

Testing Solutions for Protection Systems

Reliable and Efficient Testing for all Kinds of Protective Relays



Protection Testing: Ensuring Reliability

Protection systems play a key role for the safe and reliable operation of today's electricity power systems. This is relevant for all power system grids in generation, transmission and distribution, industrial, railway, and marine applications. Properly working protection devices help to maintain the safety of the system and to safeguard assets from damage while assisting to ensure security of supply. In order to guarantee reliable operation, protection relays must be tested throughout their life-cycle, from their initial development through production and commissioning to periodical maintenance during operation.

There are many different reasons why protection relays may suffer from malfunctions and these can vary depending on the various generations of relay that are in service today: Electromechanical



relays may cause problems due to aging of mechanical components, such as coils or contacts, static relays are subject to drifting or can have failures of electronic circuits or components, and numerical relays may exhibit undesirable effects because of software

issues, e.g. following firmware updates. Hence, commissioning and routine testing should be performed thoroughly so that shortcomings in the reliability of the protection system are discovered before a power system fault occurs.

In addition to numerous technical challenges, commissioning engineers and protection departments are also faced with the need to operate efficiently to meet the economic demands of developments such as the liberalization of the energy market. The use of innovative testing solutions from OMICRON offers a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness for testing the complete range of different protection equipment, and contributes to the future reliability of the protection system.

Electrical Utilities



Protection devices used in electricity **generation** are often customized for special applications and philosophies and therefore require flexible testing equipment to support special test procedures. The testing philoso-

phy of OMICRON allows a combination of individual testing functions – both standard and customized – within an overall test plan, which also allows the generation of flexible, comprehensive test reports.



Protection engineers working with **transmission** systems are increasingly faced with multifunctional protection relays with a high degree of complexity that have to be tested efficiently. For this purpose, OMICRON

provides a template library with test plans for commonly used relays. For applications which go beyond the scope of the usual parameter testing and functional verification, the editing and playing back of recorded transient fault signals and the calculation of fault conditions by means of network simulation is also possible.



The requirements for protection engineers in the field of **distribution** are characterized by a huge number of feeders, where routine testing has to be carried out very efficiently. OMICRON's unique approach of using one

central test document allows the easy application of predefined test plans and the re-use of existing automated test procedures for maintenance and routine testing.

In many cases, testing in substations in transmission and distribution networks also involves monitoring of messages and process control functions. The OMICRON test modules support such tasks and also offer full integration of the functionality of the communication protocol defined by the IEC 61850 specification.



Industry



A protection system in a large industrial plant often incorporates a large number of different devices from various manufacturers. OMICRON provides predefined test templates for many of these different relays and thereby

facilitates efficient testing. Hence, downtime in the plant for testing purposes can be kept extremely short.

Engineers in industry, who are responsible for the protection equipment, often also take care of a wide range of other tasks. The operation of test equipment which is not used on a daily basis should therefore be as simple as possible. OMICRON test sets provide an intuitive testing environment for quick and simple manual operation.

Test equipment with a high degree of versatility is ideally suited for industry. In addition to their protection testing functionality, OMICRON test sets can also be used for calibrating measuring transducers, which are used in large numbers in industrial facilities for interfacing electrical quantities with control systems, as well as electricity meters, power quality measurement devices and other measurement equipment.

Manufacturers



Very specific requirements apply to test equipment used by manufacturers of protection devices. High precision, flexibility, and reliability are indispensable requirements for its use in the development process as well as

type testing and testing during the manufacturing process. To facilitate acceptance testing the test sets have to be integrated into the production process and the documentation system.

OMICRON test sets have been developed in close cooperation with relay manufacturers. Therefore, they meet all of these requirements and are the preferred solution for this field of application all over the world. An open programming interface facilitates the integration of the test sets into the manufacturers' own test environments.

Service Providers



Carrying out the commissioning and routine testing of protection systems requires test equipment with a high level of flexibility. This is particularly relevant if the services are provided internationally. OMICRON test sets

are used in more than 140 countries and the experience gained is incorporated into the products and ensures the flexibility demanded by testing companies, such as the ability to work with different protection technologies and philosophies.

