

# “The New Generation of Medium Voltage Switchgear”

## Your Presenter



- > **Joe Richard** is the US Launch Manager for Schneider Electric's Premset Switchgear. Joe graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a BS degree in Electrical Engineering in 2007, and has been with Schneider Electric since 2008. He has worked in a variety of roles including Sales, Marketing, and Business Development. Joe's main focus has been Medium Voltage Distribution Switchgear and its applications. His professional interests include Power Distribution, Energy Efficiency, Power Protection and Automation, Energy Storage, and Renewable Energy.

# Learning Objectives

1. Describe what is Shielded Solid Insulation
2. List the differences between current and new switchgear designs
3. List the benefits of the new generation of medium voltage switchgear and how it addresses current market needs
4. Describe how to design with new switchgear technology, and application considerations

# History of MV Switchgear

AIS  
Modular  
Switchgear



Masonry cells



Withdrawable oil



Withdrawable SF6 or Vacuum



**Solid Insulated  
Switchgear**

Circuit  
Breaker



Oil Fixed



Oil Draw-out



Vacuum Draw-out



SF6 Draw-out



1930

1950

1970

1990

2010

2020

## Design Innovations

- Insulation Systems
- Circuit Breaker
- Grounding Switch
- Maintenance Requirements
- Small Footprint/Front Accessibility
- Asset Monitoring

## Application Issues

- Reliability
- Safety
- Maintenance
- Total Cost of Ownership

# Insulation System

## Insulation Deteriorates Over Time

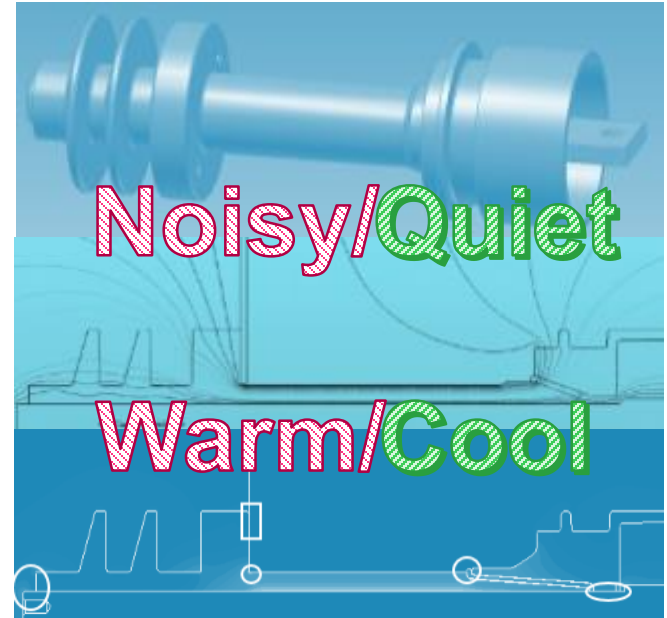
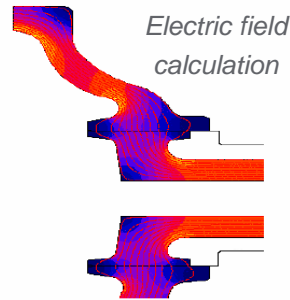
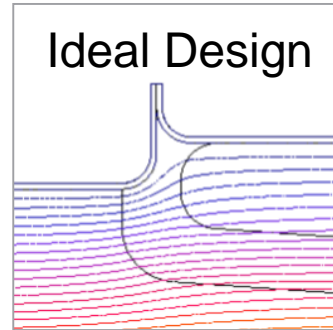
- Humidity
- Dust
- Chemicals
- Temperature

## Corona

- Ozone and audible sounds
- Equipotential lines and sharps

## Improvements from Component Design

- Shaping and grounded shielding
- Computer analysis plus lab verification
- Analytical processes to manage reliability



# Epoxy Insulation

## Standard Application

### IEEE Std C37.20.3-2013

Insulating materials used for the isolation or support of the primary conductors shall be tested for flame resistance and tracking resistance in accordance with the requirements of IEEE Std C37.20.3.

#### 6.2.7.1 Flame-resistance tests

Sheet, molded, or cast primary insulating materials used in switchgear assemblies shall have a minimum average ignition time of 60 s and a maximum average burning time of 500 s when tested in accordance with method II in ASTM D229-96.

### UL Listing

UL 94, the Standard for Safety of Flammability of Plastic Materials for Parts in Devices and Appliances testing Insulating

# Epoxy Insulation

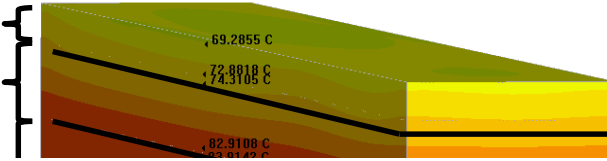
## Temperature and Lifespan Testing

### Lifespan Testing Based on Continuous Temperature Testing

#### 4. Service conditions

Standards for the design and performance of epoxy insulation are described in this clause. Insulating EPDM construction and ratings as defined in this standard.

