Life Extension Options for Westinghouse Oil Circuit Breakers, type 144 GC
Life Extension Parts Kits & Up-rate Packages

Benefits of Life Extension Programs
− Extended service life
− Improved safety
− Reduced maintenance
− Improved reliability
− No new foundations, rewiring, changes in bus location or space relocation required
− Increased interrupting capability (up-rate package only)
− New technology implemented on upgraded components may qualify for CapEx funding

Life Extension Parts Kits
Many Type GC breakers have been in service as long as 20 years or more. A specially engineered parts kit from ABB can dramatically extend the service life of these units at a fraction of the cost of a new breaker.

Description
The Life Extension Parts Kit includes:
− New interrupter grid stacks
− New moving and stationary contacts and springs
− Tank gaskets
− All associated installation hardware
− Adhesives and lubricants
− Installation instructions and drawings
− Maintenance checklist
If required, other components such as lift rod assemblies, condenser bushings, current transformers, and close and trip coils can be supplied.

Up-rating
Up-rating older oil circuit breakers provides an economical and efficient way to improve their performance. Not only can up-rating meet the need to increase current carrying capacity or interrupting capability, it can dramatically extend the life of the unit at a fraction of the cost of a new breaker.

Description
Many 144 kV Type GC breakers were supplied with interrupting capabilities of 100 and 250 MVA. The GC up-rate kit contains all components necessary to increase this capability to the 500 MVA level, including:
− Counterweight lever system modifications.
− New nameplate.
− New moving and stationary contacts.
− New interrupter grid stack assemblies built to the latest design specifications.
− All associated installation hardware.
− Installation instructions and drawings.
− Major maintenance checklist.
− Individual tailoring of kits to the specific breaker shop order number.
Performance of modified breakers has been verified by extensive high-power interrupting tests performed in accordance with ANSI standards. All modification kits supplied are individually designed and tailored to the particular shop order. All necessary parts, hardware, fittings, nameplates, and instructions are included. All contacts and other parts and materials supplied are controlled to stringent ABB and industry specifications.

All operations are performed by trained technicians using current design and manufacturing specifications. A quality control 500 MVA interrupting checklist is used to verify compliance with these specifications.

Design engineers with in-depth product knowledge direct the up-rates, drawing on decades of technical information about materials, configuration and performance. ABB field engineers and specially trained technicians can perform the up-rate, installation of the life extension kit, or assist as required.

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