



**SQUARE D COMPANY**  
Dedicated to Growth • Committed to Quality

FEB 10 1992

INTERNAL MEMO

DATE February 5, 1992

FROM Chuck Matulewic - York, PA

cc: Larry Eddleman - Smyrna, TN

CC: C. E. Quentel  
H. Abtahi  
G. T. Jones

SUBJECT VAD3 - Close Interlock Problem

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY  
NOT FOR CUSTOMER DISTRIBUTION

Customer

Your customer, J. E. Baker, York, PA, purchased ten VAD3 breakers, factory order 17-2301119A, S/N 910413M, 910414M, 910415M, 910416M, 910417M, 910418M, 910419M, 910420M, 910421M, and 910422M. This breaker has a problem with the close interlock.

Description of Problem

The VAD3 250 and 750MVA vacuum circuit breakers manufactured at San Leandro and Middletown between October 1990 and July 1991 have a situation that when manually closed after a closed operation will stall, meaning the circuit breaker will become inoperative until the device is manually recharged again. To clarify this statement; if someone would inadvertently try to reclose these circuit breakers manually, this stalling problem would occur. The probability of this ever occurring is highly remote, because someone would have to open the cubicle door in the switchgear and reach in and depress the manual close lever when the circuit breaker is already closed. This action is highly unlikely since operators are normally not allowed to open energized cubicle doors. However, this could possibly occur in an emergency situation if an operator should become confused. The stalling problem may cause the vacuum bottles to overheat or fail due to thermal run away, since the bottle will lose proper spring tension. Note: This can only occur with a manual operation. Electrically the anti-pumping device will prevent the breaker from operating.

Corrective Action Required

The corrective action required to prevent this from occurring is to block the manual close lever while the circuit breaker is closed. The interlock is operated by the circuit breaker mechanism and is positively driven during an electrical or mechanical closing operation blocking the close lever from being depressed.

Work To Be Performed By

The actual work to complete the modification will be done by Square D.

Action Required By Field Office

We need for you to contact the J. E. Baker Company and supply Smyrna with a J. E. Baker contact. At the minimum this should include name, address, phone number and if possible fax #.

FEB 28 '92 12:13PM HBG/YORK SALES OFC. #177/180 xaf elqibp