1/2 conductive EPDM  
Insulating EPDM  
1/2 conductive EPDM



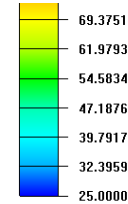
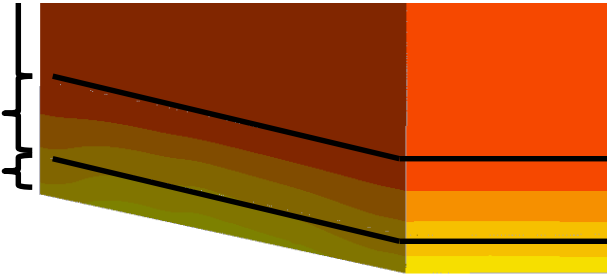
s as  
on-

ANSYS  
FEM

a) The temperature of the switchgear is within the limits of

## 30+ Year Lifespan with Minimal Tracking or Degradation

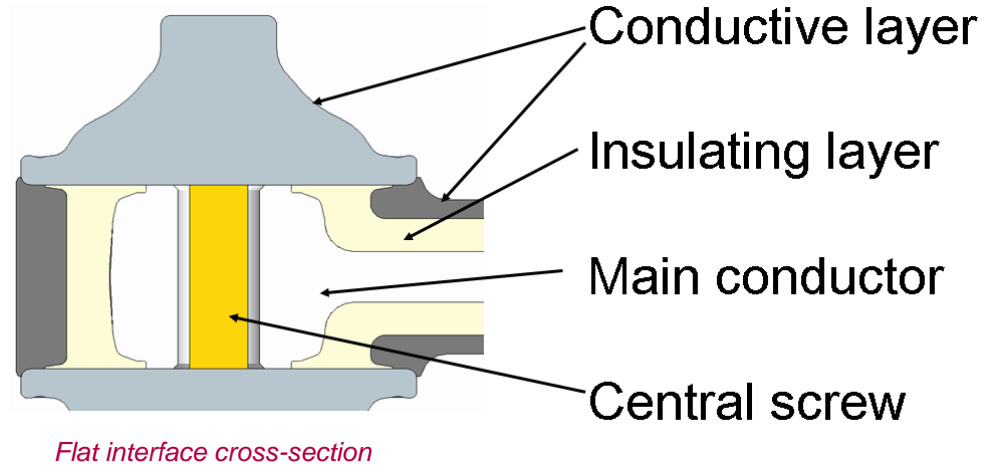
Insulating EPDM  
1/2 conductive EPDM



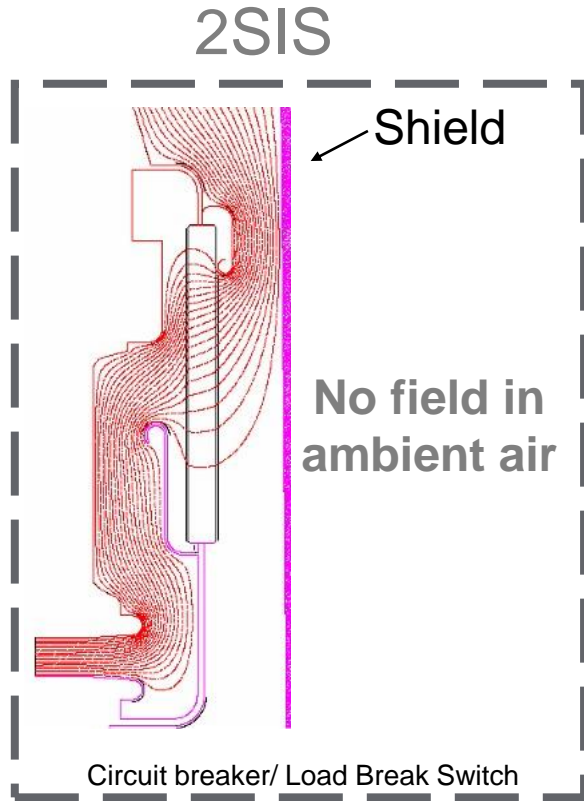


# Epoxy Insulation

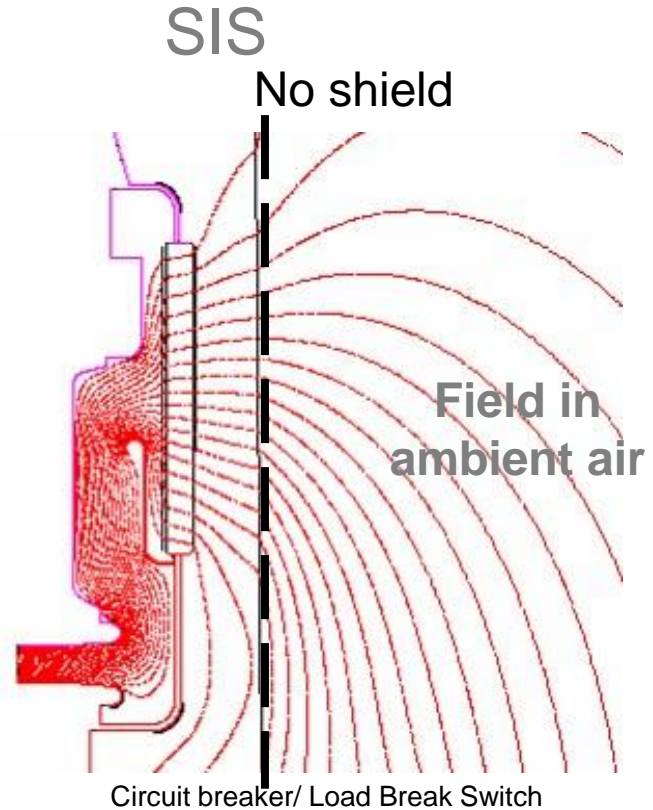
Solid insulation covered by a conductive layer



