

European Utility Week 2019, Pavilion 1, Booth C60

Siemens new generator circuit-breaker offers high level of customization

- **Highly compact design, up to 110 kiloamps**
- **Maintenance-free up to 10,000 interrupting cycles at current of 15 kA**
- **Based on proven HB3 generator platform with vacuum switching tech**

Siemens is expanding its HB3 generator circuit-breaker portfolio with a new compact version. The HB3-Compact (HB3-C) offers the possibility for vertical or horizontal mounting and uses maintenance-free vacuum switching technology. These features make it especially valuable for retrofit applications in power plants, where the highest security of supply is crucial, and space is limited due to existing installations. The new system will be presented for the first time at the European Utility Week 2019, taking place in Paris from November 12 to 14.

With the increasing percentage of renewable power, reliable protection technology is needed to handle higher voltages resulting from temporary higher power infeed, for example. Generator circuit-breakers are key components for improving the reliability and availability of power plants. They protect equipment such as generators and transformers against overload or short circuiting by disconnecting and connecting them from and to the grid.

With its adaptable design and installation, the new HB3-Compact model offers power plant operators the greatest degree of flexibility when designing a new plant or replacing outdated equipment. It has a simplified footprint, which facilitates the designing and dimensioning of the switchgear. Firstly, the supporting frame design can be customized. This means the phases can be fitted in one common or an individual frame design to enable splitting of the phases, for example when installing in different rooms. Secondly, the unit can be mounted horizontally, as well as vertically.

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In addition, the phase-to-phase spacing as well as the phase height axis can be adjusted to perfectly match the existing busbar's connection points. This enables easy integration into existing installations. To guarantee safe maintenance, the circuit-breaker can be fitted with integrated line and earth disconnecting switches. Line disconnecting switches are used to electrically isolate the switchgear or the generator from the grid. The earth disconnecting switches are used to connect the generator and transformer sides to the ground for additional safety.

Besides this flexibility in design, HB3-C also supports plant operators in saving costs during project implementation and operation. Thanks to the unit's compact size, its transport, erection and commissioning are simplified and outage times for the installation of a new circuit-breaker can be kept to a minimum.

The maintenance-free vacuum switching technology used in the switchgears eliminates the need for gas handling, guarantees minimum maintenance costs and increases the recycling rate of the HB3 systems. The HB3-C is part of the Siemens Blue Portfolio, combining high-tech performance with environmentally safe materials and work procedures.

This press release and press pictures are available at

<https://sie.ag/2C7cz6h>

For further information on Siemens Smart Infrastructure, please see

www.siemens.com/smartinfrastructure

For further information on the HB3-Compact generator circuit-breaker, please see

www.siemens.com/hb3-c

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