Since service providers often work under extreme time pressure, the test equipment has to be very efficient. The test philosophy of OMICRON allows tests to be largely prepared in the office and thereby minimizes the necessary time on-site.

It is beneficial for service providers to keep the number of different types of test sets taken on site to a minimum. OMICRON's versatility with the integration of tools such as analog measurement and transient signal recording helps to meet this objective.

Railway



Testing the protection systems of electrified railways presents some special challenges. Systems in various countries often have special frequencies and different numbers of phases and hence a flexible testing system is required.

OMICRON test sets can meet these needs with users being offered the same testing performance and convenience as for applications in other power systems.

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The CMC Test Sets: Cutting-Edge Technology from the Specialist

Secondary equipment has to be tested throughout its lifetime from development and manufacturing through commissioning and regularly while in service. OMICRON test equipment is ideal for each of these life-cycle phases and for any environment. As a reliable long-term partner, OMICRON offers state-of-the-art testing solutions which are continuously being developed and maintained to help users to keep pace with the increasingly complex requirements of their systems.

The wide range of protection technologies and applications puts high demands on the test equipment used:

Particularly high power is required for electromechanical protection relays, considerable numbers of which are still in service. A test set meeting these requirements is also capable of testing CTs with high input currents as an alternative to the use of primary test equipment.

High precision is important when the equipment is being used for calibration, for which a reliable reference is crucial.

Multi-phase capability (6 currents and 4 voltages) is required for testing transformer differential, busbar protection or synchronizing devices.

Hybrid test sets support different kinds of output and input signals for application to all generations of protection devices from the simplest electromechanical designs to the latest Intelligent Electronic Devices (IED) using IEC 61850 based Ethernet communication.

Network capability offers advantages for test set-ups in the laboratory or for tests in the production process. An Ethernet interface is a basic requirement for IED testing and provides a convenient method for the connection between the notebook computer and the test set.

For secondary testing, OMICRON offers different CMC test sets with the following characteristics:

CMC 356	High power, multi-phase, hybrid
CMC 353	High power, three-phase, hybrid, compact
CMC 256plus	High precision, multi-phase, hybrid
CMC 850	Focused on IEC 61850, very small and light-weight

All these test sets are controlled via PC using the powerful **Test Universe software**. This software offers a wide range of functions for manual and automated protection testing. For the CMC 356, CMC 353, and CMC 256plus the **CMControl** can be used alternatively. This front panel control is easy to use and is particularly suitable for quick and easy manual testing.

Regardless of which variant the user chooses, OMICRON products offer excellent reliability in the functional assessment of protection relays and other secondary measurement instruments.





CMC 356 Universal relay test set and commissioning tool

The CMC 356 is designed to meet the requirements for commissioning and maintenance testing of all generations and types of protection devices. Its powerful current sources even allow tests with very high power requirements.

CMC 353 Compact and versatile three-phase relay testing solution

With its compact design and low weight, the CMC 353 provides the perfect combination of portability and power. It is the ideal test set for three-phase protection testing and commissioning, particularly in industry, distributed generation, and medium and low voltage applications.

CMC 256plus High precision relay test set and universal calibrator

The CMC 256plus is the ideal solution for applications requiring a high degree of accuracy. It is not only an excellent test set for protection devices but is also a universal calibration tool for a wide range of measurement devices.

CMC 850 Protection test set dedicated to IEC 61850

The CMC 850 focuses on testing with GOOSE and Sampled Values. In addition to the IEC 61850 functionality of the Test Universe software, this small and light-weight test set provides additional IEC 61850 functions embedded directly in the device.



• 6 x 32 A / 430 VA

- 3 x 64 A / 860 VA
- 1 x 128 A / 1000 VA • 4 x 300 V
- 4 x 300 V
 IEC 61850 functionality (option)



• 3 x 32 A / 430 VA

- 1 x 64 A / 860 VA • 4 x 300 V
- 12.9 kg (28.4 lb.)
- IEC 61850 functionality (option)



- 6 x 12.5 A / 80 VA
- 3 x 25 A / 160 VA
- 4 x 300 V
- Error < 0.015 % (rd.) + 0.005 % (rg.) typ.
- IEC 61850 functionality (option)



- IEC 61850 functionality (standard)Embedded IEC 61850 functions
- 1.7 kg (3.7 lb.)