# Shielded Solid Insulation Switchgear



vs



# Epoxy Insulation



*Busbar Connections*



*Busbars with Solid Insulation*



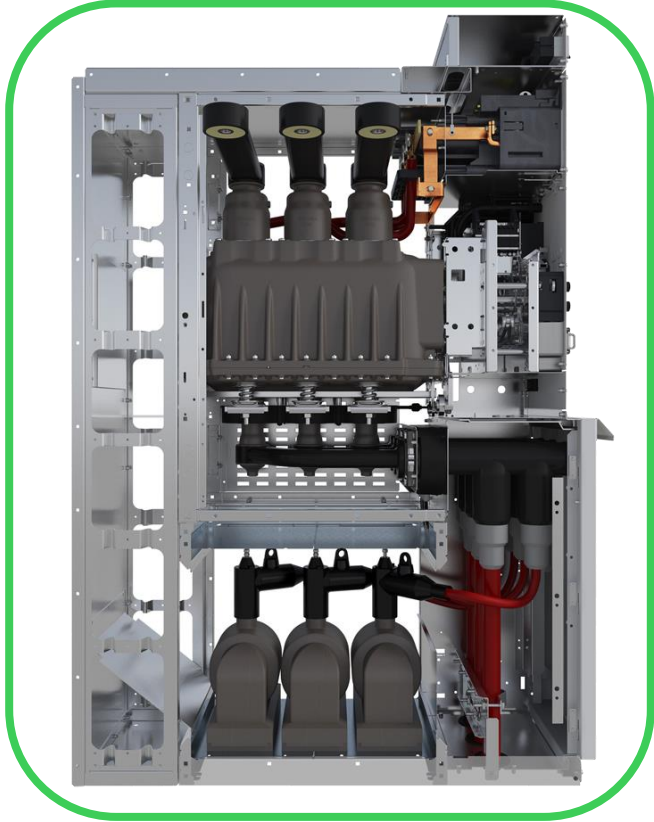
*Busbar Connection to Circuit Breaker*



*Elbow Cable Connections*

# Solid Insulated Switchgear

**New Switchgear  
Technology**



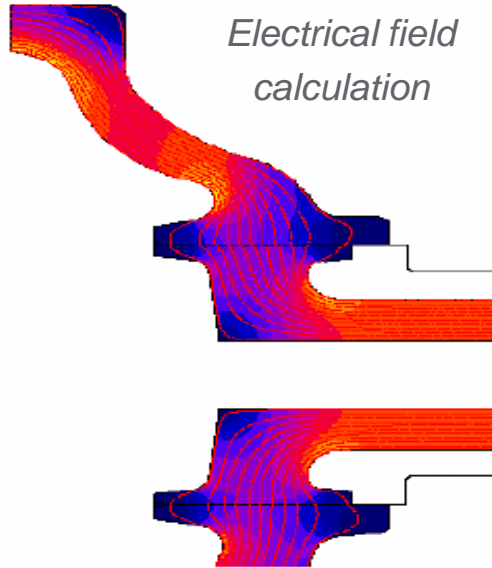
Entire Live Current Path is Fully Epoxy Resin Insulated

- No Exposed Live Parts
- Protected from Environmental Exposure

Compact Medium Voltage Switchgear

- Reduced Footprint
- Modular Design

# Shielded Solid Insulation Switchgear



All surfaces at ground potential

- No dielectric ageing
- Long product life expectancy
- Reduced internal arc risk
- Accidentally touchable
- Insensitive to harsh environment

