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Supersedes Data Bulletin 240-115 dated 9-30-85

November 20, 2023

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Information Bulletin 240-115

Overview

This information bulletin is a guide for the selection and application of S&C Type SMD-20 Power Fuses for installation on the primary side of overhead-type distribution transformers rated 5 kVA through 500 kVA single-phase or 15 kVA through 1500 kVA three-phase, and applied on systems having voltage ratings from 4.16 kV through 34.5 kV. The function of the primary fuse in such applications is to provide protection for the transformer against the broadest possible range of secondary-side faults, to provide protection for the system against damaging fault currents, and to coordinate with source-side and load-side overcurrent protective devices.

S&C Type SMD-20 Power Fuses, with their SMU-20 Fuse Units, provide construction features and performance characteristics particularly advantageous for transformer-protection applications. They are designed expressly for today's distribution systems, where higher fault currents, higher voltages, and higher loads commonly push cutouts beyond their capabilities.

SMD-20 Power Fuses provide full-fault-spectrum protection. They detect and interrupt all large, medium, and small (even down to minimum melting current) faults with line-to-line or line-to-ground voltage across the fuse, regardless of whether the fault is on the primary or secondary side of the transformer and regardless of the transformer winding connection. Their unique solid-material low-arc-energy technique of fault interruption produces a mild exhaust, with only one-fifth the arc energy of a cutout. Clearances can be keyed to fuse-handling requirements, not to fuse-exhaust behavior.

SMU-20 Fuse Units have silver or pretensioned nickel-chrome elements drawn through precision dies to very accurate diameters and are of solderless construction, brazed into their terminals. Their melting time-current characteristic (TCC) curves are precise, with only 10% total tolerance in melting current compared to the 20% tolerance of many fuses.

Helical coiling of the fusible elements and the absence of constraining filler materials result in elements free from mechanical and thermal stresses. SMU-20 Fuse Units conform to their TCC curves not only initially but on a sustained basis.

Neither age, corrosion, vibration, nor surges that heat the element nearly to the severing point will affect the characteristics of these fuse units. With non-damageable construction, there is no need for adjustments to the minimum melting curves such as the "safety zones" or "setback allowances" required by other fuses.

SMU-20 Fuse Units are designed to accommodate, not interrupt, all anticipated loading levels, including daily and repetitive peak loads as well as emergency peak loads. Unlike current-limiting fuses, they have peak-load capabilities in excess of their normal ampere rating. The exceptional peak-load capability of SMU-20 Fuse Units permits handling the high loading required of distribution transformers.

They also provide exceptional hot-load and cold-load pickup capabilities, even at low fusing ratios. Furthermore, these fuse units are available in a wide variety of ampere ratings and speed characteristics. This broad selection, combined with generous loading capability, precision, and non-damageability, permits the ultimate in close-fusing for maximum protection and optimal coordination.

This publication provides easy-to-use tables for simplified selection of S&C Type SMD-20 Power Fuses for distribution transformer protection. Refer to these tables to make the optimum SMU-20 Fuse Unit selection. Application factors reflected in Fuse Unit recommendations provided in the tables are discussed in detail in the next section, "The Fuse-Selection Tables."

Introduction to the Fuse-Selection Tables

A fuse unit selected to protect an overhead distribution transformer should accommodate the anticipated normal transformer loading schedule, including daily or repetitive peak loads and emergency peak loads, which has been established for a specific system.

The fuse unit selected should also withstand transformer inrush currents, including the combined effects of transformer magnetizing-inrush current and the energizing-inrush currents associated with connected loads, particularly following either a momentary or prolonged loss of source voltage. Finally, the fuse unit selected should provide protection to the transformer against the broadest possible range of secondary-side faults.

The fuse-selection tables presented in this publication are based on consideration of all of the aforementioned factors and permit the direct selection of transformer-primary fuse units that will provide maximum protection to overhead distribution transformers.

