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DATE: 6/08/03	Number of pages: 1 (including this sheet)
DATE OF INCIDENT: 14/04/03	REPORTED BY: EnergyAustralia

Details of Incident:

A support insulator failed on a Haycolec 12kV Air Break Switch while the switch was being operated. This placed operating personnel at risk due to falling porcelain.

Extent of injury/damage:

No injury was received by the operator.

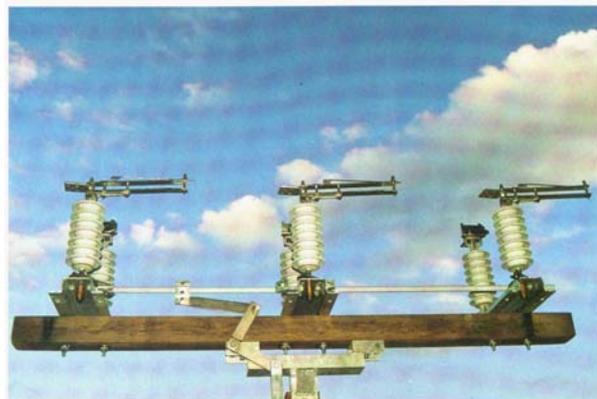
Action taken:

Investigation has revealed that the failure was related to corrosion of the internal pin/plate assembly cemented into the insulator.

Initial inspections indicate that several other switches of this make show evidence of the same potential failure mode.

Until otherwise directed, operators have been instructed not to operate Haycolec 12kV Air Break Switches without an inspection of the insulators for cracks in the porcelain.

Haycolec Air Break switches can be identified by their single cross-arm mounting arrangement, as shown on the adjacent photograph.



Additional comments:

New Haycolec units will be supplied with insulators without internal insulator pin/plate assemblies (noting that "Haycolec" is now trading as "AK Power Solutions").

Severity of incident: Categorized as High: "Potential to have caused serious injury, permanent disability, ill health or serious damage to plant and equipment."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Lampard, Mgr Distribution Engineering (02) 9394 6654