The need for upgrades

As production advances and improves over the years, it is normal to see systems change, loads increase, and harsh environments deteriorate vital equipment. Because of these dynamics, it’s important to recognize that low voltage air circuit breakers put into service many years ago might not meet the requirements of reliability and safety demanded today. Assurance that people, equipment and processes are properly protected is a growing concern.

A proactive approach to system protection includes routine maintenance, however, as aging breakers become obsolete, this may be insufficient to satisfy customer needs such as improving the electrical and mechanical performances, extending the life of the system or complying with safety regulations.

ABB Service offers a unique way to upgrade to the next generation of hardware and software from ABB to exchange wear parts or outdated equipment components while maintaining original plant and equipment configuration.

ABB’s response

- Convert to more versatile products that minimize production cost while adapting to market needs
- Offer more efficient products that boost customer installation’s value. (reliability, quality, additional features, etc.)
- ABB has developed retrofit and upgrade strategies for existing installed equipment to offer customers life extension opportunities

ABB Retrofitting

The need to upgrade or replace existing power circuit breakers is becoming increasingly important as aging circuit breakers become less reliable and replacement parts become obsolete. ABB’s Air Circuit Breaker (ACB) Retrofit is a cost effective upgrade solution for installed, aging switchgear. With advanced technology and safety features, ABB offers products, solutions and services that will ensure customer confidence in safe, reliable, and coordinated systems.

As production or process requirements change and as safety codes and standards become more stringent, it is important to ensure coordination and protection within the system. In most cases, it is not necessary to replace the original distribution equipment which makes a retrofit solution an ideal way to incorporate modern technology components.

No matter the brand of existing switchgear, customers have the option of updating their gear through retrofit solutions, utilizing new generation ABB Emax air circuit breakers which are modified to fit into the existing switchgear by cradle in cradle, roll in replacement or hard bus retrofit designs. ABB has designs available for most manufacturers’ equipment in the US market.

The ABB Emax series ensures mechanical and electrical reliability with great flexibility, thanks to modern-technology microprocessor-based electronic protections that introduce capabilities such as advanced protection and selectivity, power metering, monitoring and communication.
ABB Retrofitting Advantages

Obsolete breakers can be replaced using equipment specifically designed by ABB Low Voltage Service to preserve the existing framework and to minimize downtime and costs.

The use of the retrofitting kits provides several advantages:

- Increase total life cycle of the switchgear;
- maintain the original configuration of the switchgear equipment and installation;
- improve safety and reliability
- ease of maintenance and functionality of the system;
- low investment costs compared to those required for the installation of a new switchgear;
- planned scheduling and implementation with minimal downtime; cost reduction of maintenance and repairs;
- service continuity guaranteed with protection of investments;
- full interconnectivity with the existing distribution systems;
- easy and safe replacement;
- no structural changes;
- adaptations to auxiliary circuits;
- greater control of plants with new electronic protections;
- upgrading of the switchboard with new technology (as power management and energy saving) implies economic benefits;
- customized solutions based on specific customer needs.

ABB Offers

- Repair and Maintenance
  - Service Center – Southaven MS
  - On-Site – Field Service technicians
- Retrofit Replacement Solutions:
  - Cradle in Cradle
  - Direct Roll in Replacements
  - Retrofitting Kits
  - Hardbus Retro-Fill
- Basic Maintenance Training
- Installation and Commissioning
- Extended Warranty Packages

Contact Us to Upgrade Your System Now!

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