The tables list, for each transformer, the Fuse Unit ampere ratings and speeds that will accommodate the full range of loading levels normally encountered, including those that can be picked up under hot-load and cold-load conditions and that will withstand the energizing-inrush currents associated with each transformer shown.

In addition, for each such fuse unit, the degree of transformer protection provided by the primary-side fuse unit is quantified using S&C's unique "Transformer Protection Index," which indicates the level of secondary-fault current down to which the fuse unit will protect the transformer in accordance with the transformer short-time characteristic curve. Refer to these tables to select the optimal Fuse Unit ampere rating and speed to protect a transformer.

Selection of a fuse unit ampere rating and speed characteristic for protection of overhead distribution transformers, as outlined in this publication, is but one aspect of the total protection program for a distribution system. It is necessary to consider not only the degree of protection afforded the distribution transformer, but also the degree of coordination between the transformer-primary fuse and other source-side and load-side overcurrent protective devices.

Therefore, after the transformer-primary fuse unit ampere rating and speed characteristic have been selected as outlined in "How to Use the Fuse-Selection Tables" on page 28, compliance of the selection with coordination requirements should be verified. Then, it is only necessary to determine the appropriate power fuse voltage rating and verify the short-circuit interrupting rating is sufficient for the application (considering the maximum anticipated available fault current at the power fuse location). Refer to Table 21 on page 27.

The short-circuit interrupting ratings listed in Table 21 have been determined in accordance with the procedures described in ANSI Standard C37.41-1981. Moreover, with respect to the requirement in this standard for testing with circuits having an X/R ratio of at least 15 (corresponding to an asymmetry factor of 1.55), S&C's tests were performed under the more severe condition of X/R = 20, corresponding to an asymmetry factor of 1.6.

Based on the recognition that there are many applications where the X/R ratio is less severe than the value of 15 specified by the standard, higher symmetrical interrupting ratings are also listed in Table 21 for X/R = 10 and X/R = 5.

Basis for Listings in the Fuse-Selection Tables

The fuse-selection tables presented in this publication were developed in accordance with the application principles previously mentioned. In applying these principles, it is necessary to make certain decisions and assumptions, all of which are outlined in the following sections through page 6. For easy access to this information, it is arranged in the following sections in the same order as the subjects appear in the fuse-selection tables.

Transformer Self-Cooled Ratings

Table 22 on page 28 serves as an index to the fuse-selection tables applicable to overhead-type distribution transformers rated 5 kVA through 500 kVA single-phase or 15 kVA through 1500 kVA three-phase and applied on systems having voltage ratings from 4.16 kV through 34.5 kV. The fuse-selection tables are also applicable to pad-mounted, compartmented-type distribution transformers in ratings through 167 kVA single-phase or 500 kVA three-phase.

The Fuse-Selection Tables

Loading Capability

Peak-load capability values are listed in the fuse-selection tables for each fuse unit ampere rating based on three separate conditions: continuous peak load, hot-load pickup, and cold-load pickup. These three capabilities are described below.

1. **Continuous peak-load capability.** The ability of a transformer-primary fuse to carry continuous peak-load current, applicable also to repetitive daily peak loads regardless of duration. The peak-load capability values listed in the selection tables are derived from the continuous peak-load capabilities of the fuse units, adjusted to reflect a 40°C (104°F) ambient temperature.

A 40°C ambient temperature was used recognizing the need for reliable, uninterrupted service provided by distribution transformers is most crucial on days when the load is highest, a condition usually coincident with summer peak loads and/or heat storms. Accordingly, even under such severe conditions of loading, an unnecessary fuse operation caused by the high ambient temperature will be avoided.

The fuse units listed can also accommodate emergency peak-load currents on a nonrepetitive basis. For information on continuous and emergency peak-load capabilities of S&C Type SMD-20 Power Fuses, refer to S&C Information Bulletin 240-190.

