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# Proceedings of the Workshop on Improving Earthquake Response of Substation Equipment

Edited by Andrei M. Reinhorn



Technical Report MCEER-11-0003 September 19, 2011

This workshop was held in Buffalo, New York, on October 24, 2008. It was sponsored by Bonneville Power Administration under Contract Number 00041295 and the California Energy Commission under Contract Number 500-07-037 (Subcontract TRP-08-03).

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### Proceedings of the Workshop on Improving Earthquake Response of Substation Equipment

Held in Buffalo, New York October 24, 2008

Edited by Andrei M. Reinhorn<sup>1</sup>

Publication Date: September 19, 2011

Technical Report MCEER-11-0003

Bonneville Power Administration Contract Number 00041295 California Energy Commission Contract Number 500-07-037 (Subcontract TRP-08-03)

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### Preface

MCEER is a national center of excellence dedicated to the discovery and development of new knowledge, tools and technologies that equip communities to become more disaster resilient in the face of earthquakes and other extreme events. MCEER accomplishes this through a system of multidisciplinary, multi-hazard research, in tandem with complimentary education and outreach initiatives.

Headquartered at the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, MCEER was originally established by the National Science Foundation in 1986, as the first National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (NCEER). In 1998, it became known as the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER), from which the current name, MCEER, evolved.

Comprising a consortium of researchers and industry partners from numerous disciplines and institutions throughout the United States, MCEER's mission has expanded from its original focus on earthquake engineering to one which addresses the technical and socio-economic impacts of a variety of hazards, both natural and man-made, on critical infrastructure, facilities, and society.

The Center derives support from several Federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation, Federal Highway Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the State of New York, other state governments, academic institutions, foreign governments and private industry.

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) are supporting a series of studies on the resilience of electric power substation equipment that focus on the following topics:

- Reducing Disruption of Power Systems in Earthquakes: Advanced Methods for Protecting Substation Equipment
- Analysis of the Seismic Performance of Transformer Bushings

It is envisioned that these studies will result in the development of cost effective seismic protective solutions for transformer–bushing systems and other electrical substation equipment considering inertial effects and dynamic interaction with conductors. Furthermore, new knowledge discovered about the bushing-transformer seismic interaction will be translated into a proposed revision of the IEEE 693 Standard. A series of MCEER reports will document the results of these studies.

This report presents the proceedings of the workshop entitled "Improving Earthquake Response of Substation Equipment," held on October 24, 2008, at the University at Buffalo. The purpose of the workshop was to engage electric power utility representatives, substation equipment manufacturers, and consultants, to solicit their input to help direct MCEER's Research and Development Plan for advanced methods for protecting substation equipment. Over 30 participants shared their expertise with the research team and provided comment on a draft R&D plan. Specifically, participants helped to identify issues effecting performance of substation equipment during earthquakes, provided perspectives on the use of advanced damping and isolation technologies to improve equipment performance, and contributed their experience and insights on problems caused by interaction of substation equipment during earthquakes.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Past earthquakes have shown that porcelain transformer bushings are very vulnerable to earthquake damage and can contribute to power outages leading to community losses. Although efforts have been made to design and qualify new transformer bushings by computations or by laboratory testing, they may still sustain damage in an earthquake. Furthermore, some evaluations have shown that 230 kV bushings that showed poor earthquake performance may be able to meet current seismic qualification criteria.

A research team, including the editor of this report, engaged in a comprehensive investigation to clarify the reasons for this conflicting behavior. As a first step in the development of a detailed research plan, a workshop was held to help clarify issues on the behavior of transformer bushings while seeking alternative methods of protecting the substation electrical equipment from damage during earthquakes, thus reducing the expected disruptions.

The workshop presented and discussed issues related to: (i) the behavior of bushings, transformers and current application of seismic design and qualification standards, and (ii) the possibility of using base isolation, damping devices, or strengthening of equipment, while considering the influence of conductors that interconnect the equipment.

The workshop raised questions and proposed solutions regarding:

- Behavior of transformer bushings and qualification issues
- Consideration of induced forces in the design of transformers and bushings
- Identification of challenges in current qualification and acceptance procedures
- Seismicity considerations in the behavior of equipment
- Soil structure interaction (SSI) of large equipment
- Suggested protective systems
- Implementation issues of base isolations to electrical equipment
- Conductors and the electrical equipment
- Protective systems for conductors reduction of dynamic effects of conductors
- Effects to be considered as constraints in the development of protective systems
- Standardization issues for base isolation and other protective systems
- Risk, reliability and resilience of protective systems

The following are some of the recommendations from the workshop:

The research should address the amplification of ground motions at transformer's roof/cover as input to the components connected to it. The influence of the transformer components should be determined by proper modeling of transformers and by the transfer functions between the roof/cover and the base. Moreover, the research should explore the methods to determine the dynamic properties of components connected to the roof /cover (as installed) in order to more accurately determine the expected response.

The research should address the acceptance criteria for qualification by testing and eventually develop new testing techniques using either spectral compatible motions or modulated sine-sweeps. The criteria should simultaneously recognize motion and mechanical quantities which characterize seismic demands and strength capacity of equipment.

In addition, the research should address protective systems that can simultaneously protect the transformer, bushings and conductors. New protective systems such as base isolations, damping systems and simple redesign of connectivity of equipment, such as stiffening or softening, should be investigated.

Among the challenges to be recognized are the contributions of dynamics of conductors to the mechanical functionality of equipment. Further studies, through modeling and testing, should be conducted to determine more realistic effects of conductors.

The use of base isolation, although controversial, would require a well designed study to determine its benefits on the accelerations and forces in the equipment, while considering the limitations and constraints imposed by the conductors and by the constraints imposed by the electrical functionalities (avoidance of acceleration spikes, torsion of equipment, and local seismological demands). Any implementation would require a full experimentation in the field with suitable observation.

Moreover, acceptance criteria would have to be developed to complement current standards for fixed base equipment. Simplified design methodology and modeling guidelines would need to be developed.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to acknowledge the financial support from two major agencies, (i) the Bonneville Power Administration under Contract 00041295 and (ii) the California Energy Commission under Contract 500-07-037 (Subcontract TRP-08-03). In addition, the authors acknowledge the support from the State of New York. Significant support was derived from academic institutions, government and private industry.

The authors like to acknowledge the contributions of workshop participants (names indicated in Appendix A) and their institutions that supported their participation. Their contributions are sincerely appreciated.

Finally, the authors would like to acknowledge the support of MCEER (formerly the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research) that initiated, maintained and continues outreach to the community while sponsoring technology transfer and facilitating publication of project materials.

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#### SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

Past earthquakes have shown that porcelain transformer bushings are very vulnerable to earthquake damage and can contribute to power outages leading to community losses. Although efforts have been made to design and qualify new transformer bushings by computations or by laboratory testing, they may still sustain damage in an earthquake. Furthermore, some evaluations have shown that 230 kV bushings that showed poor earthquake performance may be able to meet current seismic qualification criteria.

A research team, including the editor of this report, engaged in a comprehensive investigation to clarify the reasons for this conflicting behavior. A comprehensive research plan was developed and a draft is included in the Appendix C of this report.

The investigation intends to:

- 1. Solicit advice and prioritize input from the electric power community
- 2. Establish seismic demands on equipment: Part 1 Determine behavior of transformers and bushings
- 3. Establish seismic demands on equipment Part 2 Determine behavior of transformersbushings-conductors in-field conditions
- 4. Evaluate state-of-the-art of protective systems base isolation (BI), supplemental damping (SD), and passive control systems (PCS)
- 5. Identify and evaluate protective systems methods, design guidelines
- 6. Develop, evaluate and recommend advanced protective solutions and systems
- 7. Plan full scale field implementations and monitoring
- 8. Organize workshop(s) for community input and dissemination of results

As a first step in the implementation of a detailed research plan, a workshop was developed as part of tasks 1 and 8, that was intended to clarify issues on the behavior of transformer bushings while seeking alternative methods of protecting the substation electrical equipment from damage during earthquakes to reduce the expected disruptions. The description of the workshop, which was held on October 24, 2008, is the subject of this report.

The agenda of the workshop (see Appendix B) was developed to address issues related to (i) the behavior of bushings, transformers and current application of seismic design and qualification standards, and (ii) the possibility of using base isolation, damping devices, or strengthening of equipment, while considering the influence of conductors connecting equipment and main power lines. Following presentations by leading experts in the areas listed above (see presentation materials in Section 2), the workshop entertained multiple discussions and comments from workshop participants (as presented in Section 3).

