

A. Circuits 601 to 6000 amperes shall be protected by current-limiting Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 Class $L$ time-delay $A 4 B Q$ fuses. Fuses shall be time-delay and shall hold $500 \%$ of rated current for a minimum of 4 seconds, clear 20 times rated current in .01 second or less and be UL listed and CSA certified with an interrupting rating of 200,000 amperes rms symmetrical.
B. Circuits 600 amperes or less shall be protected by current-limiting Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 Class RK1 time-delay A2D (250V) or A6D (600V) or Class J time-delay AJT fuses. Fuses shall hold 500\% of rated current for a minimum of 10 seconds (30A, 250V Class RK1 case size shall be a minimum of 8 seconds) and shall be UL listed and CSA certified with an interrupting rating of 200,000 amperes rms symmetrical.
C. Motor Protection: All individual motor circuits shall be protected by Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 Class RK1, Class J or Class L time-delay fuses as follows:

| For circuits up to 480A | Class RK1 - A2D (250V) or A6D <br> (600V) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Class J - AJT |  |
| For circuits over 480A | Class L - A4BQ |

Fuse sizes for motor protection shall be chosen from tables published by Mersen for the appropriate fuse. Heavy load and maximum fuse ratings are also shown for applications where typical ratings are not sufficient for the starting current of the motor.
D. Motor Controllers: Motor controllers shall be protected from short circuits by Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 time-delay fuses. For IEC style controllers requiring Type 2 protection, fuses shall be chosen in accordance with motor control manufacturers published recommendations, based on Type 2 test results. The fuses shall be Class RK1 A2D (250V) or A6D (600V) or Class J AJT or Class CC ATDR (600V).
E. Circuit breakers and circuit breaker panels shallw be protected by Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 fuses Class RK1 (A2D or A6D). Class J (AJT) or Class $L(A 4 B Q)$ sized in accordance with tested UL Series-Connected combinations published in the current yellow UL Recognized Component Directory.
F. Lighting and control circuits in the connected combinations shown up to 600Vac shall be protected by Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 Class CC time- delay ATDR fuses, sized according to the electrical drawings.

## $3.0 \quad$ Spares

Spare fuses amounting to 10\% (minimum three) of each type and rating shall be supplied by the electrical contractor. These shall be turned over to the owner upon project completion. Fuses shall be contained and cataloged within the appropriate number of spare fuse cabinets (no less than one), located per project drawings. Spare fuse cabinets
shall be equipped with a key lock handle, be dedicated for storage of spare fuses and shall be GSFC, as supplied by Mersen.

### 4.0 Execution

A. Fuses shall not be installed until equipment is to be energized. All fuses shall be of the same manufacturer to assure selective coordination.
B. As-installed drawings shall be submitted to the engineer after completion of the job.
C. All fusible equipment rated 600 amperes or less shall be equipped with fuse clips to accept Class RK1 or Class J fuses as noted in the specifications.

### 5.0 Substitution

Fuse sizes indicated on drawings are based on Mersen Amp-Trap 2000 fuse current-limiting performance and selectivity ratios. Alternative submittals to furnish materials other than those specified, shall be submitted to the engineer in writing two weeks prior to bid date, along with a short circuit and selective coordination study.

| Product | Catalog No. | AC Volts | Ampere Rating | Electrical Standard | Int. Rating RMS Amps | Applications |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amp-Trap 2000® Class J Time-Delay | AJT | 600 | 1-600 | J | 200000 | Feeder circuits, motor overcurrent protection. |
| Amp-Trap 2000® Class L4-Second Delay | A4BQ | $\begin{aligned} & 600 \\ & (500 \mathrm{VDC}) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 601-6000 \\ & 601-3000 \end{aligned}$ | L | 200000 | The most current-limiting of all Class [fuses for service entrance and all high current applications. |
| Amp-Trap 2000® <br> Time-Delay Class RK1 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A2D (Amp) R } \\ & \text { AGD (Amp) R } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 250 \\ & 600 \end{aligned}$ | 1/10-600 | RK1 | 200000 | Transformer, motor controller and motor overcurrent protection. Increased current limitation. |
| Amp-Trap 2000® <br> Class CC Time- <br> Delay | ATDR | 600 | $1 / 4$ to 30 | CC | 200000 | Branch circuit protection for motor circuits |
| Tri-Onic® TimeDelay | $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{TR}(\text { Amp }) R \\ & \operatorname{TRS}(\text { Amp }) R \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 250 \\ & 600 \end{aligned}$ | 1/10-600 | RK5 | 200000 | Transformer, motor controller and motor overcurrent protection. High inrush inductive loads. |
| Amp-Trap ${ }^{\circledR}$ Class RK1 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A2K (Amp) R } \\ & \text { AGK (Amp) R } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 250 \\ & 600 \end{aligned}$ | 1-600 | RK1 | 200000 | Service entrance equipment, feeder circuits and circuit breaker back-up protection. |
| Amp-Trap® ${ }^{\text {® }}$ Class J | A4J | 600 | 1-600 | J | 200000 | Feeder circuits. panelboards and circuit breaker back-up protection. |
| Amp-Trap® ${ }^{\text {® }}$ Class T | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A3T } \\ & \text { A65 } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 300 \\ & 600 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1-800 \\ & 1-1200 \end{aligned}$ | T | 200000 | Feeder circuits. panelboards and circuit breaker back-up protection. |
| Amp-Trap® Class G | AG | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 600 \\ 480 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 / 2-20 \\ & 25-60 \end{aligned}$ | G | 100000 | Branch circuit protection for lighting, heating, and appliance circuits. |
| Amp-Trap® ${ }^{\text {® }}$ Class L | A4BY | 600 | 601-6000 | L | 200000 | Service entrance equipment, feeder circuits and circuit breaker back-up protection. |
| Amp-Trap ${ }^{\circledR}$ Class L <br> Time-Delay | A4BT | 600 | 601-2000 | L | 200000 | Protection of large motors and motor controllers. |
| Amp-Trap ${ }^{\circledR}$ Form 600 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A2Y } \\ & \text { A6Y } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 250 \\ & 600 \end{aligned}$ | 1-1200 | *N.A | 200000 | Back-up protection for fusible equipment and circuit breakers. |
| One-Time | $\begin{aligned} & \text { OT } \\ & \text { OTS } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 250 \\ 600 \end{array}$ | 1-600 | K5 | 50000 | Switches, panelboards, service entrance, electric heat. Limited to 50 kA fault. |
| Renewable | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { RF } \\ & \text { RFS } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline 250 \\ 600 \end{array}$ | 1-600 | H | 10000 | Switches and fusible equipment. Limited to 10 kA fault current |


| Product | Catalog No. | AC Volts | Ampere <br> Rating | Electrical <br> Standard | Int. Rating RMS <br> Amps | Applications |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



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