



Suspension of Operational Practice Hawker Siddeley Falcon RMU - SOP 400

Following an incident in another utility, the ENA has issued [SOP400](#). This concerns the apparent momentary energisation of outgoing terminals on the circuit breaker of a Hawker Siddeley Falcon Beta RMU.

This occurred during a switching operation from the Earth ON to the OFF position during testing from the circuit breaker in preparation for a transformer change. A strand of binding wire had been connected across all three phases in the cable box in preparation for a pressure test. This strand burned off (lower photo) during the switching operation described.

The possibility for mechanism over-travel in switching the circuit breaker to the OFF position could affect any of the Falcon RMUs on the SPEN network.

The cause, and possible solutions, are currently under investigation with Hawker Siddeley Switchgear.

There are 216 Falcon RMUs across the network (34 SPD; 182 SPM).

Recommendations and action points

- For all Hawker Siddeley Falcon RMUs there shall be no manual operation of the RMU circuit breaker while the busbars are live.
- Operating “not live” can be achieved by opening both RMU switches – it is not necessary to isolate from remote locations.

