UNITROL® Control Upgrade
Extend your system's lifetime with minimal cost

As an option to extensive spare part investments and maintenance programs, ABB’s Control Upgrades are time- and cost-effective ways to improve the performance and extend the life cycle of operational equipment. As the leader in the excitation technology ABB offers competence and experience needed for a successful upgrade of your system.

Legacy control platforms and related issues
An excitation system’s control platform comprises complex hardware and software both of which are subjected to rapid development that constrains the life cycle of the system.

The Control Upgrade is applicable on the following UNITROL system types:
- UNITROL 5000
- UNITROL M
- UNITROL C
- UNITROL D
- UNITROL P
Control Upgrade procedure

The content of the original control cabinet will be removed and replaced by the new controller and its related devices. ABB has designed a standardized control upgrade plate, which is pre-assembled, wired and tested in the factory. The plate is installed and connected to the terminals with the existing control cabinet (see drawing).

In the converter cabinets the firing electronics are replaced with the latest technology. The thyristors, busbars, snubbers and fans are retained.

The new UNITROL standard software is adapted to support previous converter types, thereby reduce engineering time. To ensure full functionality ABB has tested the new firing electronics in combination with previous converter types such as UNL10300 and UNL11300. As long as the equipment remains in good condition, field circuit breakers, transformers, cooling and bus ducts are unchanged.

Benefits

- Long-term spare parts availability at lower price for the control part
- Long-term availability of engineering and support competences
- Extremely fast, state-of-the-art control platform with optical communication between boards and standardized software development environment
- New interfaces for enhanced functionality (control terminals or control and converter cabinet)
- Possibility to integrate excitation system in modern power plant control systems

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