Manual Testing

To control the CMC test set, OMICRON provides the Test Universe software which offers a wide range of specialized test modules for automated testing of secondary devices. For applications where test engineers simply want to apply current and voltage to a test object and measure its response as quickly as possible, OMICRON offers two alternatives: the optional front panel control CMControl or the Test Universe software module QuickCMC.

CMControl

The CMControl is an easy to operate touch screen front panel control which is specifically designed for manual testing. With the intuitive user interface the setting up of tests is particularly easy and convenient.



Automated fault calculations allow impedances, symmetrical components, and power values to be entered directly in the user interface. The test quantities can be easily adjusted using the device's control wheel.

The CMControl monitors the states of the binary inputs and performs precise time measurements. All test results can be conveniently stored on the USB flash drive.

It is also possible to control a CMC with an Android tablet and the CMControl P App, using a wireless connection. All physical operation elements of the CMControl such as control wheel or the push button are emulated. To get familiar with the CMControl functionalities a free demo version of the App can be downloaded from GOOGLE Play Store[™].



QuickCMC

This Test Universe software module offers powerful functionality for manual testing of all types of protection relays. All current and voltage outputs of the test set can be set individually in terms of amplitude, phase and frequency.



The test quantities can be entered either as numerical values or by dragging the vectors in the diagram. In addition, it is possible to directly define symmetrical components, impedances, and power values. Switching between these representations is easy.

The Step and Ramp functions provide an convenient way to determine thresholds, such as the pick-up and drop-off values of a relay.

The QuickCMC module monitors the states of the binary inputs of the test sets and performs precise time measurements.

All test results can be stored by using the reporting function. Reports can be generated automatically and exported in various formats for further processing.



Automated Testing of Protection Functions

For automated testing of protection relays, the Test Universe software provides dedicated test modules for standard protec-





tion functions (e.g. Overcurrent, Distance, Differential, etc.). These modules are provided with a graphical user interface showing the relay's characteristic (l/t diagram, impedance plane, etc.) in which the test points are defined and the results of the tests are displayed. Test results are automatically analyzed and assessed by the software to confirm whether the device under test matches the specified performance in terms of defined tolerances.

In addition to the modules provided for the standard protection functions, a number of versatile general-purpose test modules



are also available. One example is the State Sequencer module which allows the generation of sequences of output test states based on voltages and currents. The transition between the states is controlled either by a timer or

triggered by the responses of the relay under test or another external stimulus. The evaluation of the results is based on time measurements.

With the Ramping modules it is possible to ramp the output quantities of the test set continuously or with pulses. The associated pick-up and drop-off values of functions within the test object are measured and assessed.

With its wide spectrum of powerful software, OMICRON offers tools for testing all kinds of protection functionality efficiently and comprehensively (see table).

ANSI/IEEE Device No.

		Device or Function Name		Device or Function Name
	2	Time Delay Starting	66	Notching or Jogging Device
	3	Checking or Interlocking Relay	67	AC Directional Overcurrent Relay
2	7	Rate-of-change relay	68	Out-of-step or Blocking Relay
	13	Synchronous-speed Device	69	Permissive Control Device
	15	Speed – or Frequency, Matching Device	74	Alarm Relay
	16	Data Communications Device	76	DC Overcurrent Relay
e	18	Accelerating or Decelerating Device	77	Telemetering Device
	21	Distance Relay	78	Phase-Angle Measuring Relay
	24	Volts per Hertz Relay	79	AC Reclosing Relay
y y	25	Synchronizing or Synchronism-Check Device	81	Frequency Relay
	27	Undervoltage Relay	82	DC Load-Measuring Reclosing Relay
	30	Annunciator Relay	83	Automatic Selective Control or Transfer Relay
	32	Directional Power Relay	85	Carrier or Pilot-Wire Receiver Relay
	36	Polarity or Polarizing Voltage Devices	86	Lockout Relay
	37	Undercurrent or Underpower Relay	87	Differential Protective Relay
	40	Field Relay	91	Voltage Directional Relay
-	44	Unit Sequence Starting Relay	92	Voltage and Power Directional Relay
	46	Reverse-Phase or Phase- Balance Current Relay	94	Tripping or Trip-Free Relay
	47	Phase-Sequence Voltage Relay		
	48	Incomplete Sequence Relay	PMU	Phasor Measurement Unit
	50	Instantaneous Overcurrent or Rate of Rise Relay	PQM	Power Quality Monitor
	51	AC Time Overcurrent Relay		
	55	Power Factor Relay	BF*	Breaker Failure
	59	Overvoltage Relay	Ν*	Neutral / Ground
	60	Voltage or Current Balance Relay	BU*	Backup
	62	Time-Delay Stopping or Opening Relay		