The workshop was attended by 31 participants (see list of participants in Appendix A). Two presenters had to cancel their participation, but their work was presented by the moderators of the sessions. The attendees represented a diverse expertise, from utilities, to manufacturers, to

designers and modelers of equipment, to experimentalists from universities and other testing labs, consultants and advisors to the project.

The discussions were captured by recorders from the University at Buffalo and are presented in Section 3.

Note that the presentations and discussions recorded in this report represent opinions held at the time of the workshop. Some of these opinions may have changed as the results from more recent research have become available.

#### SECTION 2. WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Eight presentations were made to introduce: (i) the background of the planned project, (ii) the objectives of the workshop, (iii) the performance of transformers and bushings and current standards of seismic qualification, (iv) previous studies on base isolation, (v) past and current research on base isolation, (vi) background of base isolation, (vii) comments on base isolation solutions, and (viii) survey of issues of electrical conductors in association with transmission equipment. The following presentations are included in this section:

Presentation		
Introduction to the Draft Research & Development Plan Andrei M. Reinhorn, University at Buffalo		
Workshop Objectives Andrei M. Reinhorn, University at Buffalo and Anshel Schiff, Precision Measurement Systems	15	
Performance and Qualification Standards for Transformers and Bushings Anshel Schiff, Precision Measurement Systems	19	
Application of Base Isolation to Transformers and Equipment <i>M. Ala Saadeghvaziri, New Jersey Institute of Technology</i>	35	
Past and Current Research on Base Isolation Maria Feng, University of California, Irvine; Andrei Reinhorn, University at Buffalo; and Charles Kircher, Charles Kircher and Associates Presented by M. Ala Saadeghyaziri, New Jersey Institute of	51	
Technology		
Seismic Isolations – Background and Applications Michael C. Constantinou, University at Buffalo	61	
Presented by M. Ala Saadeghvaziri, New Jersey Institute of Technology and A.M Reinhorn, University at Buffalo		
Comments and Suggestions on Base Isolation for Electrical Equipment Michael C. Constantinou, University at Buffalo		
Presented by A.M Reinhorn, University at Buffalo		
Conductor Dynamics and Equipment Loading Jean Bernard Dastous, Hydro Quebec		

## Reducing Disruption of Power Systems in Earthquakes

Improving Earthquake Response of Substation Equipment

Introduction to Workshop Andrei M Reinhorn Background Draft R&D Plan

University at Buffalo, September 15, 2008

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### **Project Participants**

- Andrei M. Reinhorn, PE, PhD
- Andre Filiatrault, Eng, PhD
- Michael Constantinou, PhD
- Anshel Schiff, PhD Consultant
- Roh Hwasung, PhD
- Advisory Board
- Grad Students

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### **Tentative Project Plan**

Task #1: Solicit advise and prioritize input from the electric power community

Task #2: Establish Seismic Demands on Equipment: Part 1 - Determine behavior of transformers and bushings

Task #3: Establish Seismic Demands on Equipment: Part 2 - Determine behavior of transformers-bushings-conductors in-field conditions

Task #4: Evaluate State-of-the-art of Protective Systems – Base Isolations (BI), Supplemental Damping (SD), Passive Control Systems (PCS)

Task #5: Identify and evaluate protective systems – Methods, Design Guidelines

Task #6: Develop, evaluate and recommend advanced protective solutions and systems

Task #7: Planning Full Scale Field Implementations and Monitoring

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### Task #1: Solicit advise and prioritize input from the electric power community

- 1.1 Develop a national and international advisory board including North American members to advise on issues and feasibility of implementations. The committee might be enlarged if transpacific partnerships in Japan, New Zealand and Taiwan materialize.
- 1.2 Organize two workshops for (i) initiation of study and (ii) midterm evaluation and monitoring potential implementations (see Task #8)
- 1.3 Layout plan for complimentary proposals (NSF, International-Transpacific, etc)
- 1.4 Engage and integrate multiple funding projects and sources (BPA, CEC, MCEER, EPRI, NSF, Utilities)
- 1.5 Identify manufacturers and/or utilities to donate equipment which can be used in experimental studies (bushings, protective systems, components)

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# Task #2:Establish Seismic Demands on Equipment: Part 1 -Determine behavior of transformers and bushings

- 2.1 Extend current static analysis modeling methods of transformers used by manufacturers to meet current IEEE 693 standard provision - considering dynamic analysis and modeling of cover and bushings.
- 2.2 Determine adequacy of current modeling practices used by manufacturers to capture system dynamic properties.
- 2.3 Perform sensitivity analysis using dynamic models to evaluate the precision needed to meet the needs of IEEE 693 standard.
- 2.4 Determine influence of bushing-transformer system interaction on the seismic demand on bushings.
- 2.5 Determine influence of variations in cover stiffness or turret design on bushingtransformer system interactions.
- 2.6 Estimate uncertainties of system frequencies to be incorporated into the IEEE 693 standard which influence transformer-bushings interactions.
- 2.7 Develop guidelines for modelers for proper considerations of the above issues
- 2.8 Classify limit states of functionality (such as failure modes) of transformer-bushing systems in terms of terminal pad displacements, loads on bushings, as-installed bushing frequencies or other engineering parameters.

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# Task #3:Establish Seismic Demands on Equipment:Part 2 - Determine behavior of transformers-bushings-<br/>conductors in-field conditions

	3.1	Determine behavior of bushings in transformer installed conditions - through tests and analytical studies					
	٠	3.1.1	Determine deformations and movement limits				
		3.1.2	Identify apparent functionality limits				
		3.1.3	Develop simplified models to allow for quick analyses				
	3.2	Determine behavior of equipment-bushings-conductor interactions - transformers, or other support					
	struc	tures					
	٠	3.2.1	Model and evaluate experimentally bushing terminal displacements				
		3.2.2	Model and evaluate flexible conductor configuration issues (conductor shape of				
		interconnections) including vertical drops to equipment					
	٠	3.2.3	Evaluate conductors construction issues: flexible and rigid bus				
	٠	3.2.4	Evaluate geometrical issues - initial, slacks, deformation see also UCSD and UCB studies and				
		beyond) and equipment interaction loading					
	٠	3.2.5	Quantify conductor dynamics and equipment interaction loading				
		3.2.6	Determine interaction forces and displacement demands - design issues and criteria for IEEE				
		693					
	٠	3.2.7	Determine electrical and thermal interactions issues - such as influence of electromagnetic				
		fields.					
. •	3.3	Determine allowable maximum displacements and interaction forces (as possible constraints to design of					
	prot	rotective systems)					
	٠	3.3.1	Determine allowable interaction forces and displacements for bushings-connectors interfaces				
		– identify good j	practices & make recommendations for IEEE standards				
	٠	3.3.2	Evaluate allowable interaction forces and displacements for bushings-tank connections (roof				
		tank or turrets)	- identify good practices & make recommendations for IEEE standards				
	٠	3.3.3	Define initial constraints for design of advanced protective systems				
		Workshop on Improving Seismic Response of Substation Equipment - 10/24/2008					
			The state of the s				



# Task #4:Evaluate State-of-the-art of Protective Systems –Base Isolations (BI), Supplemental Damping (SD), PassiveControl Systems (PCS)

- 4.1 Survey past and current studies of BI, SD and PCS identify gaps in respect with sub-station equipment (for example: UC/Irvine-NJIT studies)
- 4.2 Evaluate models and analytical tools of protective systems i.e. rubber and sliding properties, long term behavior, interaction issues
- 4.3 Evaluate response of transformers and bushings with BI, SD and PCS
- 4.4 Determine demands on bushings, conductors, connectors during three dimensional disturbances compare to systems without protection
- 4.5 Explore combinations of the above solutions and determine demands without constraints
- 4.6 Determine interaction issues, interferences displacements, forces
- 4.7 Evaluate cost issues of current solutions feasibility and constructability in new and existing facilities

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# Task #5:Identify and evaluate protective systems –Methods, Design Guidelines

- 5.1 Develop protective solutions: i.e. base isolations and supplemental damping – flexible or sliding, with or w/o damping
- **5.2** Develop cost-effective, feasible alternative for various configurations
- **5.3** Validate experimentally and analytically the solutions in
- 5.4 Develop design procedures and tools to enable evaluation and use of protective technologies
- 5.5 Develop guidelines for design and qualifications based on the innovation and enhancement of current standards and practices used by utilities.
- 5.6 Identify limitations of systems, which require innovative solutions.

