

Feeder Ammeter Clear Test

FEEDER AMMETER CLEAR TEST



Easy to use,
portable,
one person
design



Description

The FACT, Feeder Ammeter Clear Tester, prevents damage to distribution feeder circuits by detecting ground connections before a feeder is energized.

Distribution feeder circuits can be temporarily taken out of service for planned or unplanned maintenance. This maintenance can include replacing crossarms or insulators, reconductoring, replacing certain transformers or any other task that cannot be readily performed on a live circuit. Typical work safety practices require the installation of bolted grounds on all three phases at every location where work is being performed.

Feeder circuits are typically deenergized at a substation.

Features & Benefits

- Alerts users to grounds left in place before the circuit is energized
- Prevents fault currents, transformer damage and blown fuses
- Fully automated test procedure
- Display shows instructions, messages and ammeter current
- Internal diagnostics confirm proper operation
- Automatically detects incorrect polarity
- Easy to use
- Portable, one person design
- Built-in self test
- 5 amp output, current limited
- Requires 120VAC, 60Hz power



HD ELECTRIC COMPANY

1475 LAKESIDE DRIVE • WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS 60085 U.S.A.
PHONE 847.473.4980 • FAX 847.473.4981 • website: www.HDElectricCompany.com

Application

Over the course of a maintenance or upgrade program with a number of work sites, dozens of grounds can be put in place over the length of the feeder. When the maintenance or upgrade work is completed, all of these grounds must be accounted for and removed. Failure to remove even one of these grounds before the feeder circuit is reenergized can result in damage either at the location of the ground connection or at the substation where damage can occur to switches, circuit breakers and other equipment. Adjacent circuits will also suffer from the voltage dip or other transients caused by this fault.

The FACT serves to provide a final verification that these grounds have been removed before circuit energization. After the circuit has been visually inspected for grounds left in place and before substation breakers are closed, the FACT is applied to the feeder circuit. The FACT can be applied within the substation or anywhere along the length of the feeder circuit. Unlike simple continuity testers, the FACT can detect grounds left in place and can do so with all of the other equipment connected on the circuit such as transformers, capacitor banks, lightning arresters, etc.

The FACT energizes the circuit at a low secondary voltage and measures the resulting current flow in the circuit. The FACT power supply operates at 120VAC nominal and because it is current limited can be safely connected to any circuit, grounded or otherwise. The FACT includes a built in automatic controller that performs a self test and steps through all three phases, testing each one in sequence. An LCD display shows the condition of each phase and displays any shorts detected. The FACT can differentiate between current drawn by transformers and current resulting from grounds left in place. Any ground left in place on any phase anywhere along the length of the circuit will be detected and displayed by the FACT.



Display readout message showing phases B to C grounded

ORDERING INFORMATION

FACT-1	Feeder Ammeter Clear Test
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