* Suffixes to provide a more specific definition of a function

In addition to the test modules described, OMICRON also offers a wide range of additional software for use with the CMC test sets, including IEC 61850 testing solutions, network simulation, tools for playback and analysis of transient signals in COMTRADE format and many others.

Efficient Use of Test Plans

The multifunctional design of modern numerical protection devices usually requires the use of several different test modules to comprehensively test them. For reasons of efficiency and convenience, it is preferable that the relay parameters do not have to be separately defined for each individual module. In addition, testing with several modules should not result in multiple test reports.

For such applications, the patented¹ OMICRON Control Center (OCC) technology offers users a unique solution. Any number of test modules can be combined in one central document to form a complete test plan to match the requirements of the functions to be tested. The parameters of the protection device only have to be specified once, either by manual input or by direct data import from the relay parameterization software.

When running the test plan, the defined test functions of each module are executed before the program automatically switches to the next one, until all the modules have been completed. After the completion of the test, the software enters the results into the test plan document, which thereby forms a comprehensive overall test report.

After the testing process, the document still contains all of the test settings (protection device parameters, test modules used, test points, etc.). Hence, it is possible to re-use it to repeat the test at a later date.

This helps to reduce the time required for maintenance testing to a minimum, since the test template used for an earlier test (e.g. during commissioning) can be re-used. In addition to saving time, this ensures a constant test quality and allows direct comparison of the test results.

Furthermore, testing of a number of relays which may differ only with regard to their parameter settings (e.g. relays of the same type on different feeders) is substantially simplified since a test plan, once created, only needs minor adjustments. To further simplify the process, OMICRON offers predefined and easily editable test templates in its Protection Testing Library (PTL) (see page 10).



Test plan example

Test reports can be readily customized. The data to be shown can be defined simply by selecting or deselecting individual elements from a list. Notes on testing and company-specific elements (e.g. logos) can easily be integrated. The reports generated comply with the requirements for safe documentation as described in ISO 9000.





Language	e Selection	×
Language		
Langu	age for Test Universe Applications	
E	inglish [English (United States)]	
	eutsch [German (Germany)] nglish [English (United States)]	
	cpanol [Spanch (Fraditional Soft)] anysis [French (France)] aliano [Rolan (Raly)] ortugués [Portuguese (Brazil)] ortugués [Portuguese (Brazil)] vocnán [Surok] vyconá (Russian] 学び(間を) [Chinese (PRCL)] 学び(間を) [Chinese (PRCL)] 学び(間を) [Chinese (Fawan)] 引本語 (Japanese)	
	OK Cancel Help	

When providing international commissioning services, clients often expect submission of the test reports in a different language to the one preferred by the test engineer. In the OMICRON operating software, users can choose between 14 different languages. Even when the test report has already been generated, the language can easily be changed for the benefit of the client.

For the subsequent processing of the test results, the contents of test reports can be exported to various file formats, such as Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, or a database. Moreover, the easy generation of PDF files and an email function support the convenient exchange of test results within a company or with the service client.

By using the OCC technology, a combination of convenience and flexibility is achieved and the time needed for preparing and performing tests can be reduced to a minimum.

Programming with CM Engine

Although the standard test modules are already very flexible, the specific needs of equipment manufacturers or other customers with special applications sometimes require further customization.

OMICRON'S CM Engine permits the CMC test set to be addressed from any application. It allows the interface to be configured so it can be used to integrate the test set into an existing software architecture. It also allows documentation to be formatted according to the requirements of the client's test system.