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# Task #6:Develop, evaluate and recommend advancedprotective solutions and systems

- 6.1 Evaluate in-line damping for conductor systems
- 6.2 Develop, evaluate and verify new expending cable connections
- 6.3 Evaluate inexpensive innovative base isolations of existing transformer tanks hybrid solutions with displacement constraints
- 6.4 Develop innovative bushing connectivity and construction (existing and new)
- 6.5 Evaluate retainer rings for bushing to enhance serviceability of new and existing bushings after earthquakes
- 6.6 Verify developments experimentally
- 6.7 Develop design procedures and specifications.
- **6.8** Review and propose practical methods for assessing conductor spacing criteria associated with short circuit and seismic loads

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# Task #7:Planning Full Scale FieldImplementations and Monitoring

- 7.1 Identify utilities to participate in implementing base isolation of transformers and other equipment
- 7.2 Identify equipment and sites; select solution from the methods researched above
- 7.3 Design and implement a protective solution including equipment, connectors to first conductor support, in situ
- **7.4** Develop plans for instrumentation and monitoring
- 7.5 Assist implementer with design or selection of off-the-shelf solutions (instrumentation, protection, monitoring, etc)
- **7.6** Assist with monitoring and processing

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## Reducing Disruption of Power Systems in Earthquakes

Advanced Methods for Protecting Substation Equipment

# **Workshop Questions**

Andrei M Reinhorn, PE, PhD Anshel Schiff, PhD

University at Buffalo, September 15, 2008

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What are the real issues regarding usage and failures during earthquakes of substation equipment and in particular of the high voltage transformer?

- It is understood that the transformers (one of the most complex systems in a substation) are connected to the ground through rigid foundations and to the bus and power lines, or other components in the substations, through bushings and connectors.
- The workshop should try to identify the state of the-art on current construction of equipment, it's qualifications and should try to point out issues which need further development to ensure proper functionality of such equipment

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Why are new technologies for seismic protection, such as base isolation and energy dissipation, not used in protection of substation equipment?

New technologies were developed for

such as off-shore platforms, liquid natural gas storage tanks, viaducts, bridges, etc., with some measure of success. Such technologies might be adaptable, or new alternatives can be created.

 The workshop should address the current obstacles and possibilities for development of such protective systems. What are the issues in connectors' technologies which address interaction of equipment with the power lines, or other equipment in substations, which may prevent development of advanced protective systems?

- Conductor interaction with the equipment is treated separately that the equipment itself. Both qualifications and protection must address this issue integrally.
- The interaction issues should be addressed in order to define the constraints and applicability of new protection technologies

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### Workshop on Improving Earthquake Response of Substation Equipment

History of Equipment Performance and Proposed Standard for Qualifying Transformers and their Bushings

> Anshel J. Schiff Precision Measurement Instruments

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## **History of Investigations and Damage**

- Earthquake Investigations
- Transformer Anchorage: slipping, rail-mount, connections, bushings, and surge arresters
- Surge Arrestors: base, standoff
- Bushings: leaks, "slipping", gasket extrusion, cracked porcelain, bent binding post Possible Causes: conductor slack, conductor dynamics, equipment dynamics, interaction with surge arrester, equipment design
- Radiators: leak at top, break at bottom
- Conservators: supports, connections
- Other Damage: LT, bus supports, IT, DS, CS

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# Problems with Existing Transformer Qualification

- Assume TR amplification 2 may be more or less
- Affect of turret and CT neglected
- Conductor interaction (slack & dynamics) neglected
- Current procedure gives poor indication of earthquake performance
- Key Issue: Test bushing on rigid support but in earthquake the as-installed frequency is lower
- Key Issue: Transformer system-bushing interaction

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# Outstanding Issues with Proposed Provisions

- Adequacy test level for bushing not yet set
- Desire for bushing manufacturer to say it is qualified
- Disconnect between order and assessment dates
- Need for modeling guidelines
- Are two case studies adequate to establish guidelines
- How hard will it be for competent, honest modeler to get it wrong
- Is modeling adequate

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## Initial Observations about Proposed Standard and from Transformer Modeling Effort

- Currently there are no modeling results
- Large variations in 500 kV porcelain bushings (3500# vs. 6000#)
- One transformer uses polymer (non-composite) surge arresters that are not covered by IEEE 693
- The evaluation of surge arresters in standard questionable for transformer-mounted applications. Should model be used for SAs?
- The testing of 230 kV porcelain bushings will be more severe
- Transformer base isolation may be a method to improve transformer system earthquake performance
- For base isolated system near-field earthquake affects should be considered

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FEA Results: Transformers	<b>FEA</b>	Resul	ts:	Transf	formers
---------------------------	------------	-------	-----	--------	---------

	TT1	TT2	TT3	IEEE 693-1997
Frequency (Hz)	14.1	13.8	11.7	N/A
DAF	2.	2.4	2.5	2.

Filtering of motion has even more effect on bushing response.

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FEA Results: Fixed vs. Transformer Supported Bushing							
Case	x-direc	ction	y-direction				
	Disp. (inch)	Acc. (g)	Disp. (inch)	Acc. (g)			
Fixed bushing	0.089	1.488	0.084	1.408			
Transformer supported	0.550	6.179	0.244	2.967			

Note: IEEE requires bushing input doubled.

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# Effect of FPS on foundation design (cont'd)

Case	Support	PL	$F_{\chi}$ (kips)	$F_y$ (kips)	$F_{Z}$ (kips)	$M_{\chi}({\rm k-ft})$	$M_y$ (k-ft)
1	Isolated	High	63.0	141.0	327.5	1280.7	572.3
2	Fixed	High	249.0	194.0	315.7	2220.3	2849.8
3	Isolated	Moderate	35.4	45.9	259.0	416.9	321.6
4	Fixed	Moderate	124.5	97.0	246.0	1110.2	1424.9

Case	B (ft)	L (ft)	D (ft)	Piles	Pile length (ft)	Pile diameter (ft)
1	24	24	2	-	-	-
2	24	24	2	9	30	3
3	17	17	2	-	-	-
4	24	24	2	9	15	3

- Both fixed cases required piles while isolation eliminated the need for piles even for high seismic performance level.
- Without isolation, footing foundation (i.e., no piles) could sustain an earthquake with maximum PGA of only 0.16g (Compared to 1.0g for isolated foundation).

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# CONTENT 3-D shaking table tests of base-isolated transformer model Base isolation using sliding bearings Base isolation using HD rubber bearings Energy dissipation at bushing connections Analysis and comparison of different seismic protective systems Development of numerical analysis models and simplified design procedures

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### Tri-axial Shaking Table Testing of Base-Isolated Transformer with Bushing

- High-Damping Rubber Bearings -



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		Stresses at Base of Ceramic Post		
Maximum Acceleration of	Base Motion	0.5 g	1.0 g	
Fixed Base	StS dir.	28.5	48.4	
	FtB dir.	45.6	78.9	
Isolated with Wire Rope Isolators (Enidine Corp)	StS dir.	25.2	-	
	FtB dir.	37.7	-	
Isolated with Friction	StS dir.	10.4	15.0	
Pendulum System (EPS)	FtB dir.	9.3	16.8	




















# **FP BEARING**



- Salkhalin II bearings
- Largest seismic isolators
- 700mm displacement
- 87,400kN gravity load
- Full-scale testing
- Reduced scale dynamic testing (load of up to 13,000kN, velocity of 1m/sec).

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# IMPLEMENTATION OF SEISMIC ISOLATORS IN STORAGE TANKS



- Due to close spacing of columns, temporary transfer of load not needed (but support system provided)
- Isolators inserted without need to preload (no use of flat jacks)
- Use of FP bearings with transfer of P-∆ moment on strengthened column

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# IMPLEMENTATION OF SEISMIC ISOLATORS IN HOSPITALS



- Erzurum Hospital, Turkey, 2006
- 386 Lead-Rubber Bearings
- Displacement demand in the MCE: 555mm
- Turkey has acted legislation to require seismic isolation for all new hospitals
- Plans for over 15 hospitals to be constructed in the near future

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# IMPLEMENTATION OF SEISMIC ISOLATORS IN ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT





## APPLICATION OF SEISMIC ISOLATION IN ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

## Challenges

- Develop generic seismic isolation designs for electrical equipment that can be readily implemented.
- Verify effectiveness of generic isolation designs.
- Work with manufacturers of seismic isolation technologies to adapt their technologies for application to electrical equipment. This would require modification of designs due to light weight supported. Concept that deviate from traditional isolation may be most useful.
- Testing of electrical equipment on shake tables is possible at full scale put capacities of shake tables in terms of displacement and velocity may be insufficient. Verification based only on testing may not be possible.