# Circuit Breakers

Mounting

**Metal Clad Switchgear**

**C37.20.2**



**Metal Enclosed Switchgear**

**C37.20.3**



Withdrawable

Easy to maintain both circuit breaker and withdrawing mechanism

Removable

Circuit breaker removal without withdrawing mechanism

Fixed

Circuit breaker lifetime maintenance free

# Circuit Breaker

Environmental Robustness

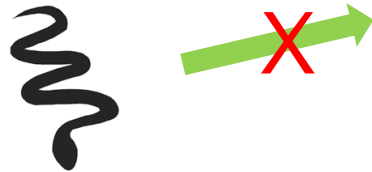
**Moisture and Humidity**



**Dust and Chemicals**



**Insects and Vermin**



Factory Sealed Enclosures

# Enclosed Core Unit

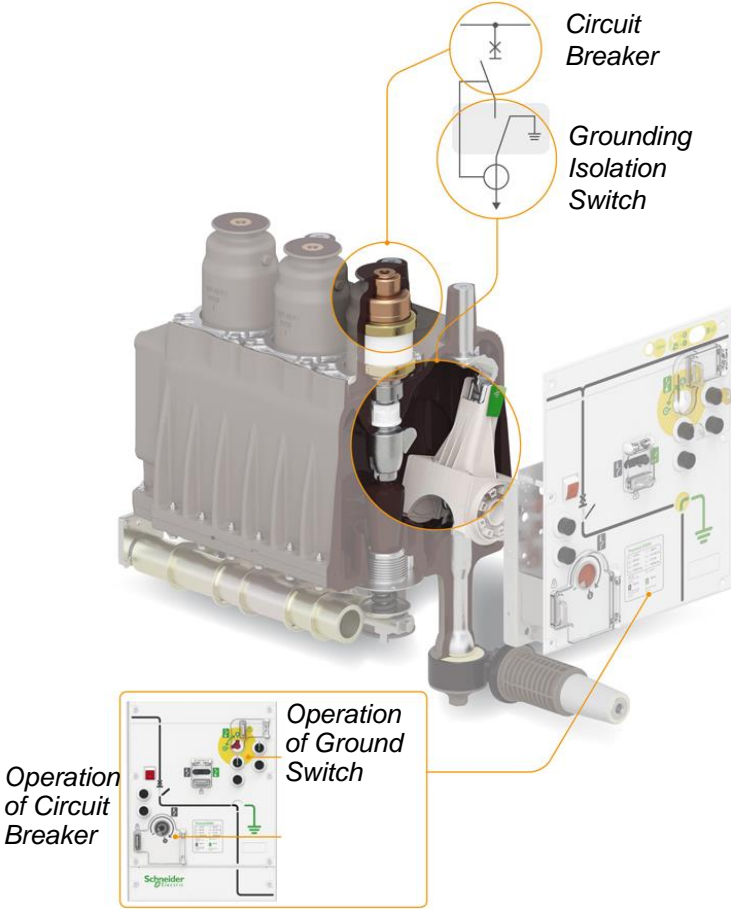
Vacuum Circuit Breaker

Isolation Switch

Grounding Switch

Sealed at Factory

Completely Epoxy Insulated





# Grounding Switches

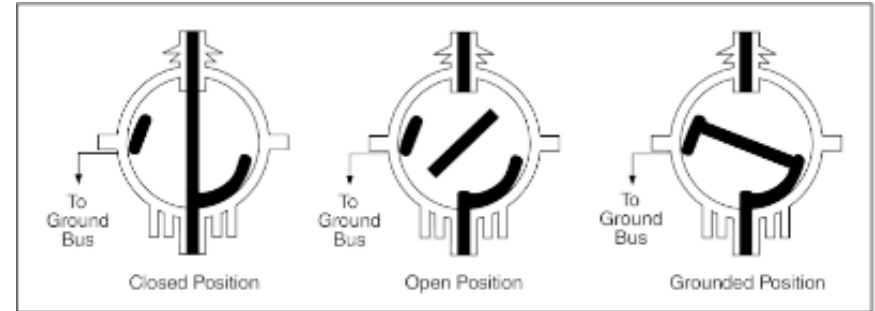
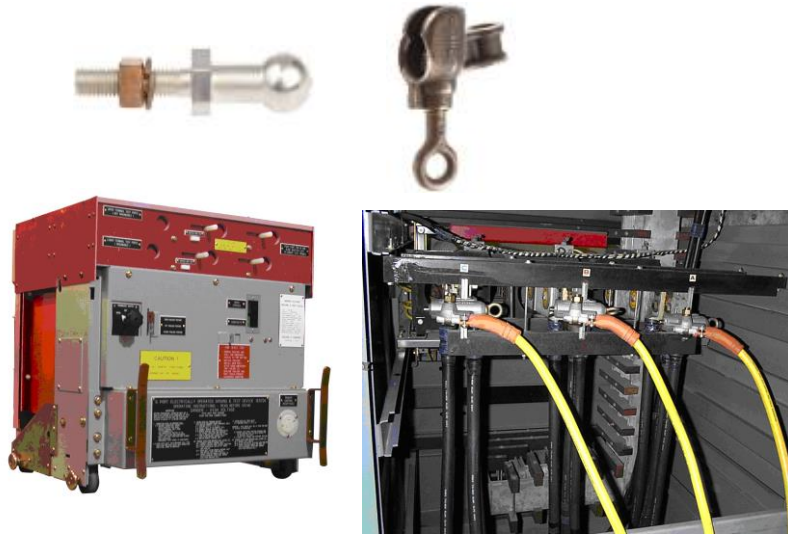
Maintenance Safety



Manual Grounding



Integral Grounding

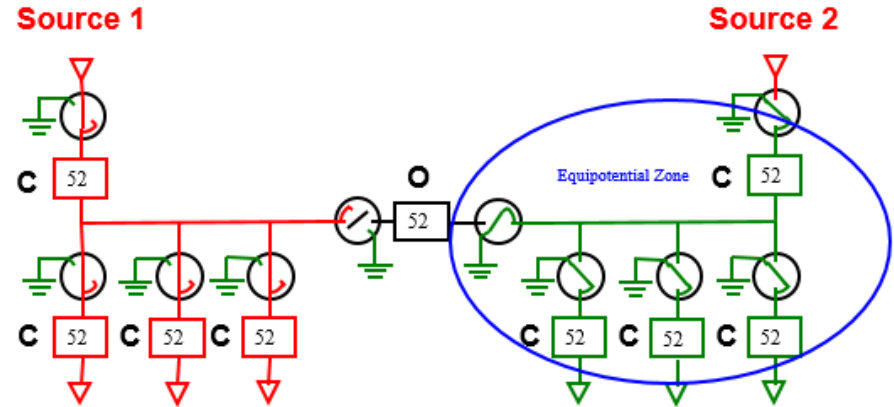
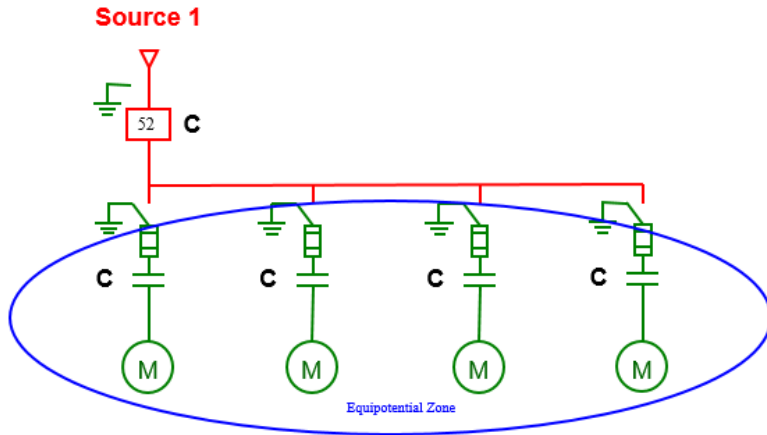