With basic programming knowledge it is possible to control the test set within an existing application. Users can develop their own test procedures via the programming interface, link them with the parameters of their own systems and document the test procedures accordingly. This approach offers full flexibility to the user and makes it possible to utilize all of the capabilities of the test equipment.

Language selection

Protection Testing Library PTL

Due to the high complexity of modern protection devices the preparation of automated test procedures can be a very time consuming and challenging task. Special distance or differential protection characteristics often can be particularly difficult to define.



Example of complex differential protection characteristic

OMICRON has recognized this trend and provides a solution through its Protection Testing Library (PTL). This library contains test templates for commonly used relays from various manufacturers. Complete test plans are available for these relays which can be used for testing the most important functions in a very comprehensive and convenient way.

Depending on the protection relay type, PTL test templates may contain the calculation of characteristics for:

- Distance protection
- Transformer differential protection
- Line differential protection
- DMT/IDMT overcurrent
- Thermal overload
- etc.



Protection Testing Library in the customer area of OMICRON's website

In addition to the test templates, converters with relay-specific dialog masks are available for entering the relay parameters into the test plan. The structure of these dialog masks is identical to the ones provided in the relays' own parameterization software, which makes parameter input extremely easy. As an optional alternative, in many cases it is also possible to import relay parameters into the software directly from the relay via import filters.







Dialog mask



Test plan

Using the Protection Testing Library offers solutions to the following test cases:

- Characteristic testing of distance protection relays with multiple grounding factors
- Complete testing of distance protection characteristics (starting zones, slope angles, load encroachment, etc.)
- Complete line differential protection testing using GPS signals or IRIG-B protocols for the synchronization of two, or more remote test sets
- Testing of under-excitation characteristics
- Testing of adaptive characteristics
- Testing of thermal overload characteristics with two time constants
- Testing of protection functions with sequential logic such as pole slip or inadvertent energizing
- Automatic calculation of directional tests for overcurrent elements
- Automated testing of single-function protection relays
- and many more

The test templates and converters can be customized by users according to their specific needs. They are available for download free of charge in the customer area of the OMICRON web site. The library is extended and maintained on a constant basis.

The test templates and converters are developed by OMICRON engineers as well as external specialists, which makes their comprehensive relay and application knowledge available to the user.

Using the PTL can save a tremendous amount of preparation time as test plans and nominal characteristics do not need to be created from scratch but only have to be customized to the user's individual needs. The test plan is then completed by the addition of the relay parameters which can easily be entered or imported. Hence, the OMICRON Protection Testing Library represents an extremely valuable tool for efficient protection testing.

Testing in IEC 61850 Environments

IEC 61850 ("Communication Networks and Systems in Substations") is the international standard for device communication in substations. It defines the communication between equipment known as Intelligent Electronic Devices (IED). It specifies common data models for the IEDs and also the complete engineering process.

In contrast with previous communication standards, IEC 61850 aims at safeguarding the flexibility, the expandability, the interoperability (exchange of information among devices of various manufacturers) and also future compatibility regardless of the specific communication technology used. Today, there are a large number of substations already in operation using IEC 61850 compliant devices, and so the technology has already had a significant effect on the world of protection engineering.

Substations implementing IEC 61850 vary considerably with regard to type and structure: The IEDs (e.g. protection devices of various manufacturers) are connected through the substation's Ethernet network enabling communication between each other and to the station controller. For the communication between the individual IEDs and the SCADA system a client-server communication (C/S) applying TCP/IP is used. In this configuration, the IED typically acts as a server and the SCADA system becomes the client.

Time critical information such as protection tripping commands and real time measurements require high priority and a fast communication method. GOOSE messages or Sampled Values (SV) are published as multicast messages without addressing a specific receiver. This information is then distributed across the network allowing any IED or test set to subscribe for retrieving this information.

The GOOSE (Generic Object Oriented Substation Event) is the mechanism for distributing status information. GOOSE messages are periodically repeated even without any condition changes, thus enabling the supervision of the connection. The transmitted payload data can contain any kind of information (pick-up, tripping, count, etc.).

A further configuration is to digitize measured values of current and voltage transformers into Sampled Values according to IEC 61850-9-2 for transmission over the network. This is performed by means of merging units (MU) which convert signals from conventional transformers (e.g. 1 A / 100 V) or non-conventional instrument transformers (e.g. Rogowski coils).





