

Engineered to order. Built to last.

Improving Reliability with Submersible Installations



G&W Underground Distribution Switchgear



□ 11 – 38 kV

Insulation – gas, solid dielectric

Pad mount, vault

Switching and protection



Yearly Power Interruptions per 100km of Circuit

(per the Edison Electric Institute)

Utility	Voltage	Overhead	Underground
Integral Energy	HV	30.3	2.8
Integral Energy	LV	7.4	7.7
Energy Australia	HV	13.0	4.0
Citipower	HV	4.0	1.0
Mercury Energy	HV	30.5	7.1
Survey of Australian Utilities	HV & LV	23.6	5.6
France	LV	12.3	7.6
Finland	LV	8.0	4.0
Average	÷	16.1	5.0

Note: km = kilometer, HV = high voltage, LV = low voltage

✓ INNOVA Underground is over 3 times more reliable



Benefits of Going Underground

- Increased aesthetic appeal
- Not susceptible to storm damage or damage from vehicles
- □ Service interruptions less frequent
- Equipment failures contained in vaults and ducts, decreasing environmental concerns
- Decreased maintenance from problems caused by environmental factors such as dust and contamination
- Reduced maintenance cost





Benefits of Going Underground (con't)

- Longer asset life
- Reduced transmission losses due to use of larger conductors
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- □ Increase safety (reduced electrocutions)
- □ Reduced fire risks to the public
- Increased property values





General Installation Photos



Typical pad mount switch Green enclosure mounted in the public

Typical wet vault or sub surface switch Vaults are under the street or sidewalk





Typical dry vault or equipment room switch Found in basements or dedicated buildings



Underground Installations

Issue – water, contaminants, foreign material can greatly reduce the life of equipment

Solution – submersible equipment







Typical applications

□ Fault (short circuit) protection

Fault protection in the switch prevents damage to cables and other expensive components like transformers

Sectionalizing

A switch that breaks up the line into smaller sectionsMakes maintaining and servicing the "grid" easier

□Loop switching

Multiple sources feeding a loop of switches. Each switch has multiple loads

□Transfer switching

A switch with 2 sources going to it. One source feeds the loads then transfers to the other source if it's lost







Typical SF6 Switch



POWER CONNECTIONS (BUSHINGS)

CONTACT VIEWING WINDOWS



What's in the typical switch?



Load Break Modules •Use SF6 to quench arc current during load break •Load current capability for hundreds of amps



Resettable Vacuum Fault Interrupters •Fault current interrupted in vacuum bottle •Interrupting capability up to 25kA



VINNOVA Basic Terms Defined

Load Break Switch

Used to sectionalize a line when there is a problem or maintenance required.
In loops they isolate sources



Fault Interrupter

- •Used to interrupt fault current (short circuits)
- Resettable mechanism
- •No fuses or consumable parts
- •Current is interrupted in a vacuum



Fused Way

- •Used to interrupt fault current (short circuits)
- Current Limiting
- •Fuse must be replaced after it operates



Basic Voltage Ratings Defined

Maximum Operating Voltage

•3 Voltage Classes: •11kV (up to 17kV) •25kV (up to 29kV) •35kV (up to 38kV)

AC Withstand Rating

- •It's a test that lasts for 1 minute at high voltage
- •Each voltage class has an AC Withstand rating defined by the standards
- •35kV for 15kV class, 40kV for 25kV class, 50kV for 35kV class

Basic Impulse Level (lightning rating)

- •Often abbreviated as "BIL"
- •Short time voltage surge rating
- •Each voltage class has a BIL rating defined by the standards
- •95kV/ 110kV for 15kV class, 125kV for 25kV class, 150kV for 35kV class





Submersible Switches

- Cover all ratings, features and options for ANSI, Medium Voltage Distribution switches
- □ Hermetically sealed steel tank for long life
- □ Submersible construction for all designs
- Dead front construction
- □ Maintenance free
- Resettable Fault Interrupters with VI Control for Overcurrent Protection or optional Microprocessor relay
- 2-position switching (external grounding with connectors) or 3-position switching (with integral ground)





Typical Options for Submersible Switches

- □ Stainless steel tanks and enclosures
- □ Monitor gas pressure remotely (low pressure alarm)
- Auxiliary contacts to monitor whether the switch is open or closed remotely
- Microprocessor relays (instead of self powered controls) for fault protection
- Motors, controls, current and voltage sensing for automation
- □ Automatic Source Transfer Controls for critical loads
- □ Add voltage transformer for control power





ANSI Switch Standards

- ANSI/IEEE 37.71
- ANSI/IEEE 37.72
- ANSI/IEEE 37.74

Standard for subsurface, vault and pad-mount load interrupter switchgear

• ANSI/IEEE 37.60 — Standard requirements for pad, vault and submersible fault interrupters

Amperes	Number of Operations	Close-Open	Open
25,000	16	6	10
12,500	56	19	37
4,500	44	15	29



TOTAL116 operations



Vault Switch Maintenance

- □No internal maintenance is required
- □ 30 year service life
- Check gas pressure prior to any operation
- Check gas pressure a minimum of 1x per year.
- □ 304 Stainless Steel available on any style switch if corrosion is a concern





Submersible Switchgear



Submersible Switchgear









Vault Access



Submersible Substation Installation







Submersible Substation Installation







Gaw Submersible Substation Installation







Submersible substation view







What does a Solid Dielectric Switch look like?







What's inside the module?



G&W

Modular Design: 4 different versions to connect together



Trident-S

3-phase

Spring mech



Trident-ST 3-ph with 1-ph trip Spring mechanism INNOVA



Trident-SP

Magnetic actuator



1-phase Spring mechanism

Submersible Vault Installations







Key Features

G&W offers a magnetic actuator
 High speed auto transfer 8-10 cycles
 High speed switch operations in 3-4 cycles
 10000 mechanical operations
 Ideal for automated applications

- □We have tested for submersibility □IP68 rating; 3m of water; 4 years of submersion
- Extremely robust construction
- □Bus tie configuration available





Safety with Solid Dielectric



Visible break in solid dielectric switchgear – G&W is the only manufacturer







Typical Vault Layout







Typical Vault Layout













Precast Vaults









A History of Submersible Success

Over 500 Vault Switchgear Users

Over 20,000 submersible design switches sold since 1972