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# **Overview of research in the field - 3**

- BPA: experimental (hybrid bus)
  - · shake table tests on hydrid connectors
- PEER UC San Diego: experimental (flexible and rigid bus)
  - shake table tests on pairs of interconnected equipment (rigid/flexible bus)
  - measurements of bending stiffness of conductors and properties of rigid bus connectors
- PEER UC Berkeley: numerical (flexible and rigid bus)
  - Flexible conductor modeling including variable bending stiffness
  - Rigid bus connector modeling
  - Non linear fea modeling on pairs of interconnected equipment with rigid/flexible bus

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## Main research results - 1 Conductors are dynamic rather than static systems. During motion of equipment, they may generate significant dynamic effects and forces at the terminal pads. Significant interaction effects may take place when not enough slack is provided. The most significant effects occur when two interconnected equipment have dissimilar natural frequencies The generated forces may be an order of magnitude higher than the forces generated by an equivalent static elongation. Level of maximum expected terminal forces for 0.5 g when enough slack provided of the order of 1000 N/conductor. Equipment must be designed to take account of those additional forces • Multi-connected equipment effects may be significant on Improving Seismic Response of Substation Equipment -

## Main research results - 2

 Maximum horizontal forces measured when enough slack is provided in flexible conductors

Shape, span, conductor	Type of test	a <sub>max</sub> (g)	F <sub>max</sub> (N)	Ref.
catenary, 5 m, 1796 kcmil	harmonic sweep	0.5	750	HQ
catenary, 5 m, 4000 kcmil	harmonic sweep	0.5	1590	HQ
catenary, 3 m, 1796 kcmil	harmonic sweep	0.5	1114	HQ
parabola, 3 m, 1796 kmcil	3 cycles sine	0.5	1040	HQ
parabola, 4 m, 4000 kcmil	3 cycles sine	0.5	1140	HQ
double, 5 m, 4000 kcmil	3 cycles sine	0.5	720	HQ
triple, 5 m, 4000 kcmil	3 cycles sine	0.5	620	HQ
catenary, 4.6 m, 2300 kcmil	shake table	0.5	1060	SD
catenary, 4.6 m, Lupine	shake table	0.5	810	SD
catenary, 4.6 m, 2300 kcmil	shake table	0.5	1330	SD
catenary, 4.6 m, Lupine	shake table	0.5	1430	SD
catenary, 3.2 m, 2300 kcmil	shake table	0.5	693	BCH
catenary, 3.2 m, 2300 kcmil	shake table	0.5	730	BCH
catenary, 3.2m, 2300 kcmil	shake table	0.5	948	BCH

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# Main research results - 3

- Effect of flexible conductor dynamic loading on equipment
  - Effect of forces translates into an additional static load in the conductor direction at its attachment point that must be part of the equipment standalone design
  - Representative bound value load levels established by numerical studies & experimental results, in accordance with IEEE 693 performance levels :
    - 1000 N/sub-conductor below 0.5 g
    - 2000 N/sub-conductor between 0.5 to 1 g
    - These requirements are now part of IEEE 1527-2006 and in discussion to include in IEEE 693

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- Amount of slack required in flexible conductors
  - The percentage of slackness *s*, defined as:  $s = \frac{(L_o L_1)}{L_1} \times 100$

with  $L_{j}$ -straight line distance between attachment points and  $L_{o}$ -conductor length between attachment points

is NEVER a good indicator of the amount of slack needed as it does take into account the demand, that is the amount of the maximum relative motion between equipment during earthquakes

• A better indicator of the amount of slack needed is given by:  $\beta = \frac{c_o}{L_o - L_1}$ with  $e_o$  maximum relative displacement: the *demand* and  $L_o - L_1$ : conductor slack: the *availability* 

 $\beta$  values smaller or equal to 1 are recommended to avoid adverse interaction effects

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## SECTION 3. COMMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The following notes for the subject discussions were recorded in shorthand by Ms. Sofia Tangelos, MCEER, University at Buffalo, State University of New York.

## 3.1. Comments and Discussions: Base Isolation (Moderator: M. Ala Saadeghvaziri)

**KAMRAN KHAN**: Most isolation systems do not handle the rotational aspect (meaning rocking) very well in substation equipment.

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: Who is responsible for the base isolation; the people in the design, or the people who make the implementation in site? The (transformer) box is usually designed by the electrical engineers according to their needs.

**KAMRAN KHAN**: The base isolation is nonlinear. That will break down the whole spectrum response (approach).

BILL DAROVNY: Adapt the elements coming out of the transformer for big deformations.

LONNIE ELDER: Why do we need base isolation? For the bushing or the transformer?

ALA SAADEGHVAZIRI: For the bushing.

RON TOGNAZZINI: We have to consider alternative load paths when using base isolation.

**ERIC FUJISAKI**: There is a business case here. Base isolation has to be checked for feasibility, effectiveness and cost first.

**SOHRAB ESFANDIARI**: How much benefit do you get from a damper that is not in parallel with base isolation? The transformer is not heavy so only FPS will be effective.

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: The FPS steel surfaces have to be very well polished or else high frequency effects will arise.

ALA SAADEGHVAZIRI: Is two feet extra slack too much?

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: Yes it is.

**KAMRAN KHAN**: There is a program that measures the response of a damped system (Maria Feng).

ALA SAADEGHVAZIRI: Base isolation can also be beneficial in blasts, hurricanes, etc.

ERIC FUJISAKI: The time is right for base isolation because it introduces high reliability.

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: The customer minutes are the problem. High reliability plays a great role.

JEAN-BERNARD DASTOUS: (Agrees on the matter of reliability).

**JOSEPH GRAZIANO**: (Says that "load not delivered is money lost" and until an earthquake comes we don't think much of it). There are indirect costs.

ANDREI REINHORN: The extra cost (in investment) leads to higher quality (in delivery).

RON TOGNAZZINI: Resilience issues.

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: The project must target on the design of a system that will implement base isolation from the beginning.

BILL GUNDY: Can we introduce more damping to reduce displacements (with friction)?

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: We should keep friction low and increase damping through viscous devices.

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: Maintenance cost of fluid dampers might be prohibitive for some people.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: There are cases where dampers were in salt water for 25 years and continued to perform.

**BRIAN KNIGHT**: There are issues with great displacements (dampers needed) and overturning moments in FPS.

ANDRE FILIATRAULT: Overturning is not a major issue in FPS (like in bridges as well).

**ANDREI REINHORN**: Dampers are viscoelastic. They will introduce some elasticity that is (sometimes) undesirable.

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: There are cases where the dampers were placed wrongly. Therefore we need to have qualified people to place them.

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: How important is the residual displacement for the transformers?

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: In California there is an issue because of the aftershocks and maintenance will take time to be done.

**JOSEPH GRAZIANO**: How does base isolation work in a high temperature environment with electric field? The maintenance will be difficult because the electrical engineer will be responsible for it.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: Longevity is always an issue and is investigated by Constantinou at UB.

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: Bounding analysis (upper and lower bounds of the base isolation values).

**JOSEPH GRAZIANO**: base isolation is a great idea but you have to have a business and maintenance plan (general concern with the maintenance issues).

**KENT MARTIN**: Will a leak affect the base isolation?

## 3.2. Comments and Discussions: Conductors' Issues (Moderator: Andre Filiatrault)

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: Is damping of a vibrating cable desirable? For example, sleeves that will bend with the cable and provide damping, or design of an entirely new special cable with internal damping?

JEAN-BERNARD DASTOUS: The electrical loads will not be a problem in an earthquake.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: But if you suddenly change the intensity I, you will have serviceability problems.

**LONNIE ELDER**, **WILLIE FREEMAN**: The problem with insulating the cable is that it will be even hotter than it is.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: Can we use different cables to detune the system? For example, two stiffer cables at the end and a softer at the middle.