Most IEDs contain data models consisting of the elements described in IEC 61850, these are the standardized Logical Nodes (LN) and the data classes contained within them. Various services, such as a report to a client or the GOOSE utilize data sets based on that data model.

Analyzing the data model is an important task during IED development, commissioning or troubleshooting, and can be carried out conveniently using the OMICRON IEDScout software. This PC software operates as a test client to test the functionality



of a control system. IEDScout also allows a visualization of the GOOSE traffic. A "Sniffer"functionality detects GOOSE messages on the network and a GOOSE simulation function generates such messages for testing purposes. GOOSE data can be recorded into COMTRADE files for in-depth analysis of complex sequences.

The OMICRON SVScout is a PC software for visualizing and investigating Sampled Values. It subscribes to the Sampled Values streams from merging units and displays the waveforms of the primary voltages and currents in an oscilloscope view. In addition, these voltages and currents can be viewed in a phasor diagram. As SVScout provides many functions for analyzing the received data, it can be used for a wide range of applications – from the simple display of Sampled Values to the detailed investigation of a merging unit's performance. It supports Sampled Values according to the implementation guideline of the UCA International Users Group with 80 samples per cycle.



Pick-up and tripping decisions are made by protection devices on the basis of the measured values. Where a protection device operates with Sampled Values derived from the measured values, the OMICRON test set can generate them additionally to the usual analog test signals. If the corresponding pick-up or tripping information from the protection device is provided as a GOOSE message, it can be evaluated by the test set in the same way as a conventional hard wired contact.



Configuring the test set only requires minimal user interaction with the appropriate test modules of the operating software. Voltage and current signals are sent as Sampled Values using the network connection. Instead of having the pick-up and tripping signals connected to the binary inputs of the test set, these signals are received as GOOSE messages via the network connection. This makes it possible to use the full scope of the testing modules in the OMICRON Test Universe Software when operating in the IEC 61850 environment.

Part 6 of IEC 61850 describes in detail how to configure substation automation projects with devices supplied by one or several manufacturers. The configuration information, which is also relevant for testing, is described in a set of files. Their structure is defined as the Substation Configuration Language (SCL). All of the IEC 61850 test tools offered by OMICRON support these SCL files and thereby facilitate the import of the configuration parameters required for testing in a convenient way.

As the technology leader in its field and a driving force in the various IEC 61850 working groups, OMICRON has significant influence on the standardization activities and is continuously providing innovative testing solutions in this field. Meanwhile, these solutions are available to an increasing number of users and have assisted many protection engineers to become familiar with the subject of IEC 61850. Additionally, OMICRON provides seminars which deal with this standard in a practical manner independent of the main vendors, focusing on implementation, engineering and testing.

Network Simulation with NetSim

Whenever it is necessary to simulate special network situations for acceptance, commissioning, or routine testing, OMICRON offers an ideal solution with its network simulation software module NetSim. After the selection of a basic network type, its properties and the specified fault conditions can be easily defined. NetSim



supports many different system configurations including single, double or three terminal lines with different power infeeds.

A variety of different single or multiple faults can be applied which

can be enhanced to simulate the effects of arcing. This is very useful for analyzing the responses of various relay types and protection schemes to particular network and fault conditions.

In addition, the effect of faults at different positions on the network, different fault inception angles and even the response of the system to power swings can be determined. A further option allows for the simulation of a series compensated line, a configuration which can provide a challenge to the correct performance of feeder relays.

In this context, the realistic simulation of CT saturation plays a significant role by considering the CT and burden data in the current circuit of a specific relay. These data can be specified for each test point, including where they must be defined separately for each side of a power transformer. There are some cases where signal distortion results from transient CT saturation, due to the operational conditions in the plant. NetSim can be used to find out whether the intended relay type will perform properly in this situation.

The specific CT and burden data of the corresponding feeder can be determined by measurements in the plant using OMICRON's CT Analyzer (see next page: Current Transformer Testing). NetSim can import these measurement results directly for the simulation and thus enables a very fast "virtual primary test". The CMC test set can use this simulation to inject corresponding current and voltage signals in to one or more relays or, alternatively, it can also be saved or exported as a COMTRADE file.

