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Design of 33KV Vacuum Circuit Breaker Panel

Madhav N. Hirani¹, Manan R. Vyas², Vineeta Chauhan³

U.G. Student, Department of Electrical Engineering, Indus University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India¹²

Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Indus University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India³

ABSTRACT: This paper presents the design and implementation of a 33 kV Vacuum Circuit Breaker (VCB) panel. The VCB panel is a critical component in electrical distribution systems, providing protection against overloads and short circuits. The design process involves selecting appropriate components, integrating them into the panel, and testing the functionality of the assembled system. The implemented VCB panel meets industry standards and demonstrates reliable performance in real-world applications. The design phase involved the integration of selected components into the VCB panel layout, Schematic diagrams were developed to illustrate the wiring connections, control logic, and safety features incorporated into the design. Thermal analysis was conducted to assess heat dissipation requirements and ensure optimal operating conditions within the panel enclosure.

KEYWORDS: VCB panel, Design, Implementation, Electrical distribution, Medium Voltage Power Distribution, AutoCAD Design, Testing and Validation, Electrical Component Integration., Protection..

I. INTRODUCTION

In modern electrical distribution systems, the reliable and efficient operation of equipment is paramount to ensuring uninterrupted power supply. Central to this reliability is the Vacuum Circuit Breaker (VCB) panel, a critical component tasked with the protection and control of electrical networks, particularly in high voltage applications such as 33 kilovolt (KV) systems. The design and implementation of VCB panels demand a meticulous approach, considering factors ranging from component selection and integration to safety standards and regulatory compliance.

This project undertakes the task of designing a 33 KV VCB panel, recognizing its pivotal role in maintaining the integrity and stability of electrical grids. By delving into the intricate details of VCB technology, industry standards, and client requirements, this endeavor aims to develop a comprehensive solution that not only meets operational needs but also surpasses expectations in terms of performance, reliability, and safety.

This sets the stage by providing context for the project, elucidating the significance of VCB panels in electrical distribution systems, and outlining the objectives and scope of the undertaking. Through a blend of theoretical insights, practical considerations, and innovative approaches, this project endeavors to contribute to the advancement of VCB technology and its applications in diverse industrial and commercial settings..

II. RELATED WORK

The development of Vacuum Circuit Breaker (VCB) panels has been a subject of extensive research and innovation in the field of electrical engineering. Several studies have focused on various aspects of VCB technology, including design methodologies, component selection, integration techniques, and performance evaluation. The following literature review highlights key contributions in this domain: Gain a thorough understanding of client specifications and requirements for designing 33kV VCB panels. The primary objective of the project is to design a VCB panel capable of handling 33 kilovolts of electrical power. This includes selecting appropriate components, designing the panel layout, and ensuring compliance with industry standards and client requirements.

This includes selecting appropriate components, designing the panel layout, and ensuring compliance with industry standards and client requirements. Implement industry-standard practices in the design and layout of medium-voltage VCB panels, ensuring compliance with safety, reliability, and performance requirements. Identify and integrate suitable electrical components such as limit switches, transformers, relays, meters, and indicators to meet

functional and operational objectives. Utilize AutoCAD software to create detailed door layouts and schematics, enabling precise visualization and planning of panel configurations. The project aims to optimize the performance of the VCB panel, enhancing its efficiency, responsiveness, and operational capabilities. This may involve incorporating advanced features, improving thermal management, and minimizing power losses.

Gain practical experience in setting up and configuring protective devices including relays and meters, ensuring effective monitoring and control of electrical parameters. Perform comprehensive testing procedures to validate the functionality and reliability of the designed VCB panel, adhering to standard testing protocols and safety regulations. Apply theoretical knowledge of electrical engineering to real-world design challenges, fostering hands-on skills in panel design, component selection, and system integration. Investigate and integrate emerging technologies such as digital meters, communication interfaces, and smart grid functionalities within the VCB panel design. Compile a detailed project report documenting the design process, methodology, findings, and conclusions, with the aim of presenting a comprehensive overview of the project's outcomes and insights.