2. **Hot-load pickup capability.** The ability of a fully preloaded transformer-primary fuse to withstand the multiple inrush currents that occur when a source-side recloser operates in response to a fault. The inrush current associated with each recloser closing operation is assumed to be a combination of the transformer magnetizing-inrush current plus the inrush currents associated with start-up of motor and lighting equipment (up to six times the pre-interruption load current).

Two recloser operating sequences were evaluated: A two-fast, one-slow operating sequence and a two-fast, two-slow operating sequence. For each

sequence, there was no intentional time delay between the two instantaneous operations and a two-second time delay between the second and third operations.

For the two-fast, two-slow operating sequence, a five-second time delay between the third and fourth operations was assumed. The hot-load pickup capability values listed in the tables represent the minimum value possible considering these two recloser operating sequences.

In addition, the hot-load pickup capability values listed in the tables are based on the emergency peak-load capabilities of the fuse units because the shorter durations associated with these capabilities are more appropriate for this calculation than are continuous capabilities.

3. **Cold-load pickup capability.** The ability of a transformer-primary fuse to withstand the overcurrents that occur because of the loss of load diversity following an extended outage (30 minutes or more). The "cold" fuse unit will withstand the transformer magnetizing-inrush current, superimposed on the transient overcurrent associated with picking up cold, the maximum pre-outage load indicated by the values listed in the tables under this heading.

The assumed cold-load current profile● is based on typical loading practices of residential-service distribution transformers, where most peak loads these transformers experience are associated with central or large room-type air conditioners or electric heating equipment having cycling characteristics. The time-integrated heating effect of the cold-load current profile on the fuse unit is assumed to be equivalent to the following multiples of pre-outage load current:

- 6X for one second
- 3X for up to 10 seconds
- 2X for up to 15 minutes

● Oliver Ramsaur, "A New Approach to Cold-Load Restoration," *Electrical World*, October 6, 1952.

The Transformer Protection Index

The Transformer Protection Index is provided in the fuse-selection tables to allow evaluation of the degree of transformer protection provided by the transformer-primary fuse unit ampere rating selected. Two objectives must be achieved to obtain a comprehensive level of protection for the transformer.

First, the total clearing TCC curve of the fuse unit should pass below and to the left of the ANSI Point of the appropriate transformer short-time characteristic curve. Second, the point at which the two curves intersect should be at as low a multiple of the transformer-primary full-load current as possible.

The Transformer Protection Index indicates how well these two objectives are achieved. The presence of an index indicates the first objective was achieved. The absence of an index signifies the fuse unit does not provide protection for the transformer, because the total clearing TCC curve of the fuse unit passes above and to the right of the ANSI Point.

Accordingly, a smaller fuse unit ampere rating should be selected. The indexes indicate the magnitude of fault current, expressed as a percentage of the transformer full-load current, down to which the fuse unit will operate to protect the transformer in accordance with the transformer short-time characteristic curve. Refer to Figure 1.

The indexes are listed in the fuse-selection tables for commonly used transformer connections. For delta grounded-wye connected transformers, the indexes are based on a phase-to-ground secondary fault, which is the most demanding type of fault for this transformer connection from a protection standpoint.

For delta-delta connected transformers, the indexes are based on a phase-to-phase secondary fault, which is the most demanding type of fault for this transformer connection from a protection standpoint.

For single-phase transformers and three-phase grounded-wye grounded-wye connected transformers, the indexes should be based on a three-phase secondary fault. However, because the indexes for single-phase transformers and three-phase grounded-wye grounded-wye transformer connections (based on a three-phase secondary fault) are only slightly smaller (better) than the indexes determined for delta-delta connected transformers, for simplicity only indexes for the delta-delta connected transformers have been listed in the

