Practical Electrical Fault Analysis & Mitigation Training Course



16 - 20 Nov 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #ERE4030_265427

Course Introduction / Overview:

Electrical faults pose a significant risk to the reliability and safety of power distribution systems. This training course, presented by BIG BEN Training Center, is designed to give professionals the essential knowledge and practical skills to analyze, locate, and mitigate electrical faults. The course provides a deep understanding of fault types, from simple line-to-ground faults to more complex scenarios, and explains the methods used to calculate fault currents and implement effective protection schemes. Participants will learn how to use symmetrical components for fault analysis, interpret relay settings, and coordinate protective devices to ensure rapid fault isolation. This training is grounded in the principles of modern power system protection and draws upon the foundational work of authors like J. C. Das, whose book "Power System Analysis: Short-Circuit Load Flow and Harmonics" provides a comprehensive framework for understanding fault phenomena. By mastering these concepts, participants will be able to improve system reliability, reduce downtime, and enhance the safety of their electrical infrastructure. The course is a critical tool for any professional working to maintain a stable and secure power distribution network.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Electrical engineers and technicians.
- Maintenance and reliability personnel.
- Power system protection specialists.
- Substation and distribution system operators.
- Project managers in electrical infrastructure.
- Consultants and technical staff.
- Anyone involved in electrical safety and system reliability.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Utilities and power generation.
- Oil and gas.
- Manufacturing and industrial plants.
- Commercial and residential buildings.
- Government agencies and equivalents.
- Data centers and telecommunications.
- Mining and metallurgy.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Engineering and technical services.
- Maintenance and reliability.
- Operations and grid control.
- Health, safety, and environment (HSE).
- Asset management.
- Project management.
- Quality assurance.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Classify and understand the characteristics of different electrical faults.
- Use symmetrical components to analyze unbalanced faults.
- Calculate fault currents for various system configurations.
- Apply protective relaying principles and select appropriate relay settings.
- Coordinate protective devices, such as fuses, relays, and circuit breakers.
- Diagnose fault locations using a variety of methods.
- Implement effective fault mitigation strategies.
- Develop a robust protection scheme for a power distribution network.

Course Methodology:

This training course uses a hands-on and interactive methodology to ensure participants gain practical skills that are immediately applicable to their work. The course combines theoretical lessons on fault analysis with real-world case studies and problem-solving exercises. Participants will engage in group activities that simulate fault scenarios in a power distribution system, allowing them to practice fault current calculations and protective device coordination. BIG BEN Training Center's trainers are experienced professionals who provide expert guidance and feedback throughout the course. The curriculum also includes a component on modern relay technologies and troubleshooting techniques, ensuring participants are up to date with the latest industry practices. This approach prepares participants to confidently face the complexities of fault analysis and mitigation, empowering them to make informed decisions that improve system reliability and safety. The methodology emphasizes practical application and critical thinking over rote memorization.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Fundamentals of Electrical Faults

- Introduction to power system faults.
- Types of faults: symmetrical and asymmetrical.
- Causes of electrical faults.
- Effects of faults on power systems.
- Per-unit system and impedance diagrams.
- Introduction to fault current calculations.
- Safety procedures during fault conditions.

Unit Two: Symmetrical Component Theory

- Review of three-phase systems.
- Introduction to symmetrical components.
- Positive, negative, and zero sequence networks.
- Constructing sequence networks for system components.
- Connecting sequence networks for different fault types.
- Calculations for symmetrical faults.
- Practical examples of symmetrical component analysis.

Unit Three: Analysis of Asymmetrical Faults

- Analysis of line-to-ground faults.
- Analysis of line-to-line faults.
- Analysis of double line-to-ground faults.
- Impact of grounding on fault currents.
- Fault current contribution from motors and generators.
- Using software tools for fault analysis.
- Case study: solving an unbalanced fault problem.

Unit Four: Protective Relaying and Device Coordination

- Principles of protective relaying.
- Types of protective relays and their functions.
- Overcurrent protection and time-current curves.
- Fuse selection and coordination.
- Circuit breaker operation and ratings.
- Selecting appropriate relay settings.
- Introduction to differential and distance protection.

Unit Five: Fault Mitigation and System Reliability

- Strategies for fault mitigation.
- Automatic reclosing and its applications.
- Fault location methods and tools.
- Reducing the impact of arc flash.
- Best practices for system grounding.
- Improving overall system reliability through proper protection.
- Developing a comprehensive fault management plan.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

Given the increasing complexity of power grids with distributed energy resources, how do traditional fault analysis techniques need to evolve to ensure a reliable and secure system?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This training course stands out by providing a deep, practical focus on the critical subject of electrical fault analysis and mitigation. While other courses may offer a broad overview, our curriculum is specifically designed to build tangible skills that professionals can use immediately in their daily work. We don't just explain the theory behind faults, we teach participants how to perform complex calculations, use industry-standard tools, and apply those principles to real-world scenarios. The course uses detailed case studies that reflect the actual challenges faced in power distribution, from diagnosing a line-to-ground fault to coordinating protective devices to prevent a cascade failure. The emphasis on hands-on exercises ensures that participants leave with a confident mastery of the subject, not just a theoretical understanding. Furthermore, our focus on both classic methods like symmetrical components and modern techniques for fault mitigation provides a comprehensive and relevant education that prepares professionals for the demands of a modern power grid.