A risk assessment made Karlskoga Kraftvärmeverk aware of the arc guard system. Now, six months after the installation, the system is running flawless.

At the combined heat and power plant in Karlskoga – built in 1985 and with distribution plants from the same period – a risk assessment was conducted which indicated a need to improve personal protection in the plant’s distribution plants. That was when ABB provided its advice and put the old distribution plants on the right track with arc guard systems. This was conducted at Stora Enso’s carton mill in Fors with great results.

“An installation was carried out in Fors which we thought would be suitable for us. Some parts must be performed during down time – but most of it could be conducted during operation, which was a huge benefit for us,” says Sixten Österlund, electrical instruments manager at the combined heat and power plant.

Preventing accidents is key. The guard system was installed roughly six months ago. And even though no incident has occurred, Sixten Österlund is satisfied.

“It has functioned well so far. After all, we are doing this for preventative reasons so we can avoid major consequences if something happens.”

What are the benefits of installing arc guard systems?

“If an arc occurs in the distribution plant, then we protect both people and the equipment. Instead of the distribution plant burning to the ground, there is significantly less damage.

Karlskoga Kraftvärmeverk produces and supplies electricity and district heating of 360 Gwh per year to 1,050 house owners and 420 companies in Karlskoga, as well as process steam to industries.