

Technical Bulletin



TB 0375 – Load Break Switch – Umbilical Cables Left Disconnected

Date: 18/09/2025

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Background

There have been multiple incidents where the Auto Load Break Switch (LBS) has been placed in service whilst leaving the umbilical cables disconnected resulting in an unsafe scenario.

Actions

Auto ABB LBS equipment does not have internal current transformer loading circuits (crowbar circuits) and current transformers will be left open circuited if the control cubicle is not connected to the primary switch.

Section 6.32 of the Electrical Safety Rules states: *The secondary circuits of a current transformer shall not be open circuited while the primary circuit is energised.* All distribution installers must ensure switchgear with internal current transformers are not placed in service with umbilical cables left disconnected.

An additional safety concern is that the 240V AC supply in the umbilical cable is alive from the VT when in service and presents a hazard if staff were to contact the connections.

Implementation

The contents of this Technical Bulletin are applicable to all Auto Load Break Switches.

Impacted Standards

- SDI 223 – ABB NXB Sectos 12kV/24kV load break switch
- SDI 222 – Schneider (Nulec) RL – Series 12kV/24kV load break switch
- MCI 0005 – Overhead construction standards manual

Contacts

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