



Electrical Distribution Safety

AWARENESS – REWORK PROGRAM

ESA would like to ensure that the following S&C Electric Canada Ltd excerpt, identifying product failures for certain polymer insulators, is available to all bulletin subscribers. See related bulletin DSB-08/11 for additional information.



UPDATED INFORMATION FROM S&C ELECTRIC CANADA LTD:

S&C has determined that the insulator furnished on fuse mountings manufactured from 2004 through 2011 is susceptible to fracture at, or just above, the center insert when the fuse unit is opened with an S&C Loadbuster® Loadbreak Tool.

Unless a customer's operating practices do not include use of the Loadbuster Tool, S&C is recommending that these fuse mountings be removed from service and return to S&C for rework. S&C will rework the mountings with our new insulator design that has a substantially greater flexural strength, at no charge.

As a point of information, S&C has now incorporated a polymer insulator design which, among other advantages, incorporates a fiberglass core that provides greater flexibility and strength. Its ultimate bend strength is five times greater than the old design. Operating personnel can readily distinguish between the two designs as the redesigned insulator utilizes alternating-diameter sheds, as shown below. The alternating-diameter sheds help prevent "bridging" in wet or polluted environments.

Please contact the undersigned to establish or continue your rework program for SMD-20 Power Fuse Mountings. S&C sincerely regrets the inconvenience caused due to this issue.

Yours truly,
Angelo Gravina P.Eng
Vice President - Sales

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Information requests and follow-up may be directed to ESA at Utility.Regulations@ElectricalSafety.on.ca. For questions on this bulletin please be prepared to quote Bulletin "DSB-04/12."