

Special Issue

Overvoltage Protection of Electrical Networks

Message from the Guest Editors

Overvoltage surges can be limited using simple spark gaps or more effectively using high performance modern zinc oxide ZnO surge arresters. The process of designing, selecting, and applying surge overvoltage protection schemes requires an improved understanding of the fault mechanism or lightning surge mechanism attachment to the circuit, the propagation criteria of the surge along the network, the design aspects of the electricity network and its equipment, the insulation withstand level, and the performance of the earthing system. In addition, the surge overvoltage device needs to be designed, selected, and positioned adequately for an effective overvoltage limitation and the protection of valuable equipment. The aim of such protection is to achieve insulation coordination for the system that is both effective and economical. An acceptable risk of failure of the system can result when the stress on the system versus the strength of its components are considered in the context of insulation coordination.

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