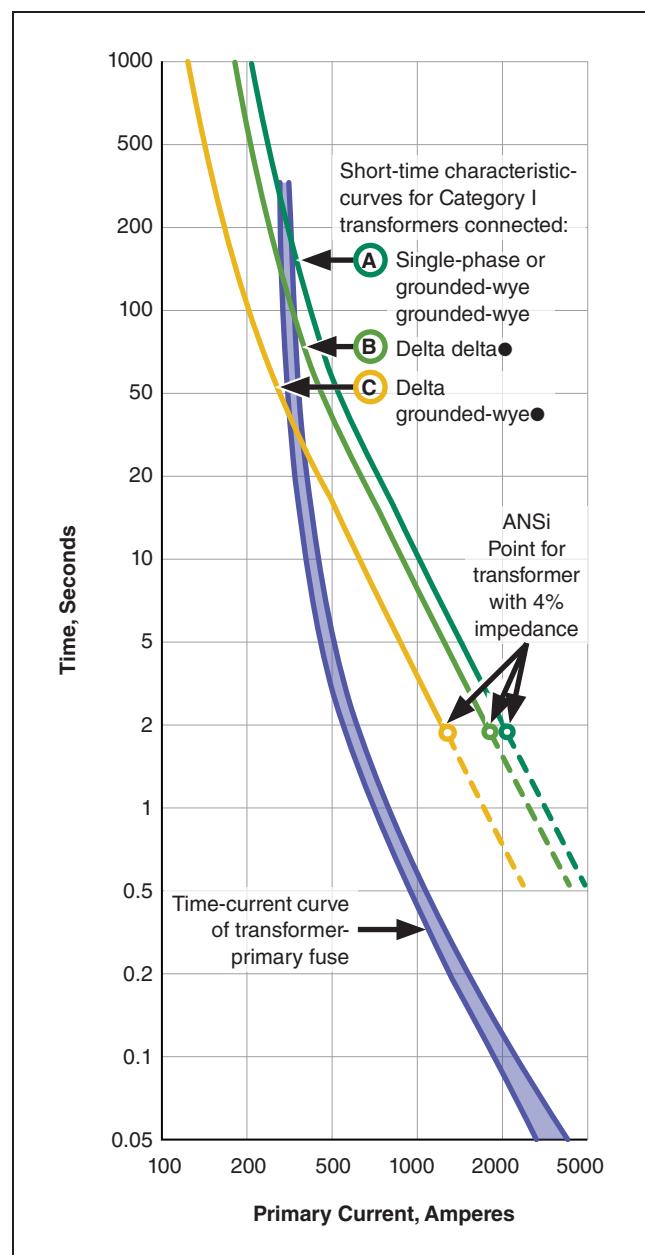


Figure 1. The Transformer Protection Index (TPI) indicates the magnitude of fault current down to which the primary fuse will protect the transformer in accordance with short-time characteristic curves. For example, the total clearing curve of the primary fuse intersects the curve for the delta grounded-wye connected transformer at 385% of the full load current, representing a TPI of 385%.

- Curves **B** and **C** represent curve **A** adjusted to reflect reduced level of current seen by two primary fuses during a phase-to-phase secondary fault (0.87 per-unit) or a phase-to-ground secondary fault (0.58 per-unit), respectively.

The Fuse-Selection Tables

fuse-selection tables. For purposes of determining transformer protection indexes, it is assumed transformers listed in the fuse-selection tables larger than 500 kVA three-phase are made up of three single-phase transformers, designated Category I in ANSI Standards.●

Ampere Rating

For each transformer kVA rating, the fuse-selection tables list a choice of fuse unit ampere ratings in each of four speed characteristics: S&C "K" Speed, TCC No. 165; S&C Standard Speed, TCC No. 153; S&C Slow Speed, TCC No. 119; and S&C Very Slow Speed, TCC No. 176. The lowest ampere rating listed for each transformer kVA rating and for each speed characteristic provides a minimum loading capability for any of the three conditions evaluated at least 90% of the full-load current of the transformer.

● Category I transformers, as designated in ANSI Standard C57.12.00-1980, "General Requirements for Liquid-Immersed Distribution, Power, and Regulating Transformers," are those rated 5 kVA through 500 kVA single-phase, 15 kVA through 500 kVA three-phase.