# Grounding Switch Applications

## Maintenance Safety



- Internal Grounding Switch



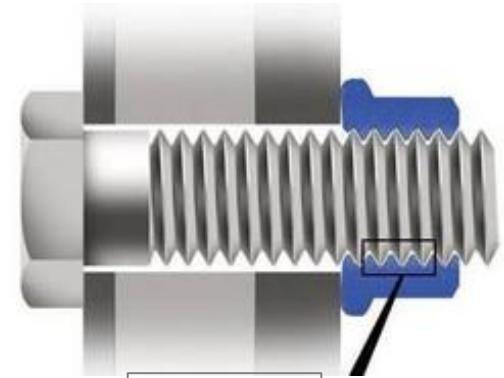
# Hardware Design

- Ideally, 10 years hands off
- Vibration Resistant Hardware
- Interlocking Cubicles
- Pre-formed Bussing
- No Withdrawable Mechanism
  - Bus Fingers
  - Mechanism

**Vibration-resistant Hardware**

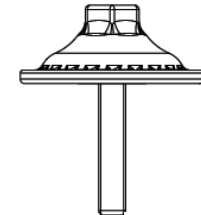


**Installation Verification**



Spirallock

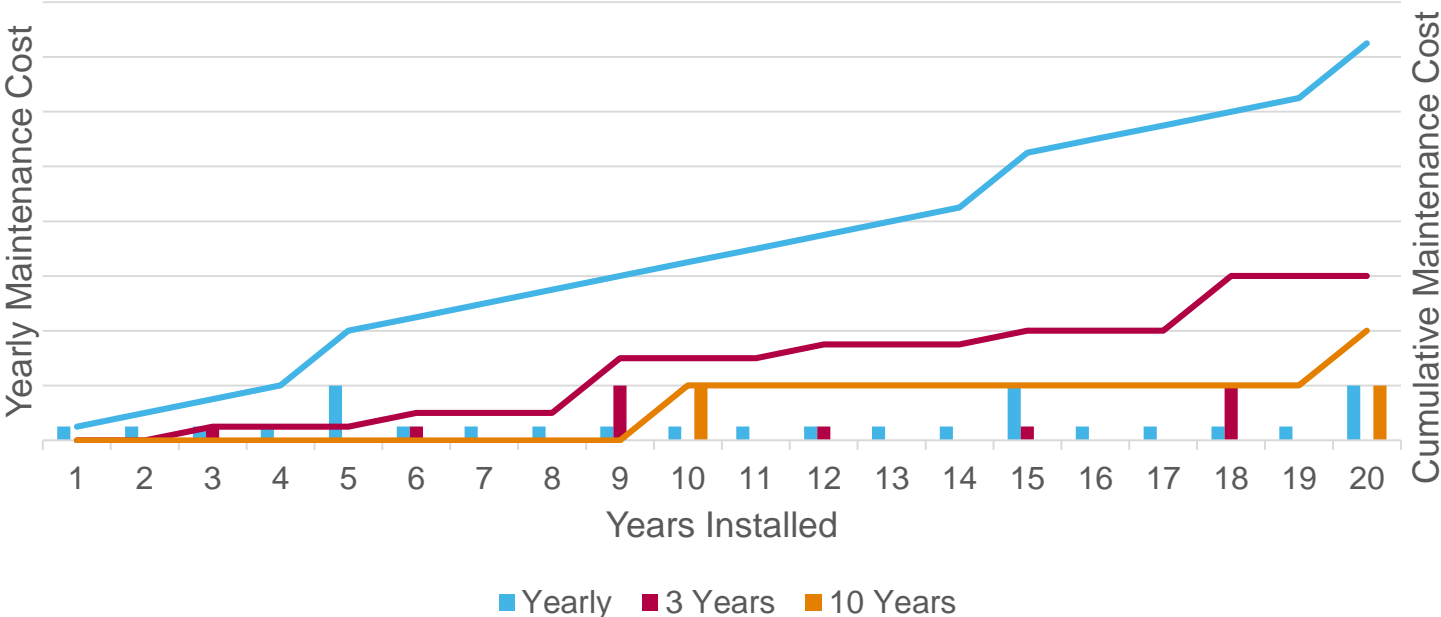
Conical Bolt Design



# Maintenance Intervals

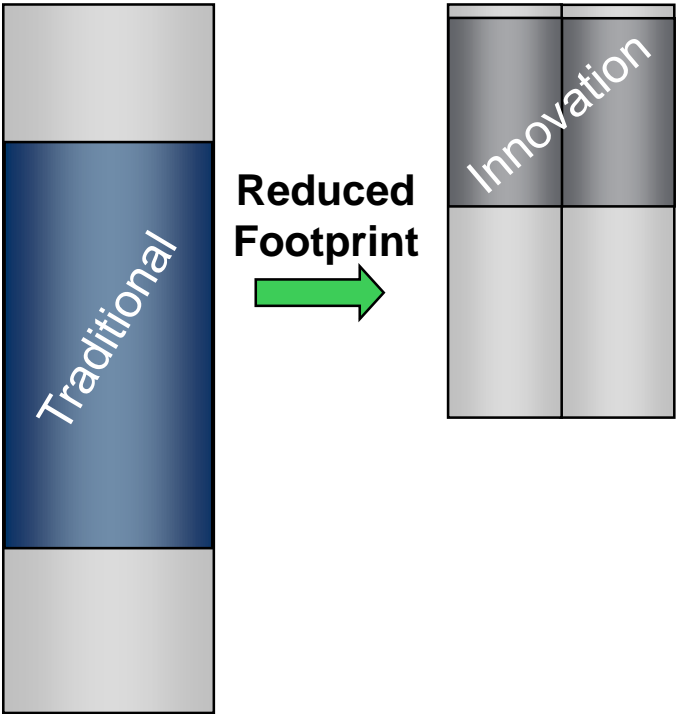