Measuring and Recording with EnerLyzer™

When testing the behavior of a relay or a complete protection system, a protection engineer's tasks often include the measurement and recording of analog and binary signals. For this purpose, the test sets CMC 256plus and CMC 356¹ can optionally be equipped with the EnerLyzer function. This is used for measuring and recording transient current and voltage waveforms and binary signals. Voltages of up to 600 V can be measured directly on up to 10 channels. Current measurements are made by means of current clamps or shunts.

EnerLyzer allows transient recording at sampling rates of up to 28 kHz. Recording can be initiated by numerous trigger functions including power quality criteria. The scope of applications includes the recording of real inrush currents of power transformers (for testing the harmonic restraint function of the transformer protection) and the testing of the synchronizing function during the commissioning of a power plant.



The EnerLyzer option includes the TransView software tool for the visualization and analysis of recorded analog or binary signals. This tool calculates various power system quantities from the measurement data including impedances,

power vectors, rms values, etc. It can then present them in a variety of ways including locus diagrams, vector diagrams, as time signals or in value tables.

EnerLyzer additionally operates as a multimeter for current, voltage, frequency, power and cos ϕ and also supports long-term trend recording. In addition, the software includes a powerful harmonic analysis function.

All of these measurements can be performed in parallel to the output of current and voltage signals on the test set.



¹ With ELT-1 option



Line Impedance Measurement and k-Factor Determination

For the correct setting of a distance protection relay, the values of the positive and zero sequence impedance of the line to be protected are of utmost importance. Incorrect values lead to zone over- or under-reaching which in turn could cause the incorrect operation of the relay under fault conditions. Proper settings allow selective tripping, minimum fault duration times and ensure that the relay's fault location functionality can be utilized to its full extend.

The impedances and the k-factor (residual compensation factor) are usually calculated using a network simulation program or are the results of a systems study. The calculations however are very prone to errors due to the large number of influencing factors (e.g. conductor type, spiraling and average sag of the lines, cable shield handling, specific soil resistivity etc.). Therefore, actual measurement of the fault-loop impedance is the best way to ensure that the distance protection relay settings are correct.

For this task the OMICRON CPC 100 and the CP CU1 are used together. The ability of the CPC 100 to operation away from the line frequency range overcomes the problem of power system frequency interference that has previously made it necessary to use extremely large, high-power equipment to carry out these measurements. This system allows the user to measure the impedance of all fault loops (phase-to-ground, phase-to-phase and three-phase-to-ground) with compact and portable equipment.

Coupling Impedance Measurement of Parallel Systems

Distance protection relays protecting one of two parallel lines often compensate for induced currents between the two systems. The setting required for this is the so-called Mutual Coupling factor. This can be determined in the same way as the k-factor using the combination of the CPC 100 and CP CU1.

Current Transformer Testing

The parameters of current transformers have a direct influence on the reliability of the protection system. With the CT Analyzer, OMICRON offers a unique solution for the efficient determination of the essential CT parameters including CT ratio, phase and current ratio errors for different burden values, the excitation curve, winding resistance, transient behavior and many others. Due to its small size, low weight and its high precision it is the perfect tool for CT testing both at the CT manufacturers' premises as well as on-site. The patented¹ measurement method allows very quick automated testing and reporting while ensuring the maximum level of operator safety.



OMICRON is an international company serving the electrical power industry with innovative testing and diagnostic solutions. The application of OMICRON products allows users to assess the condition of the primary and secondary equipment on their systems with complete confidence. Services offered in the area of consulting, commissioning, testing, diagnosis, and training make the product range complete.

Customers in more than 140 countries rely on the company's ability to supply leading edge technology of excellent quality. Broad application knowledge and extraordinary customer support provided by offices in North America, Europe, South and East Asia, Australia, and the Middle East, together with a worldwide network of distributors and representatives, make the company a market leader in its sector.

The following publications provide further information on the solutions described in this brochure:



CM Line product catalog (secondary equipment)



Testing Solutions for Measurement Equipment

For a complete list of available literature please visit our website.



CT Analyzer



CPC 100 and CP CU1

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