Success Story
OEM parts ensure reliable, safe breaker operation
Legacy breakers & HV switchgear require the form, fit, & function only ABB provides

Background
ABB High Voltage Service was hired to perform radiographic inspections of eight ABB breakers for a Pacific Northwest utility. These breakers had been previously overhauled with non-OEM parts.

Problem
Shortly before the date the radiography was to take place, the utility removed a Westinghouse 362SFA breaker from service. During the removal, they inspected and discovered that the nozzle on one contact was broken and the guide rings from four others were missing and lying in the bottom of the tank. This situation posed the possibility of a catastrophic circuit breaker failure and meant the eight additional breakers of the same design on the system needed to be inspected for the same problems. Increasing the risk was the fact that the broken nozzle was a reverse-engineered, knock-off part.

Based on these findings, the utility’s Maintenance Supervisor asked ABB to incorporate the inspection of five SFA breakers to determine if they also were missing the nozzles. After three days of testing (radiography in conjunction with our Westinghouse expert’s review), it was determined that there were three additional nozzles broken, on only one of the breakers. One phase was missing both nozzles and another phase was missing one. If this breaker was called on to perform a full fault interruption, the breaker could likely fail.

ABB’s Answer
ABB provides the original Westinghouse design as an OEM part to our customers. ABB maintains all the design records and engineering directives to supply parts which are specific to a breaker’s serial number. The combination of radiography, in-house expertise, and the largest stock of legacy brand OEM parts in the high voltage industry made it possible to fix the breakers needing immediate repair without disrupting power delivery.

The utility has since remained a dedicated customer of High Voltage Service.
ABB Advantages

- OEM parts ensure form, fit, and function
- Original Manufacturer tested
- Every kit ABB builds is individually tailored to the shop order and breaker serial number for precise fit and application
- In-house expertise to remanufacture and life extend legacy and current production high voltage breakers, GIS, and components
- Over 60 marketing, engineering, project management, production, and field service engineers available to respond to customer needs
- 1,000,000 design records on-site in print and microfilm
- Expertise to develop strategic and critical parts programs with customers
- Ability to support US as well as global customers
- Same day shipping on many parts

Brands Supported

ABB supports the following current production and legacy brands of high voltage oil circuit breakers, dead tank breakers, live tank breakers, generator circuit breakers, gas insulated switchgear, and operating mechanisms.

For more information please contact:

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