The Fuse-Selection Tables

Table 18. Transformers Rated 23.9 kV Single-Phase^①

SMU-20® Fuse Unit Speed →		S&C "K" Speed—TCC No. 165-2			S&C Standard Speed—TCC No. 153-2			S&C Slow Speed—TCC No. 119-2			S&C Very Slow Speed—TCC No. 176-2							
Transformer Rating, kVA, Single-Phase ↓	Transformer Full-Load Current, Amperes ↓	Fuse Unit Peak-Load Capability ^② , Percent of Transformer kVA Rating		Transformer Protection Index, Percent of Transformer kVA Rating (see text, page 5)	Fuse Unit Rating, Amperes	Fuse Unit Peak-Load Capability ^② , Percent of Transformer kVA Rating		Transformer Protection Index, Percent of Transformer kVA Rating (see text, page 5)	Fuse Unit Rating, Amperes	Fuse Unit Peak-Load Capability ^② , Percent of Transformer kVA Rating		Transformer Protection Index, Percent of Transformer kVA Rating (see text, page 5)	Fuse Unit Rating, Amperes	Fuse Unit Peak-Load Capability ^② , Percent of Transformer kVA Rating		Transformer Protection Index, Percent of Transformer kVA Rating (see text, page 5)	Fuse Unit Rating, Amperes	
		Contin- uous Load	Hot-Load Pickup			Contin- uous Load	Hot-Load Pickup			Contin- uous Load	Hot-Load Pickup			Contin- uous Load	Hot-Load Pickup			
15	0.63	635	635	360	1700	3K												
25	1.05	380	380	215	790	3K												
		865	880	365	1650	6K	640	640	320	1300	5E							
37½	1.57	255	255	145	495	3K												
		580	585	245	940	6K	425	425	215	760	5E							
		775	785	335	1400	8K	675	680	305	1150	7E							
		970	980	425	2100	10K												
50	2.09	190	190	110	360	3K	320	320	160	560	5E							
		435	430	185	680	6K	505	510	230	810	7E							
		585	590	250	940	8K	725	735	350	1320	10E							
		725	735	320	1220	10K	945	955	420	2100	13E							
75	3.14	290	235	120	455	6K	215	215	105	375	5E							
		390	385	165	580	8K	340	340	155	520	7E							
		435	490	210	750	10K	485	490	230	760	10E							
		580	585	285	1080	12K	630	635	280	990	13E							
100	4.18	290	260	125	425	8K	255	255	115	385	7E							
		365	370	160	540	10K	365	370	175	540	10E							
		435	440	215	760	12K	475	480	210	690	13E							
		545	555	265	960	15K	545	555	255	840	15E	545	555	295	990	15E		
167	6.99	215	145	95	320	10K	215	190	105	315	10E							
		260	250	130	430	12K	285	285	125	415	13E							
		325	335	160	530	15K	325	335	150	475	15E	325	335	175	510	15E		
		435	445	205	730	20K	435	445	200	650	20E	435	445	225	680	20E		
250	250	215	190	105	340	15K	215	185	100	315	15E	215	195	115	320	15E		
		290	295	135	455	20K	290	295	130	425	20E	290	295	150	425	20E		
		360	370	170	570	25K	360	370	170	540	25E	360	370	185	550	25E		
		435	445	215	770	30K	435	445	210	670	30E	435	445	225	700	30E		
333	13.9	220	185	100	355	20K	220	185	100	325	20E	220	190	115	320	20E		
		275	270	125	415	25K	275	275	130	405	25E	275	265	140	400	25E		
		330	330	160	550	30K	330	330	160	490	30E	330	330	170	495	30E		
		410	415	215	720	40K	410	415	200	660	40E	410	415	245	730	40E		
500	20.9	220	200	110	345	30K	220	185	105	315	30E	180	105	95	265	25E		
		275	275	145	440	40K	275	275	135	420	40E	220	200	115	320	30E		
		355	370	180	600	50K	355	370	175	540	50E	275	275	160	435	40E		
		455	480	225	810	65K	455	480	230	740	65E	355	370	205	560	50E	355	215

^① Phase-to-phase only.