ANSHEL SCHIFF: We have not seen dynamics of a cable yet.

**JEAN-BERNARD DASTOUS**: However, cables were tested and resonant frequencies were determined (although in 1-D).

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: The greater slackness introduces more damping to the system.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: Is it possible to use longer buses to accommodate displacements? Because if we need to base isolation, the extra displacement may be as small as 1 in if the cable is very large.

ANDRE FILIATRAULT: Frequencies:

- Rigid Base for bushing: f=10 Hz
- Transformer: f=14-20 Hz
- Bushing on top (as installed f): f=3 Hz

This is a problem because an earthquake has much energy at this frequency. An approach is to stiffen the base of the bushing so much so that  $f = f_{RIGID BASE}$  for the bushing. Not much acceleration and certainly no problem with the displacements. For example, we can stiffen the top plate.

**SOHRAB ESFANDIARI**: Some earthquakes give much energy at 10 Hz.

**LONNIE ELDER**: In the case Andre Filiatrault proposed, we just lower the longitudinal and transverse motion. But the rotational component will be a problem for the bushing.

**KENT MARTIN**: If we stiffen just the upper plate, there is danger that the transformer will explode.

BILL DAROVNY: It will be better to break at a specific point than exploding.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: Taking advantage of the rotational motion of the bushing, we can put some appropriate devices to dissipate energy.

ERIC FUJISAKI: The stiffening process should not be abandoned.

## 3.3. Comments and Discussions: General Issues (Moderator: Anshel Schiff)

ANSHEL SCHIFF: There are some comments made from New Zealand:

1) Is it possible that a large turret in combination with a thin plate may drop the as installed frequency? Because if frequency reaches the value f = 3 Hz, there might be a problem.

2) Also the codes do not account for near fault effects, such as

- Very large velocities (fling)
- Directivity phenomena (bad for base isolation, may exceed the design capability of the bushing)

## **ARTURO DEL RIO**:

- 1) What about the fling motion of the fault? The motion of each side of the fault may be half of the amplitude of the longitudinal motion and at the end result to the same amplitude.
- 2) High frequency vertical motion near the fault.

**BILL GUNDY**: What is the effect of base isolation? The base plate has not been designed for base isolation.

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: Some plates are designed so that base isolation can be implemented. Others may not be uplifted.

ALA SAADEGHVAZIRI: We can solve the problem by adding a flange at the bottom.

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: Do we really need to drop frequency to 0.5 Hz?

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: If we have 3 Hz as installed frequency, we already have a big reduction (by a factor of 4 actually).

**KAMRAN KHAN**: Do you anticipate for rotational input?

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: There has not been a rotational earthquake measurement yet. However, the rotational component of the earthquake exists. It has been accounted for in the model due to the flexibility of the plate.

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: Experiments at MCEER showed significant effect of the flexibility of the top plate (explains the different types of tests involving the bushing).

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: In experiments, what is the effect of the turret? A higher turret lowers the acceleration and the moments on the bushing.

**ALA SAADEGHVAZIRI**: You have to choose the reduction you need. If the as installed frequency gives the desired reduction maybe base isolation is not desirable.

**ANDREI REINHORN**: If the bushing is in the corner, we have the worst boundary condition (plate stiffer, much rocking). The place of the bushing on the plate plays a significant role on the response.

**LONNIE ELDER**: How do we measure the rotation?

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: With the Krypton<sup>TM</sup> Visual Sensors (comments on the significance of the direction of excitation and the motion of the bushing. The bushing will move in both directions.).

**ANDRE FILIATRAULT**: This is due to the flexibility of the top plate. Can we take advantage of the flexibility of the top plate?

**WILLIE FREEMAN**: (Wants to know about the rotational input on the turret separately.) How can we keep the rotational input out of the bushing? Can we put stiffeners around the turret?

AL MOLNAR: Can we measure damping due to oil using FEM?

ANSHEL SCHIFF: I don't think that we will get much damping from oil.

**RON TOGNAZZINI**: - What is the behavior of isolated transformers? Need for literature review of failures in general.

- 1) Soil structure interaction? The foundations tilt: does this happen during the earthquake or not?
- 2) After the earthquake, we have aftershocks and this is important if we want to put the structure back into its original place promptly.

**ANSHEL SCHIFF**: Not only that. There is rocking in the transformers that we don't observe, and understand the phenomenon from secondary damage.

## SECTION 4. REMARKS AND SUMMARY

The discussions and the presentations focused on several issues related to the transformers and transformer bushings, protective systems, conductors and connectivity, and methods of design and qualification according to new acceptance criteria. In the following, the issues presented and discussed are grouped along several basic issues and were edited by the author of this report from the public discussions and presentations. Note also that these discussions and presentations took place in October of 2008; more recent research has improved the state-of-art since that time.

#### 4.1. Transformer Bushing Behavior and Qualification Issues

The recent failures of bushings, which may have been previously qualified by current standard procedures, point toward possible flaws in the current practice. Many assumptions were made in the current practice based on engineering intuition, understanding of dynamics and of seismology. The specific issues raised are related to the following:

- 1. In absence of interaction with other auxiliary devices in the transformer, the dynamic properties and dynamic behavior of the bushings are dependent on the materials and the construction of the bushing first and on the transformer cover, turret and connectors to the cover, second. Moreover, the properties could be influenced by the location of the bushing, on the cover and by the structure of the cover of the transformer.
- 2. The bushing is excited by the motion of the rooftop/cover of the transformer tank, not directly by the ground motion. The excitation of the bushings is therefore influenced by the dynamics of the tank and its contents core, oil and conductors which produce translations and rotations of the rooftop/cover at selected frequencies characterizing the tank. The excitation of the bushing is therefore a modulated ground motion, amplified or damped depending on the tank dynamics. Note that the excitation of the bushings includes translations and rotations as well. Only in case of a rigid tank and rooftop/cover, the bushing is excited by a motion proportional to the ground excitation.
- 3. Bushings and the auxiliary equipment attached to the roof/cover of the transformer are subjected to a motion which is a result of the ground motion modified by the dynamics of the tank. The roof/cover translates and distorts, providing lateral and rotational motions at the base of the bushings, or other equipment. Current concepts of subjecting the base of the bushing to a constantly amplified ground motion (by a single constant factor over the frequency range) is erroneous, since the dynamics of the transformer may amplify or de-amplify motions with specific frequencies, which can have detrimental effect on the bushings or other equipment.
- 4. Participants suggested that the contribution of the oil in the tank (to damping) is expected to be significant when the bottom of the bushing is rocking inside the tank. Many participants suggested evaluating and clarifying this expectation by testing.

- 5. The bushings are also subjected to forces coming from the conductors connected at their tops. These forces can be a result of the dynamics of the conductors, and due to other effects as discussed further in section 4.7.
- 6. Modeling transformers and bushings by Finite Elements is a suitable method, but if it is not sufficiently detailed or it is too detailed, it tends to provide more questions than answers. Many manufacturers and some researchers have proprietary methods which seem successful to predict behavior in experiments. There is a need *for more simplified and more direct methods of modeling*, which can provide the main information related to capacity and design. More explicit guidelines are needed for the FE modelers that can help to focus the analyses toward sufficient levels of detailing in order to obtain satisfactory results.
- 7. Most dynamic analyses use models of damping, which in most cases do not sufficiently represent reality. Equivalent viscous damping models may not be sufficient to address the energy dissipation. The *equivalent viscous damping* models may have to be revisited. Perhaps, as much as possible, damping modeling should be replaced by known hysteretic, or viscoelastic, or viscoplastic models, with a small portion of inherent damping always considered as equivalent viscous damping.
- 8. Bushings' construction is different, if composite materials, or porcelain, are used. Their failure modes, and their associated strength capacities are different, as well as their rigidity (or stiffness). However, these bushings act like cantilever structures, supported at the base and connected at the free end, through flexible or rigid connectors, to other equipment. The failure modes are different and thus the critical sections are different. However, the shear force or the moment causing the first failure in a critical section defines the *strength capacity of the bushing*, which is a common term (not value) for all bushings.
- 9. The bushings' dynamic behavior, dominated by the cantilever vibration modes is similar, and dependent on the specific bushing construction. The dynamics of these bushings is substantially affected by the fixity, or lack of it, at the base of the cantilever when mounted on the roof/cover of transformers. The thickness of the roof/cover, the location of the bushing on the roof/cover, the supports of the roof/cover near the bushing locations, in all affect the flexibility of the connection of the cantilevered bushing. The dynamic characteristics of the bushing including its connectivity to the transformer are defined by "asinstalled" properties. The dynamic response of bushings is dependent on *as-installed* characteristics and not on the fixed cantilever base properties.
- 10. Although the differences between the "as-installed" dynamic characteristics and fixed base cantilever properties were not systematically quantified, there are evidences from prior measurements on variability of those characteristics when the same type of bushing is installed on different transformers.
- 11. The new design and qualification standards should consider (i) better description of the roof/cover motion; (ii) better description of "as-installed" properties of bushings; (iii) the definitions of capacity of bushings in mechanical terms moments-shears; and (iv) better definition of the acceptance criteria in terms of demands capacity ratios.
### 4.2. Considering Induced Forces in Design of Transformers and Bushings

