Type O Plus C condenser bushing – oil fill plug gasket

Frequently asked questions

1. What is wrong with the oil fill plug gasket
Some of the gaskets that we received from our suppliers during the period in question did not contain sufficient Ozone inhibitor to prevent gasket deterioration due to Ozone. Ozone along with other environmental factors (sunlight, air pollution, temperature extremes) can cause the gasket to deteriorate. In some very few cases the deterioration is sufficient enough to cause outside air to enter the bushing.

2. Why this second bulletin?
Evaluation of returned bushings and information from customers who have made the gasket change is showing to us that this gasket deterioration is not as severe as we first thought. In fact, most of the gaskets that were returned to us from the time period mentioned in the Bulletin did not exhibit any significant sign of this type of deterioration. Given the additional information that we have collected since the first Bulletin, we determined that issuance of this second Bulletin was appropriate.

3. What is the best method to evaluate the bushing’s condition?
ABB always recommends the periodic measurement of the bushing’s C1 power factor and capacitance. If over a period of several measurements, either one of these parameters begins to change; more frequent measurements should be made in order to determine if the bushing is gradually deteriorating. If the point is reached where the C1 power factor becomes double the value on the bushing’s nameplate or if the measured C1 capacitance is 10 percent different (plus or minus) from the nameplate value, the bushing should be removed from service.

4. What are we asking customers to do?
The customer should replace the gasket and oil fill plug (from the kit which we supply) at his next scheduled transformer maintenance interval. At the same time, the customer should also evaluate the bushing’s condition as outlined in Paragraph 3, above.

5. What about the replacement kits?
We are supplying the replacement kits at no charge to all customers along with the instructions for properly making the oil fill plug/gasket change. Contact the Alamo factory to obtain these kits. The procedure for making this change is ABB Alamo Procedure BE077.

6. Who should I contact if I have questions?
   a. Your ABB representative