^② These values reflect the inherent peak-load capabilities of the fuse units themselves, not the peak-load capabilities of the transformers that, in many cases, are much lower. For derivation of these values, see text, page 4.

Table 21. S&C Type SMD-20 Power Fuses (with SMU-20 Fuse Units), Overhead, Pole-Top Style—Summary of Available Ratings

kV			Amperes, Rms						Leakage Distance to Ground, Minimum, Inches (mm)	
Nominal	Max Designation	BIL	Max	60 Hz Interrupting						
				Asymmetrical	Symmetrical					
					Based on X/R = 20	Based on X/R = 10	Based on X/R = 5			
14.4	17.0	125	200E or 200K	22 400	14 000	15 400	17 900	11 (279)		
		150	200E or 200K	22 400	14 000	15 400	17 900	17 (432)		
25	27	150	200E or 200K	20 000	12 500	13 800	16 000	17 (432)		
34.5	38	200	200E or 200K	16 000	10 000	11 000	12 800	25½ (648)		

The Fuse-Selection Tables

How to Use the Fuse-Selection Tables

- STEP 1.** Locate the appropriate selection table based on the applicable transformer kV rating. Refer to Table 22.
- STEP 2.** Enter the table in the column corresponding to the fuse unit speed characteristic under consideration. Read down the table in this column, stopping in the section corresponding to the transformer kVA rating.

Find the first line in this section for which the peak-load capability values listed in all three columns—"Continuous Load," "Hot-Load Pickup," and "Cold-Load Pickup"—equal or exceed the peak loading values specified in the schedule of transformer loading established for the system. **Note:** A smaller fuse unit ampere rating can often be selected, thereby providing protection against a broader range of secondary-side faults, if it is feasible to forego complete cold-load pickup capability by sequentially restoring segmented load.

- STEP 3.** In the line selected in Step 2, and in the "Transformer Protection Index ... " column corresponding to the transformer connection,

determine the Transformer Protection Index (TPI). If there is no TPI in this line, then the fuse unit ampere rating listed will not provide protection for the transformer in accordance with the transformer short-time characteristic curve.

S&C recommends the use of a smaller ampere rating in this speed, provided the peak-load capability values listed are sufficient for the application. Alternately, consider using a fuse unit with a different speed characteristic.

- STEP 4.** Read across the table to the right in the line selected in Step 3 to determine the recommended fuse unit ampere rating. For this ampere rating and speed characteristic, verify proper coordination exists between the transformer-primary fuse and protective devices located on the primary side of the transformer as well as those on the secondary side of the transformer (if applicable).
- STEP 5.** Select the appropriate S&C Type SMD-20 Power Fuse based on the system voltage and interrupting duty. Refer to Table 21 on page 27

Table 22. Index to Selection Tables

Transformer Rating, Kv		Three-Phase	Table Number	Page Number
Single-Phase				
Phase-to-Neutral	Phase-to-Phase			
2.4	2.4	4.16	Table 1	7
		4.8	Table 2	8
4.16	4.8	7.2	Table 3	9
4.8	4.8	8.32	Table 4	10
6.9	6.9	12.0	Table 5	11
7.2	7.2	12.47	Table 6	12
7.62		13.2	Table 7	13
7.97		13.8	Table 8	14
8.32	8.32	14.4	Table 9	15
12.0	12.0	20.8	Table 10	16
13.2	13.2	22.9	Table 11	17
13.8	13.8	23.9	Table 12	18
14.4	14.4	24.9	Table 13	19
15.24		26.4	Table 14	20
15.93	15.93	27.6	Table 15	21
19.92		34.5	Table 16	22
	22.9		Table 17	23
	23.9		Table 18	24
	24.9		Table 19	25
	34.5		Table 20	26