Current standards provide acceptance criteria to quantities dependent on motion characteristics such as acceleration and displacement response. Future standards may need to address the mechanical-physical quantities that represent damage. These quantities may be more sensitive. Those may be able to emphasize also the influence of protective systems. These mechanical quantities, forces, moments, torques, etc. can represent *the strength capacity of the bushings* and *the demands* due to the earthquakes and due to interaction of various components. The issues raised by the participants are listed below:

- 1. Failure modes are usually associated with oil leaks, cracked or broken parts, fracture of anchor bolts and/or slip of bushing components. However, for engineering purposes, these can be associated with the stress resultants, such as shear forces, bending moments or similar in the critical sections in which the damage may occur. Such mechanical quantities can represent **capacity** of bushings or other electrical systems.
- 2. Determining the capacity requires either analysis or testing by the manufacturer to the level of damage that renders the equipment nonfunctional. The reliable capacity can be determined using statistical evaluations, or reasonable safety factors, or both.
- 3. When subjecting the equipment to earthquakes or other external disturbances forces, stresses develop in critical sections, generating shear forces, bending moments or similar. These mechanical quantities, dependent on the level of shaking, the mass distributions, and the dynamics of the equipment, are defined as the **seismic demands**. These can be determined by analysis (using exact or code based methods) or by testing provided that the test bed can represent "accurately" (or close) the real conditions of in-field assembly.
- 4. The suitability check of the equipment should compare *the demands* with *the capacities*. While considering the usual safety factors, the system could and should be declared nonfunctional when the *demand exceeds capacity*.
- 5. In current practice, equivalent motion characteristics are used to represent demands and the capacities (mostly in terms of peak accelerations). These may not sufficiently represent the demands or the capacities and are definitely not the true demand-capacity ratios. Acceptance criteria (as described in (4) above) should be added to the standards of practice.
- 6. New experimental set-up(s) may be required for evaluation (qualification) by testing.
- 7. The evaluation, either by analysis or by testing, when using base isolation or other protective systems, is more sensitive than for the original systems. Therefore in such evaluations, *in addition to the geometric changes* (displacements, velocities acceleration responses) it must include the *forces and moments describing capacity and demands*.

### 4.3. Identified Challenges in Current Qualification and Acceptance Procedures

The current qualification procedures exaggerate the importance of the dynamic properties of equipment alone and of the ground motions transmitted at the base of the bushings. The issues are that:

- 1. The dynamic characterization of equipment neglects the "as-installed" conditions in evaluating the dynamic demands. This, in most cases, grossly underestimates the expected response.
- 2. During qualification, the equipment is subjected to the ground motions, not to the more realistic as expected (modulated) base motion of the equipment. This provides in many instances lower excitations, not sufficiently conservative for the equipment qualified.

### 4.4. Seismicity Considerations in the Behavior of Equipment

The near fault effect concerned most of the professionals. The cross fault effects, the fling (or velocity pulses) and the high frequencies have the tendency to influence bushings (of high frequencies) and create a wide range of frequencies otherwise. In future research, in design, in qualifications and in implementation, these effects must be considered.

### 4.5. Soil Structure Interaction (SSI) of Large Equipment

Concerns related to liquefaction and transformer tilting due to interaction of foundations with the surrounding soil was considered important if base isolation is considered. Apparently the SSI effects are recognized by the ASCE standards but not by IEEE 693. Such omission may have to be corrected and addressed in particular when protective systems are considered, such as base isolations.

### 4.6. Suggested Protective Systems

Various possibilities of protecting the equipment or its components by adding additional systems or modifying components or connectivity, were surveyed. A list of main suggestions is as follows:

- 1. Base isolation systems including **elastomeric supports, sliding friction systems and combinations** of other supporting materials and composite designs were suggested. Most base isolations suggested have some track record in the construction industry in particular for use in bridges, buildings, reservoirs (Liquid Natural Gas-LNG- tanks), off-shore platforms, nuclear power plants for seismic and water waves protection.
- 2. One of the suggested isolation systems, **friction pendulum system** (FPS) in its configurations with single, double and triple concave configurations, assures gravity load transfer as well as lateral movement with restoring capabilities. Since the dynamic characteristics are not dependent on the weight of the equipment, it provides a better base for

standardization. Prior research showed good promise. If further investigations are carried out, this system may have a good chance.

- 3. A new solution was proposed consisting of a series of **inclined isolators** fitting an imaginary sphere with the center at the top of the center bushing of a transformer, and large radius that establishes a small natural frequency pendulum like structure, yet having restoring capacity, was proposed by the editor of this report and two of the project participants (Filiatrault and Constantinou). The suggested solution has the advantage of keeping the top of the center bushing (almost) motionless while reducing forces in the bushings. The concept using flat sliding isolators, or elastomeric or FPS should be further analyzed and qualified, before a cost benefit analysis can be performed.
- 4. No base isolation could be widely accepted before a full scale **demonstration pilot project** will be completed. The pilot project must address severe seismicity, spatial excitations and behavior, connectivity with the other equipment, irregular construction of transformers, installation of isolation systems, service and maintenance issues, cost analyzes, etc. The idea for pilot projects has been suggested for other protective systems, indicating that research alone is not sufficient to prove the concepts and evaluate their viability.
- 5. Alternative protection of bushings suggested is a modification of flexibility of cantilever base connection, detuning the "as-installed" dynamic characteristics from the amplified effects of bushing's base motion. In many cases, this can be done **by stiffening** (or softening) the roof/cover of the transformer to detune the effects. The benefits of stiffening should be also evaluated from the point of view of decreased force demands that could otherwise damage the structure of the bushings. Feasibility for new designs of roof/covers and of modification of existing ones should also be evaluated as impact on cost benefit and on the interactions with the other auxiliary components.
- 6. Other alternatives suggested are **hybrid solutions**, including base isolations (of different types) and supplementary dampers for control of excessive displacements.
- 7. **Dampers** attached to the transformers and bushings were suggested, although many of the utilities and users are concerned with their maintenance and leaks, in particular if oils are involved. However, as presented by some of the proposers of devices, fluid or liquid dampers have been successfully used for four or five decades in military and aerospace equipment, without need of maintenance and malfunctions. However, a thorough documentation of the subject is needed before further considerations can be made for the electrical equipment.
- 8. Concerns were raised about the oil leak at the flexible bushing connection, rather than the damping device, when such devices are used.
- 9. A concern was raised related to the isolation of transformers and bushings associated with the increased deflections at the bottom of the bushing and issues associated with slack and electrical clearance in a confined space inside of the transformer. Such behavior, if not evaluated, may produce a disaster in the functionality of the transformer.

### 4.7. Implementation Issues of Base Isolation to Electrical Equipment

- 1. Base isolation seems to provide a global solution to protect the whole transformer system. Therefore it must address issues related to (i) the internal construction of transformers (such as the core, core connectors and clamps, conductors, oil filler, etc; (ii) external construction of the transformer tanks; (iii) the bushings and their connectors; (iv) the auxiliary equipment attached to the bushings (radiators, oil conservators, surge arresters, etc); (v) the construction of the transformer and its lifting provisions.
- 2. Since base isolation provides a global solution, *the spatial behavior (3D)* from the ground excitation to the response of all parts must be addressed. In particular, the effects of vertical excitations and vertical response characteristics, usually neglected, should be considered with the dominant lateral effects.
- 3. Implementation of base isolation in existing equipment may pose additional challenges. The existing equipment was not designed to support itself in discrete points, therefore the design of the base isolation should collect the distributed weight to a new sub-base construction, or be checked to determine if the lifting points are reinforced enough to carry the weight a long time. Alternatively, the base isolation could be a distributed surface (such as a sliding-friction surface).
- 4. Base isolation will be affected by the transformer base construction. In many cases, a redesign of the base would be necessary, while changes or additions of anchors, rails or entire support structure must be considered. In many cases however, the base may be able to support part of the self weight, considering that it might be possible to develop simpler design.
- 5. The participants are concerned with the added impacts of the connectors and other parts inside the transformer tank that may influence the base motion of the bushings. In view of expected large movement when base isolation is used, such behavior should be verified first by analysis and then by testing.