## Maintenance

### Maintenance Cost Comparison

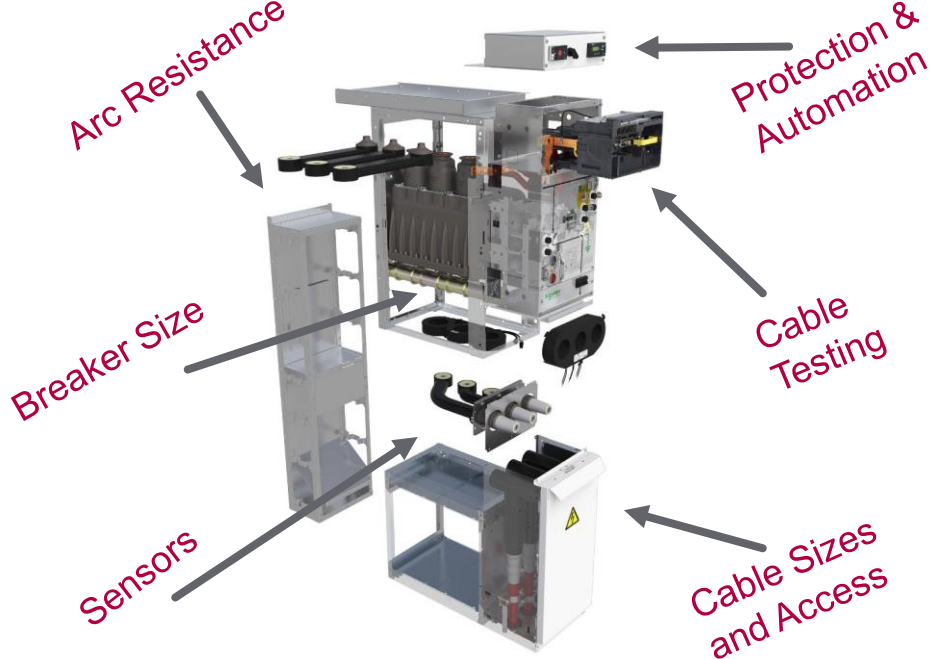


# Small Form Factor

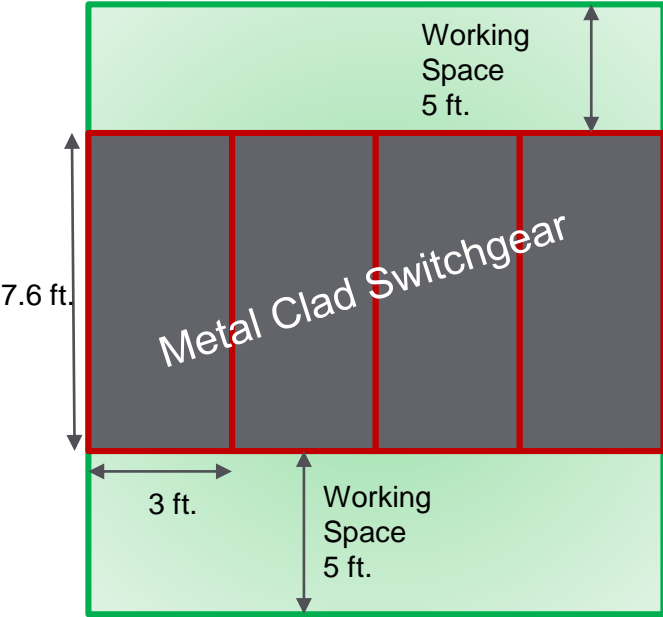
## Base Form Factor



## Modularity

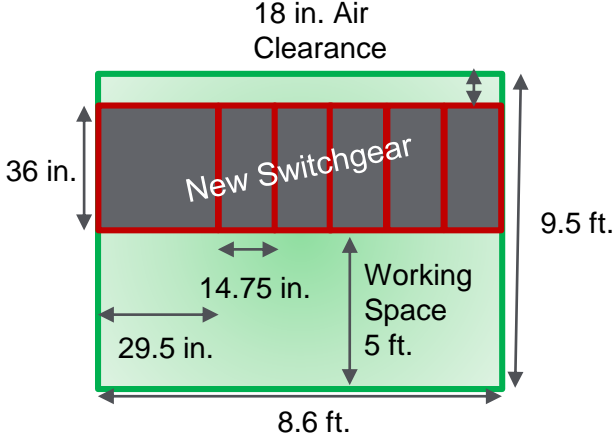


# Small Footprint and Front Accessibility



**Total Footprint:  
211 sq. ft.**

**60% Footprint Savings!**



**Total Footprint:  
82 sq. ft.**

# Small Footprint Design

## Installation

### Lighter Weight Sections



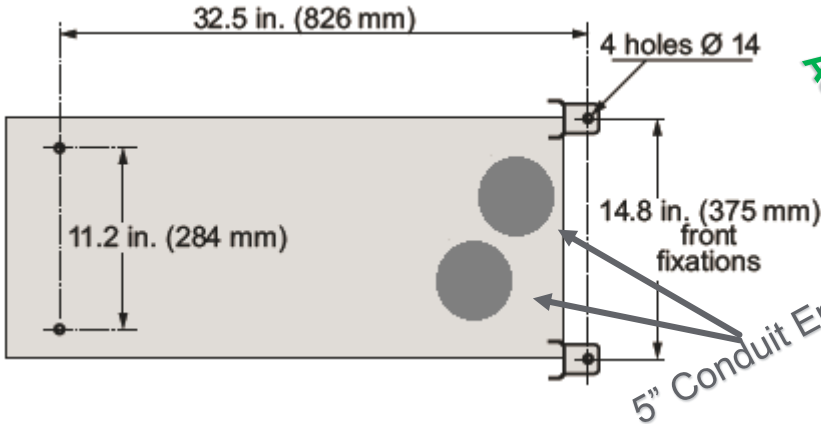
Traditional  
~2500 lbs/section

VS



