

# QUALITY ALERT!



Maximo ref 176626  
8th July 2025

## Silica gel breather transport seal causes transformer trip

### ISSUE IDENTIFIED:

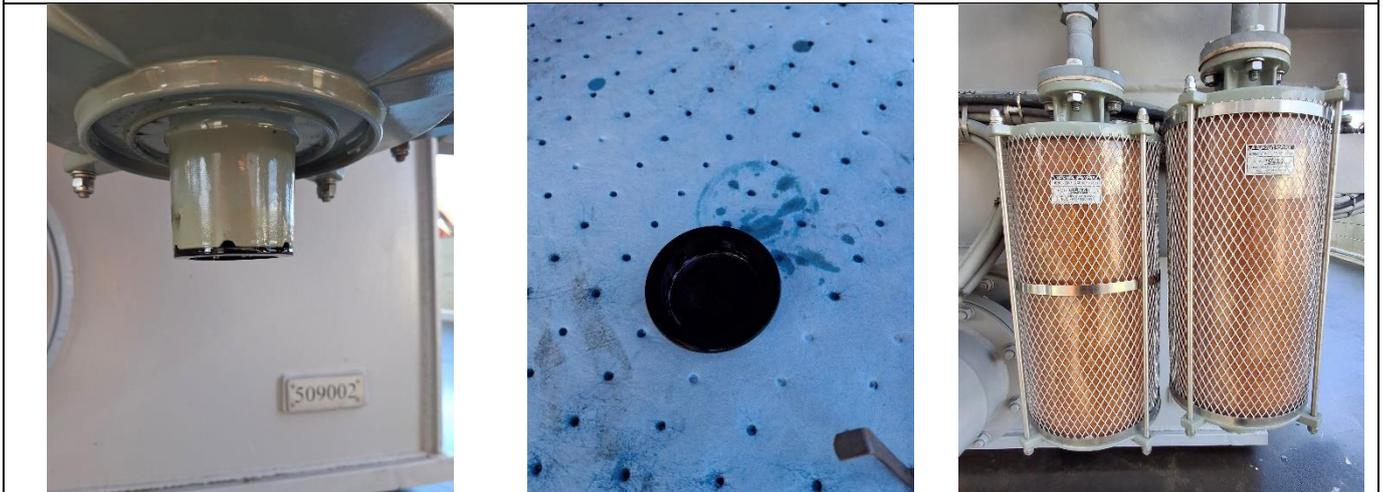
- NGOC notified the service provider about a transformer trip and a pressure relief value (PRV) alarm.
- The silica gel breather had a transport protection cap left on the bottom of the air inlet which meant the transformer was sealed and could not breathe leading to the PRV to operate and tripping of the transformer

### CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- During routine maintenance work (9 months before the incident), the replacement and installation of silica gel breather units took place.
- An investigation found the silica gel breather had a protection cap left on the bottom of the air inlet, this resulted in blocking the air breather unit and built internal pressure which released from the PRV.
- Maintenance worker did not identify the transport seal on the silica gel breather.
  - There are two transport seal caps to remove, the top seal is red, and the bottom seal is black.
  - The bottom black seal was missed, and the worker did not identify the seal as it was not the same as the top seal.

### ACTIONS TO PREVENT REOCCURENCE:

- Inspect the silica gel unit to ensure no obstructions prevent the air flow to the breather.
- Provide additional training for maintenance workers reminding them of the importance of removing **all** transport seals and how to identify them



### LEARNINGS FROM THIS

All silica gel units undergoing maintenance with the replacement and installation of silica gel breather units should be inspected to ensure no obstructions prevent the air flow to the breather and **both** transport caps have been removed



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