Safety Advice 30-2013 (Sept) (NZ)

Attached is a Safety Advice courtesy of Transpower in relation to the unsafe practice of purposefully blowing fuses in capacitor bank cans.

The full safety advice follows

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TRANSPOWER

FIRST ALERT

26/9/2013

Internally Fused Capacitor Bank Maintenance

EVENT

It has come to Transpower's attention that a practice of purposefully blowing fuses in capacitor bank cans is being carried out to clear capacitor bank unbalance protection alarms.

This process involves charging a capacitor can with an insulation resistance meter (ie Megger), then shorting it out with a screwdriver or similar to blow the can fuses and thus return the bank to balance.

This procedure is **dangerous, totally unacceptable and is to stop immediately**. The correct response to a capacitor bank unbalance alarm is to identify and replace any defective cans with the appropriate spares.

It is also extremely important that capacitor banks are not operated with a number of blown capacitor cans (but balanced) as this puts the capacitor bank at a heighted risk of explosive failure.

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For more information please contact:

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