ABB Advanced Power Electronics

DB Energie GmbH, Railway Converter Station, Limburg, Germany

Plant Overview

ABB 15-MW - Standard Converter – 8 Units
3AC 20 kV 50 Hz – 2AC 110 kV 16.7 Hz 151.2 MVA / 120 MW
Main Technical Features
The railway converter station in Limburg feeds the 110 kV 16.7 Hz supply network of Deutsche Bahn AG and helps to secure the energy supply for the new 300 km/h Cologne-Frankfurt line. The ABB 15-MW-standard converters are built of common components that are easy to operate and transport thus allowing short installation and commissioning times. The selected standard converter layout results in short servicing times. All components are designed for a long life cycle and are tested by the supplier. Installations have shown that the ABB 15-MW-standard converter provides high power availability. The converter station can be deployed for both power directions. The whole installation is remotely controlled from the power control centre in Frankfurt.

Transformers
The transformers are designed for outdoor use. The 50 Hz transformer is built with a 12 pulse configuration and supplied by a 3 AC 20 kV 50 Hz network. The 16.7 Hz transformer is a summing transformer and adds the individual converter voltages to provide the railway voltage of 2 AC 110 kV. Both transformer types are oil-filled, naturally cooled and equipped with customary protection and maintenance devices.

Container / Intermediate Circuit
The portable container is for outdoor use and links the two transformers to the segregated power converters. A closing system is installed in the monitoring and control circuits for personnel safety. Control system and equipment are installed in a separate, air-conditioned room. Outdoor intermediate circuit components such as chokes and resistors are linked to the container. Stainless water pipes provide the connection to the cooling system.

Cooling System
The cooling system is autonomous and has its own PLC that monitors and controls itself. Redundant pumps convey the processed water-glycol mix to the power converter and the heat exchanger. The power converter losses are dissipated to the ambient air via the heat exchanger by means of variable-speed fans that maintain the cooling circuit at a constant temperature.

Control System / Technology
All open and closed-loop control and protection functions are equipped with the proven, fully digital PSR system. This programmable high-speed controller permits the processing of the precise and fast power converter system control circuits. The in-built Microscada system guarantees the reliable representation, storage and operation of monitoring circuits, sequences and events. The higher-level command centre controls the ABB 15-MW-standard converter via standard interfaces.

Figure 1: Principal diagram of the ABB standard converter

Technical Data
Plant: Urw Klaus Niekamp, Limburg a.d. Lahn - Germany
Applications: Railway power supply, supply networks
Installation: Outdoors
Ambient conditions: -20°C - +40°C
Number of units: 8
Frequency: 3AC 50 Hz +/-0.5 / 2AC 16.7 Hz +/- 3%
PSC 3-phase system 50 Hz: 3AC 20kV +/- 3%
Total / Unit AC apparent power 50 Hz: 141.6 / 17.7 MVA
Cos phi 50 Hz: 0,9
Railway voltage 16.7 Hz: 2AC 110kV +/- 12 %
Total / Unit AC true power 16.7 Hz: 120 / 15 MW
Total / Unit AC apparent power 16.7 Hz: 151,2 / 18,9 MVA
Cos phi 16,7 Hz: 0,8
Power converter cooling system: Air / water-glycol
Transformer cooling system: ONAN
Control technology: ABB PSR-II
Control system: ABB Microscada