Innovation  
~600 lbs/section

### Easier Cable Entry



Easy Front  
Access Cabling

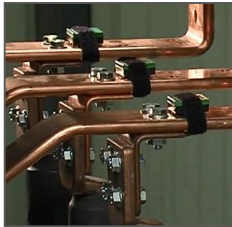
# Asset Monitoring

Advancement

## Infrared Scanning



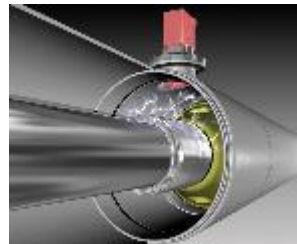
## Thermal Monitoring



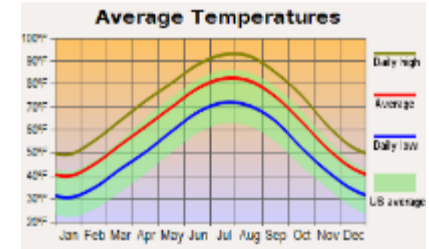
## Corona Detection



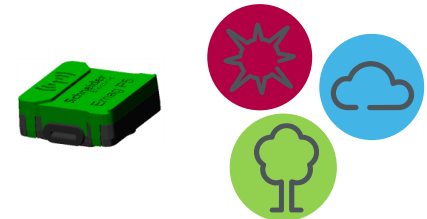
## Partial Discharge Monitoring



## Temperature History



## Environmental Monitoring





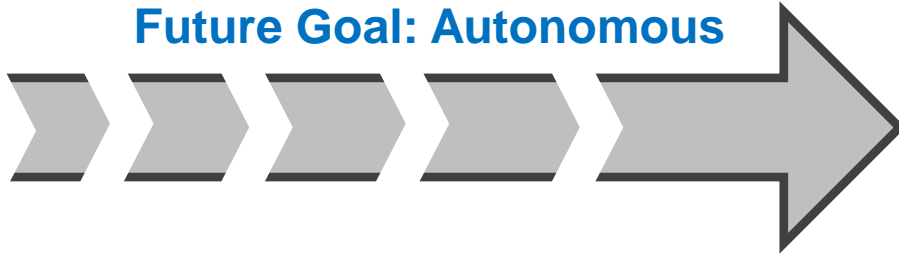
# Asset Monitoring

Watchdog/Alarm Systems

- “All’s well”