### 4.8. Conductors in the Electrical Equipment

Conductors that link the electrical equipment to the busses and to other equipment are sources of additional loads and provide additional constraints to the movement of equipment during earthquakes. The environmental influences on the conductors, such as wind, ice, heat, and dynamic behavior, may have substantial influence on equipment. The specific issues raised are:

- 1. Clearances and loading of electrical conductors, either flexible or rigid, are very important in particular in short conductors. Current standards seem to provide adequate clearances and loads, which can be considered as limits in the design of protective systems.
- 2. When the equipment is thought to be isolated, the conductors may provide limiting constraints which cannot be satisfied by the design. As such, the conductors may become the *Achilles' heel* in the implementation of protective systems.

- 3. The dynamics of the conductor cables must be determined and verified, since they are sources of large loads, in particular if the slack is consumed by large movements, while the conductors must extend beyond their cord length. Subjecting the conductors to a controlled cyclic load in plane and out of plane may reveal the dynamic amplifications, accompanied by impulse load, when the conductor tries to extend beyond the cord length.
- 4. The dynamics are particularly important for multi-connected equipment. Impulse and damping play a significant role in the load evaluations. Current practice for qualifications by adding a fixed size mass to simulate the presence of the conductor is too simplistic and does not always represent the influence of such complex connectors. A more rational approach may be warranted.
- 5. If base isolation is considered, additional slack may be required. The participants are not optimistic about such an increase since the additional slack may have a detrimental influence on electromagnetic fields interactions, on ground-conductor interaction, and other local effects. The isolations may have to be designed to move equal or less deflection of bushings without isolations. An investigation is necessary.
- 6. Vertical drops (connecting the bus to the bushings) can develop dynamic loads which may be harmful to the bushings.
- 7. However, vertical drops are more tolerant to base isolations and may not provide any limitations to horizontal movement. Issue will have to be evaluated.
- 8. In the development of protective systems, the electrical functions must be considered as constraints which may limit functionality of the equipment. These constraints could be expressed in motion terms (displacements, velocities, accelerations) or in force terms (shears, moments, etc).

### 4.9. Protective Systems for Conductors - Reduction of Dynamic Effects of Conductors

Conductors can be controlled by modification of connectivity and attachment of devices that can damp the vibrations and reduce dynamic effects. Such dampers need to:

- 1. In-line coil or friction dampers seem to be promising.
- 2. Detuning conductors and equipment by smart connectors could be considered.
- 3. Control slack and clearance through optimization of dampers.
- 4. Heating of conductors may diminish efficiency of viscoelastic or fluid dampers, and friction.

### 4.10. Effects to be Considered as Constraints in the Development of Protective Systems

Many of the basic functions of the transformers and other equipment may be affected by heating, shorting, or other such effects. Some of these should be considered in the design providing serious limitations and constraints.

- 1. Electromagnetic forces develop during shorting. These forces must be addressed in the design, as part of the forces and loads demand.
- 2. Heating of components change material properties and produce expansion of parts accompanied by releases of pre-tensioning (clamp) forces in bushings. Heating must be considered in electrical equipment as well as in base isolations.
- 3. Uplift due to rocking of equipment could be allowed as long as overturning stability is satisfied. Such overturning is a constraint that should be applied to base isolations as well.
- 4. The failure which occurs at the smallest applied load determines the equipment strength capacity in terms of the same load.

### 4.11. Standardization Issues for Base Isolation and Other Protective Systems

Most electrical industry has standards of practice, which allows commercialization and use of various components and equipment without need of individualized (custom) design of each and single items installed in the substations. Based on the same approach, the industry is interested in the development of suitable standards. Several issues and questions were mentioned although no suggestions were made:

- 1. Which entity could assume the duties to develop a standard for base isolated equipment? The IEEE 693, or the American Society of Civil Engineers and its specialty Technical Committees could have a role, but this will be a subject for other discussion.
- 2. Is it going to be necessary that all base isolators will be individually designed, or is it possible to develop standard designs of classes of isolators? Such isolators could be then used "off- the-shelf." Some utilities indicated that the standards must allow the users to make their design based on their justifications.
- 3. Current standards of practice, such as IEEE 693, must also consider nonlinear behavior of the structural system of the electrical equipment, not only elastic behavior. Such considerations are essential for the introduction of protective systems, which experience nonlinear behavior such as base isolations and many of the viscoelastic and nonlinear dampers.
- 4. Some of the participants (primarily from the research community) question the focus on bushings and transformers, when the same problems may be present in other types of substation equipment, such as disconnect switches, circuit breakers, instrument transformers, etc., which may be served even better by base isolation and damping.

### 4.12. Risk, Reliability and Resilience of Protective Systems

The protective systems have an important temporal effect, ensuring in many cases good performance in repetitive events and providing a quick path to recovery in case of some damage. Several issues could be addressed to integrate the solution in the long term resilience of electrical equipment. The associated issues which should be further discussed are:

- 1. Resilient solutions for equipment itself should consider minimal damage (robust behavior) and quick recovery of functionality.
- 2. Resilient temporal-geospatial solutions should consider grids and networks of equipment.
- 3. A probabilistic framework addressing losses and recovery should be used.
- 4. The associated costs and monetary values would provide a good measure of economics of functionality, including direct and indirect effects on communities.

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\* Participation cancelled in the last moment, however presentations were made in their behalf by moderators of specific sessions

### **APPENDIX B: Workshop Agenda**



## **Improving Earthquake Response of Substation Equipment**

October 24, 2008

140 Ketter Hall • University at Buffalo

## Agenda

7:30 am	Continental Breakfast
8:00	Introduction
	Andrei Reinhorn, University at Buffalo, Workshop Co-Chair
	Anshel Schiff, Consultant, Workshop Co-Chair
8:15	Background and Formulation of Problems
	Andrei Reinhorn / Anshel Schiff
	Anshel Schiff, Precision Measurement Systems, Moderator
8:30	Survey of Issues Related to Transformers and Bushings: Failure Modes, History, Modeling, Proposed Qualifying Procedure for IEEE 693, etc. Anshel Schiff
	Leon Kempner, Bonneville Power Administration, Moderator
9:15	<b>Survey Issues in Base Isolation of Transformers and Other Substation Equipment</b> Ala Saadeghvaziri, New Jersey Institute of Technology
	Maria Feng, Andrei Reinhorn, Charlie Kircher - Saadeghvaziri/ Presenter
	Michael Constantinou - Reinhorn/Presenter
	Andrei M Reinhorn - University at Buffalo, Moderator
9:45	Survey Issues Related to Conductor Dynamics and Equipment Loading
	Jean-Bernard Dastous, IKEQ/Hydro-Quebec
10:15	Anare Finandani, Oniversity at Bugaio, Moderator
10.15	Discussion, Bass Isolation and Future Implementation
10:50	Ala Saadeghvaziri, Moderator
11:30	<b>Discussion: Cable Interaction Issues and Approaches</b> Andre Filiatrault, Moderator
12:30 pm	Luncheon
	Tour of Structural Engineering and Earthquake Simulation Laboratory (SEESL)
1:30	<b>Discussion: Special Solutions for Protection of Transformers and Bushings</b> Andrei M Reinhorn, Moderator
2:30	<b>Open Discussion</b> Anshel Schiff, Moderator
3:00	Workshop Resolutions
	Andrei Reinhorn and Anshel Schiff, Moderators
3:30	Workshop Adjourns
	Bonneville Power Administration

**APPENDIX C: Research and Development Plan** 



## REDUCING DISRUPTION OF POWER SYSTEMS IN EARTHQUAKES

**A**DVANCED **M**ETHODS FOR **P**ROTECTING **S**UBSTATION **E**QUIPMENT

# **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Andrei M. Reinhorn, PE, Ph.D. Andre Filiatrault, Eng, Ph.D. Michael Constantinou, Ph.D. University at Buffalo, The State University of New York

> Anshel Schiff, Ph.D. Consulting Engineer Los Altos Hills, California

MCEER Buffalo, New York September 15, 2008

The Confidential Information provided or conveyed herein concerning the project is made available for the purpose of considering, advising on and/or evaluating the project. It is understood that this information and any other information relating to this project is and must be kept confidential.