Thorough testing and validation of the VCB panel design have revealed several issues related to performance and reliability. Identifying and rectifying these issues through iterative testing and refinement has been time-consuming but essential to ensure the panel meets specifications. Ensuring compliance with relevant safety standards and regulations has been a complex aspect of the project. Interpretation of standards, documentation of compliance measures, and coordination with regulatory bodies have added layers of complexity to the design process. Effective communication and collaboration among team members, suppliers, and stakeholders have been vital for project success. Challenges related to coordination, information sharing, and decision-making have required proactive management to overcome.

III. METHODOLOGY

The methodology section outlines the approach and procedures used in the design, development, and evaluation of Vacuum Circuit Breaker (VCB) panels. It encompasses several key aspects, including component selection, panel layout design, integration techniques, testing procedures, and performance evaluation criteria. The first step involves the comprehensive selection of components required for VCB panels, including Vacuum Circuit Breakers, Current Transformers (CTs), Potential Transformers (PTs), numerical relays, meters, indication lamps, control switches, and protective devices. The selection criteria consider factors such as voltage rating, current capacity, breaking capacity, reliability, and compatibility with the overall system architecture. The panel layout design is crucial for optimizing space utilization, ensuring proper ventilation, and facilitating maintenance activities. This step involves the arrangement of components within the panel enclosure, considering factors such as accessibility, cable routing, interconnection wiring, and safety requirements. Computer-aided design (CAD) tools may be used to create layout diagrams and 3D models for visualization and analysis.

Develop a comprehensive layout design for the VCB panel, considering factors such as component placement, wiring routing, and accessibility. Create detailed schematic diagrams to illustrate the wiring connections, control logic, and safety features incorporated into the design. Ensure clarity and readability of the diagrams to facilitate installation, troubleshooting, and maintenance. Select an appropriate enclosure for the VCB panel based on factors such as size, material, ingress protection (IP) rating, and environmental conditions. Configure the enclosure layout to accommodate all components, ensuring adequate space for ventilation, cable routing, and clearances. Incorporate features such as hinged doors, removable panels, and viewing windows for ease of access and inspection.

Design the busbar system to facilitate power distribution and interconnection between components within the VCB panel. Determine the required busbar ratings, configuration (e.g., single-phase, three-phase), and insulation coordination to minimize electrical losses and ensure proper current carrying capacity. Implement segregation barriers and insulation barriers to prevent accidental contact and ensure safety. Address thermal management considerations to prevent overheating of components within the VCB panel. Incorporate ventilation openings, fans, heat sinks, and thermal insulation materials to facilitate heat dissipation and maintain optimal operating temperatures. Conduct thermal analysis to identify potential hotspots and optimize airflow for uniform cooling throughout the enclosure.

Integrate safety features and compliance measures to ensure the VCB panel meets industry standards and regulatory requirements. This may include interlocks, door interlocking systems, padlocking provisions, earthing connections, and insulation monitoring devices to prevent unauthorized access, minimize risks of electrical shock, and ensure safe operation. Implement clear labeling and identification systems for components, terminals, and wiring within the VCB



panel. Use standardized labelling conventions, color coding, and alphanumeric markings to facilitate easy identification, troubleshooting, and maintenance. Include comprehensive documentation of labeling schemes in the panel documentation package.

Comprehensive testing procedures are essential to verify the functionality, performance, and safety of VCB panels before deployment. This step includes factory acceptance testing (FAT) and site acceptance testing (SAT) to validate the operation of individual components and the entire panel assembly. Testing protocols may include functional tests, insulation resistance tests, dielectric strength tests, relay coordination tests, and operational endurance tests under simulated load conditions. Performance evaluation criteria are established to assess the operational efficiency, reliability, and safety of VCB panels in real-world operating conditions. Key performance indicators (KPIs) may include fault clearance time, interrupting capacity, temperature rise, energy efficiency, voltage regulation, and response to abnormal operating conditions. Performance benchmarks are compared against industry standards and customer requirements to ensure compliance and satisfaction.