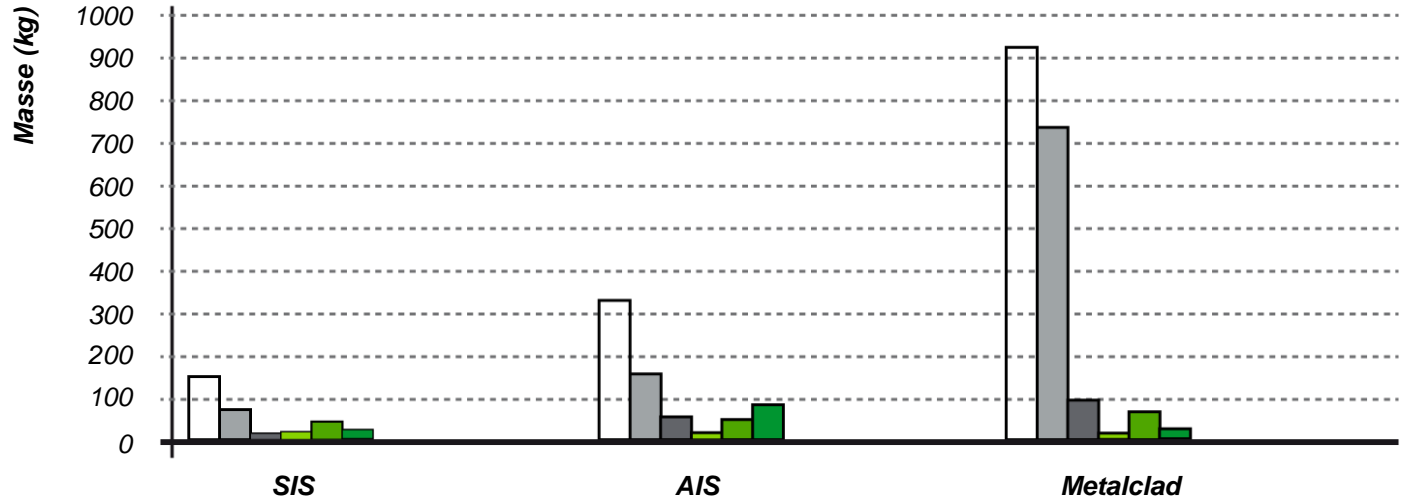


**Watchdog  
Monitoring  
Systems**



**Future Goal: Autonomous**

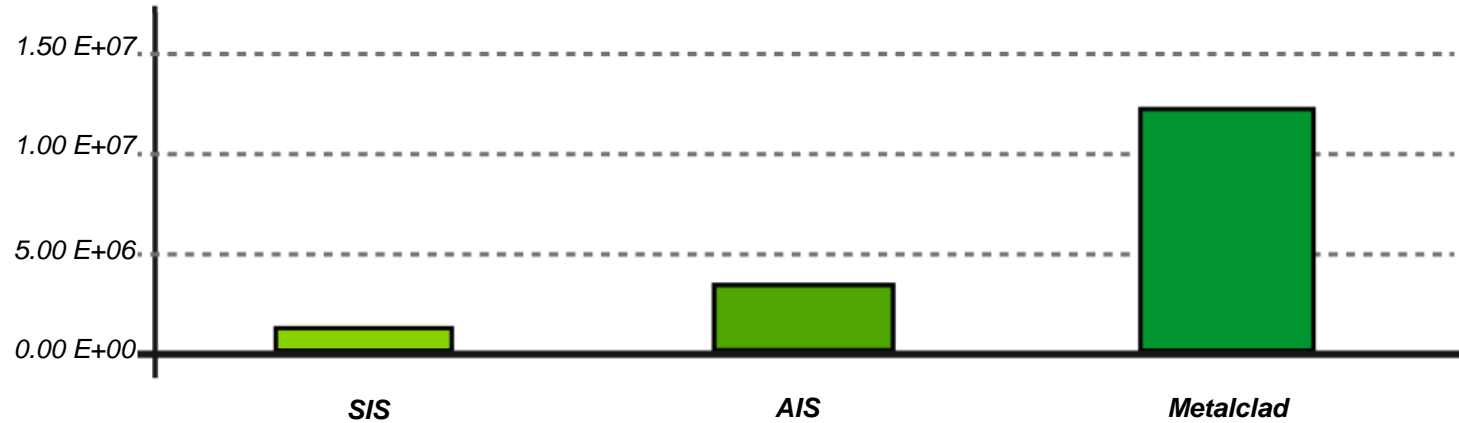
# Environmental Impact – Core Materials



	<i>SIS</i>	<i>AIS</i>	<i>Metalclad</i>
<b>Product weight</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>326.0</b>	<b>923.0</b>
<b>Steel</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>154.0</b>	<b>732.4</b>
<b>Copper</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>95.2</b>
<b>Aluminium</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>
<b>Epoxy Resin</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>60.1</b>
<b>Autres</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>24.7</b>

# Environmental Impact – CO2 Contribution

**Global Warming (g ~CO2)  
M+D+U, 20 years, 30%In**



# Design Considerers

1. Footprint – Layout – Front/Rear Accessibility
  - I. Top or Bottom Cable Entry – Cabling Space
2. Protection and Controls
  - I. LV Mounting Space
  - II. Sensor vs. Standard Instrument Transformers
  - III. Combined Relaying and Metering
  - IV. Remote Operation and Controls
3. Safety
  - I. Maintenance Procedures and Requirements
  - II. Safety Interlocking
  - III. Reducing Arc Flash Risk
4. Electrical Requirements
  - I. Voltage, Current, and Interrupting Ratings
5. Environment Application
  - I. Heat and Humidity
  - II. Chemical Contaminants
  - III. Rodents, Vermin, and Insects
6. Equipment Coupling
7. Reliability
8. Cost
  - I. Cap Ex
  - II. Op Ex

Questions?