S&C Regulator Bypass Switches

Type XL (Sequenced) and Type NL (Nonsequenced)
Outdoor Distribution (14.4 kV and 25 kV)
Application

S&C Regulator Bypass Switches are station-type devices used to bypass and isolate voltage regulators for maintenance. They can also be used to bypass and isolate other devices, such as current transformers. These switches feature an interrupter for breaking the magnetizing current of the regulator.

Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches provide built-in mechanical interlocking, sequencing, and synchronization.

Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches perform the same functions as Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches, except that the sequencing of operations is left to the operator. Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches are used in applications where a 1200-ampere continuous rating is required or where it is desired to bypass the voltage regulator with its shunt winding energized (bypass blade closed, disconnect blade open) so that mechanical and electrical testing can be carried out.

Construction

Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches

The Type XL Regulator Bypass Switch is a station-type device featuring an interrupter for breaking the magnetizing current of the regulator. Current interruption takes place within the interrupter, without external arc or flame. See Figure 1.

The disconnect, interrupter, and bypass blades are all of double-member hard-drawn copper construction. Silver-to-silver contacts are used throughout the switch. Silver-alloy buttons are brazed into the bypass blade; disconnect and interrupter blades are clad with extra-thick high-density, low-porosity silver. Stationary contacts employ brazed silver-nickel overlays or are heavily clad with silver by S&C’s Silver-Weld process. Surface structure of the stationary contacts differs from that of the blade contact to prevent sticking, galling, or seizing. Contacts won’t weld, burn, or pit from overcurrents.

Stainless steel loading springs behind the contact areas of the blades, including the hinged end, provide a smooth, positive wiping action and keep the contacts under constant pressure. This feature is particularly important in the case of the bypass blade, which is normally open and must carry full load current after long periods of contact-surface exposure to the elements.

Special attention has been given to the operation and alignment of the disconnect blade through the use of stainless-steel hardware and rigid anchoring of the disconnect blade to the interrupter blade. Ease of operation is ensured by a floating contact alignment, and a carefully positioned and proportioned hook ring.

Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches are offered with a choice of Cypoxy™ Insulator or porcelain station-post insulators. Cypoxy station-post insulators are nontracking, self-scouring, and nonweathering, and they meet or exceed the electrical and mechanical-strength requirements established in ANSI/NEMA Standard C29.9 (1983) for porcelain standard-strength station-post insulators.

Figure 1. Construction of Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches.
**Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches**

The Type NL Regulator Bypass Switch, like the Type XL Regulator Bypass Switch, is a station-type device featuring an interrupter for breaking the magnetizing current of the regulator. Current interruption takes place within the interrupter, without external arc or flame. See Figure 2.

The disconnect, interrupter, and bypass blades are all of double-member hard-drawn copper construction. Silver-to-silver contacts are used throughout the switch. Silver-alloy buttons are brazed into each of the blades. Stationary contacts feature silver-nickel alloy overlays, brazed in place, then coined for hardness, contour, and low porosity.

Beryllium-copper loading springs behind the contact areas of the blades, including the hinge-end, provide a smooth, positive wiping action, and keep the contacts under constant pressure. This feature is particularly important for the bypass blade, which is normally in an open position and must carry full-load current after long periods of contact-surface exposure to the elements.

Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches are offered with a choice of Cytoxy or porcelain station-post insulators, as described on page 2 for Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches.

**Operation**

**Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches**

Built-in mechanical interlocking, sequencing, and synchronization are featured. See Figure 3 on page 4. During the opening stroke, the bypass blade closes first, bypassing the regulator to prevent interruption of service. Next, the disconnect blade opens the regulator series winding. Finally, when the interrupter blade opens, interruption of shunt-winding magnetizing current takes place within the interrupter, and the regulator is isolated from the line.

During the closing stroke when restoring the regulator to service, the switching sequence is reversed automatically, putting the voltage regulator back into service without dropping the load.

**Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches**

Manual sequencing of operation is required. See Figure 4 on page 5. To isolate the regulator, the operator must first close the bypass blade to prevent interruption of service. Next, he must open the disconnect blade to open the regulator series winding. Finally, he must open the interrupter blade, interruption of shunt-winding magnetizing current takes place within the interrupter, and the regulator is isolated from the line.

To place the regulator back into service, the operator must reverse the sequence of operation described above.

During testing, the voltage regulator may be bypassed with its shunt winding energized by closing the bypass blade and then opening the disconnect blade.

Regulator bypass switches must not be operated until the automatic control circuits of the associated regulator tap changers have been opened and the tap changers have been moved to the neutral position.

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**Figure 2. Construction of Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches.**
Figure 3. Sequence of operation of Type XL Regulator Bypass Switches.

Switch closed; voltage regulator is energized. Bypass blade is open; disconnect blade and interrupter blade are closed.

Switch in early stage of opening stroke. Bypass blade has closed, making a direct connection between the source and load. Disconnect blade and interrupter blade are still closed.

Switch in later stage of opening stroke. Disconnect blade has opened, but voltage-regulator shunt winding is still energized through the interrupter blade.

Switch fully open. Voltage-regulator magnetizing-current interruption has taken place within the interrupter with no external arc or flame. Voltage regulator is de-energized and bypassed.
Figure 4. Sequence of operation of Type NL Regulator Bypass Switches.

Voltage regulator is energized. Bypass blade is open; disconnect blade and interrupter blade are closed.

First step to isolate regulator: Bypass blade is closed. Voltage-regulator series winding is now shunted by bypass blade. Disconnect blade and interrupter blade remain in closed position.

Second step to isolate regulator: Disconnect blade is opened-disconnecting the voltage-regulator series winding. Bypass blade is still closed and voltage-regulator shunt winding remains energized through the interrupter blade.

Third step to isolate regulator: Interrupter blade is opened and voltage-regulator magnetizing current is interrupted inside the interrupter, with no external arc or flame. Bypass blade is still closed; disconnect blade is still open.
Specifications

Type XL (Sequenced), Single-Pole Style, Inches (mm)

Specifications

① Three-second rating: 18,500 amperes RMS, symmetrical.

② Cypoxy is the S&C trademark for S&C's cycloaliphatic epoxy resin system. Cypoxy is nontracking, self-scouring, nonweathering, and there's never a compromise of insulation integrity. S&C Cypoxy station-post insulators meet or exceed the electrical and mechanical-strength requirements established in ANSI Standard C29.9 (1983) for porcelain standard-strength station-post insulators.

Rating | Catalog Number | Dimensions in Inches (mm) | Net Wt., Lbs. (kg)
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<td>Amperes, RMS</td>
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<td>Porcelain Station-Post Insulators</td>
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Type NL (Nonsequenced), Single-Pole Style, Inches (mm)

Three-second rating: 40,000 amperes RMS, symmetrical.

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