### **Expected Research Tasks**

### **1** Solicit advise and prioritize input from the electric power community

1.1 Develop a national and international advisory board including North American members to advise on issues and feasibility of implementations. The committee might be enlarged if transpacific partnerships in Japan, New Zealand and Taiwan materialize.

1.2 Organize two workshops for (i) initiation of study and (ii) midterm evaluation and monitoring potential implementations (see Task #8).

1.3 Layout plan for complimentary proposals (NSF, International-Transpacific, etc)

1.4 Engage and integrate multiple funding projects and sources (BPA, CEC, MCEER, EPRI, NSF, Utilities).

1.5 Identify manufacturers and/or utilities to donate equipment which can be used in experimental studies (bushings, protective systems, components).

### 2 Establish Seismic Demands on Equipment: Part 1 - Determine behavior of transformers and bushings

<First focus: high voltage transformers>

<Interaction of bushings and tank, core/coil, conservators, radiators, surge arresters,> <Validate Proposed IEEE 693 method for seismic qualification of transformers and bushings considering in-field conditions>

2.1 Extend current static analysis modeling methods of transformers used by manufacturers to meet current IEEE 693 standard provision to considering dynamic analysis and modeling of cover and bushings.

2.2 Determine adequacy of current modeling practices used by manufacturers to capture system dynamic properties.

2.3 Perform sensitivity analysis using dynamic models to evaluate the precision needed to meet the needs of IEEE 693 standard.

2.4 Determine influence of bushing-transformer system interaction on the seismic demand on bushings.

2.5 Determine influence of variations in cover stiffness or turret design on bushing-transformer system interactions.

2.6 Estimate uncertainties of system frequencies to be incorporated into the IEEE 693 standard which influence transformer-bushings interactions.

2.7 Develop guidelines for modelers for proper considerations of the above issues

2.8 Classify limit states of functionality (such as failure modes) of transformerbushing systems in terms of terminal pad displacements, loads on bushings, as-installed bushing frequencies or other engineering parameters.

### 3 Establish Seismic Demands on Equipment: Part 2 - Determine behavior of transformers-bushings-conductors in-field conditions

<Perform a combined literature search, analytical modeling, testing and evaluations>

3.1 Determine behavior of bushings in transformer installed conditions – through tests and analytical studies.

- 3.1.1 Determine deformations and movement limits.
- 3.1.2 Identify apparent functionality limits.
- 3.1.3 Develop simplified models o allow for quick analyses.

3.2 Determine behavior of equipment-bushings-conductor interactions – transformers, or other support structures.

3.2.1 Model and evaluate experimentally bushing terminal displacements.

3.2.2 Model and evaluate flexible conductor configuration issues (conductor shape of interconnections) including vertical drops to equipment.

3.2.3 Evaluate conductors construction issues: flexible and rigid bus.

3.2.4 Evaluate geometrical issues – initial, slacks, deformation see also UCSD and UCB studies and beyond) and equipment interaction loading.

3.2.5 Quantify conductor dynamics and equipment interaction loading.

3.2.6 Determine interaction forces and displacement demands – *design issues* and criteria for IEEE 693.

3.2.7 Determine electrical and thermal interactions issues – such as influence of electromagnetic fields.

3.3 Determine allowable maximum displacements and interaction forces (as possible constraints to design of protective systems).

3.3.1 Determine allowable interaction forces and displacements for bushingsconnectors interfaces – identify good practices & make recommendations for IEEE standards.

3.3.2 Evaluate allowable interaction forces and displacements for bushings-tank connections (roof tank or turrets) – identify good practices & make recommendations for IEEE standards.

3.3.3 Define initial constraints for design of advanced protective systems.

### 4 Evaluate State-of-the-art of Protective Systems – Base Isolations (BI), Supplemental Damping (SD), Passive Control Systems (PCS)

4.1 Survey past and current studies of BI, SD and PCS – identify gaps in respect with sub-station equipment (for example: UC/Irvine-NJIT studies).

4.2 Evaluate models and analytical tools of protective systems – i.e. rubber and sliding properties, long term behavior, interaction issues.

4.3 Evaluate response of transformers and bushings with BI, SD and PCS.

4.4 Determine demands on bushings, conductors, connectors during three dimensional disturbances – compare to systems without protection.

4.5 Explore combinations of the above solutions and determine demands without constraints.

4.6 Determine interaction issues, interferences – displacements, forces.

4.7 Evaluate cost issues of current solutions – feasibility and constructability in new and existing facilities.

### 5 Identify and evaluate protective systems – Methods, Design Guidelines

<Challenges: meet current constraints from #1, #2, #3>

5.1 Develop protective solutions: i.e. base isolations and supplemental damping – flexible or sliding, with or w/o damping.

5.2 Develop cost-effective, feasible alternative for various configurations.

5.3 Validate experimentally and analytically the solutions in 5.2.

5.4 Develop design procedures and tools to enable evaluation and use of protective technologies.

5.5 Develop guidelines for design and qualifications based on the innovation and enhancement of current standards and practices used by utilities.

5.6 Identify limitations of systems, which require innovative solutions.

### 6 Develop, evaluate and recommend advanced protective solutions and systems

<*Challenges: suggest innovative solutions for protective systems, and constraints modifications>* <*Methodology: modeling, proof of concept testing, analysis, design solutions>* 

6.1 Evaluate in-line damping for conductor systems.

6.2 Develop, evaluate and verify new expending cable connections.

6.3 Evaluate inexpensive innovative base isolations of existing transformer tanks – hybrid solutions with displacement constraints.

6.4 Develop innovative bushing connectivity and construction (existing and new).

6.5 Evaluate retainer rings for bushing to enhance serviceability of new and existing bushings after earthquakes.

6.6 Verify developments experimentally.

6.7 Develop design procedures and specifications.

6.8 Review and propose practical methods for assessing conductor spacing criteria associated with short circuit and seismic loads.

### 7 Planning Full Scale Field Implementations and Monitoring

*<Challenges: identify full-scale equipment that can be base isolated, incorporate conductor connections to a dressed transformer, design and implement monitoring instrumentation>* 

7.1 Identify utilities to participate in implementing base isolation of transformers and other equipment.

7.2 Identify equipment and sites; select solution from the methods researched above.

7.3 Design and implement a protective solution including equipment, connectors to first conductor support, in situ.

7.4 Develop plans for instrumentation and monitoring.

7.5 Assist implementer with design or selection of off-the-shelf solutions (instrumentation, protection, monitoring, etc).

7.6 Assist with monitoring and processing.

### 8 Organize workshop(s) for community input:

8.1 First workshop to be organized in conjunction with IEEE 693 committee meeting on October 24, 2008 in Buffalo.

8.1.1 Duration and components: One day (eight hours total including breaks) with two parts:

- 8.1.1.1 Presentations on motivation, state of the art, areas of uncertainty, and challenges.
- 8.1.1.2 Moderated subject discussions by experts on subjects along the task lines.

8.1.2 Outline for R&D submitted before the workshop – based on the tasks indicated above – with formulated questions and tentative resolutions.

8.1.3 Formulate and consider resolution related to research objections and needs.

8.1.4 Stirring committee: Kempner, Schiff, Filiatrault and Reinhorn.

8.1.5 Organization done by MCEER (including location, announcements, hospitality, etc.).

8.2 Second workshop to be organized in midterm of project for progress evaluation of advanced solutions and code developments.

### **Possible Funding:**

- 1) Current BPA contract (modeling of transformers –current -three months).
- Expected CEC contract (for bushings evaluations and remedial solutions- 18 months contracting in progress).
- 3) Expected BPA contract for innovative solutions for transformers and in-house /in-field monitoring 36 months –contracting in progress).
- 4) Possible NEESR-GC (for innovative protective systems for electrical equipment 48 months-to be submitted by February 2009).

### **Current Project Duration (including the expected contracts):**

Total duration 36 months from Oct 1, 2008.

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