Documentation and reporting are essential throughout the methodology to record design specifications, test results, observations, and recommendations. Detailed documentation facilitates traceability, troubleshooting, and future maintenance activities. A comprehensive project report is prepared, summarizing the methodology, findings, conclusions, and recommendations for stakeholders' review and reference. By following this methodology, the development and implementation of Vacuum Circuit Breaker (VCB) panels can be systematically executed, ensuring quality, reliability, and compliance with industry standards and customer expectations.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Figures shows the design of VCB panel with different layouts .. Figs.1 (a),(b),(c),(d) shows different views of VCB panel.

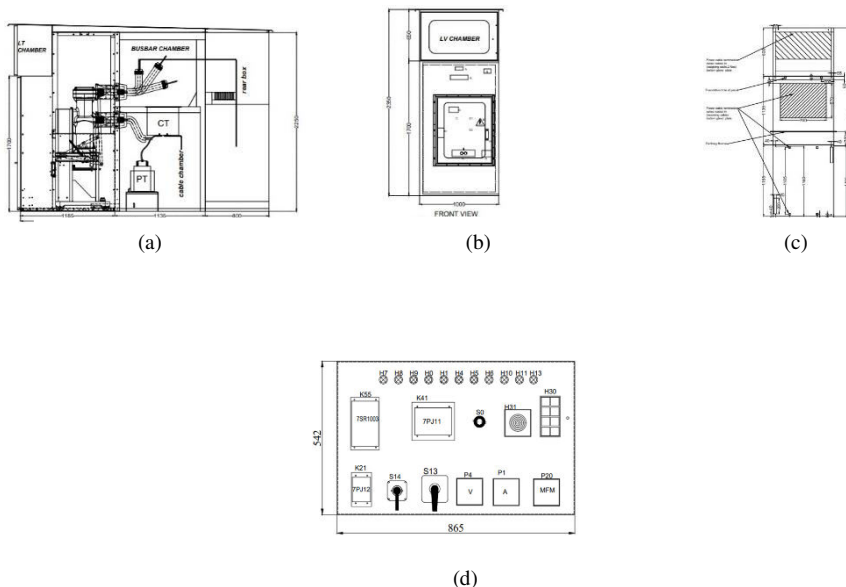


Fig. 1. (a) Side View of VCB (b) Front View of VCB (c) Bottom View of VCB (d) Door Layout of VCB

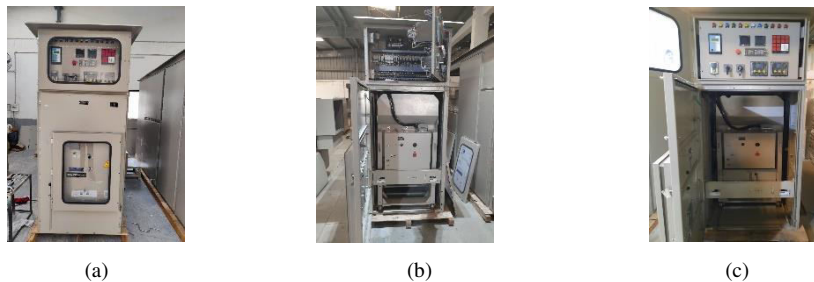


Fig. 3 (a) As built VCB Panel (b) Racked out VCB Panel (c) Racked in VCB Panel

V. CONCLUSION

The design and implementation of a 33 kV Vacuum Circuit Breaker (VCB) panel have been successfully completed, meeting the project objectives and industry standards for electrical distribution systems. The assembled VCB panel demonstrates reliable performance, efficient operation, and compliance with safety and reliability requirements. Future enhancements may include integration with advanced monitoring and control systems for enhanced functionality and remote operation.

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