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## **INSTRUCTION MANUAL FOR:**

## MODEL CTER-83

## SERIAL NO.

Be sure to reference Serial Number in all correspondence.

#### IMPORTANT

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is essential that this instruction book be read thoroughly before putting the equipment in service.

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# CURRENT TRANSFORMER EXCITATION, RATIO AND POLARITY TEST SET Model CTER-83

multi-amp

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## Description

Multi-Amp® Model CTER-83 is a lightweight, portable unit for performing excitation, ratio and polarity tests on current transformers using the voltage comparison method. Utilizing the latest technology, Model CTER-83 provides a variable voltage output and precision instrumentation for testing single and multi-ratio CTs. All three tests — excitation, ratio and polarity — can be performed without changing any leads. Current transformers may be tested in their equipment configuration, such as being **mounted in transformers**, oil circuit breakers or switchgear. This eliminates the need to remove bushings or remove CTs from switchgear. Of course, it is necessary for the equipment to be totally isolated from the electrical system prior to testing.

Testing bushing CTs from panel.



#### Model CTER-83 (cont.)



Connections for verifying all ratios of a multi-ratio CT.

## **Principle of Operation**

#### **Saturation Test:**

CTER-83 provides a variable voltage output and digital instrumentation which measures exciting voltage and the excitation current which results as the voltage applied to the CT under test is increased. As the CT under test begins to saturate, a large increase in current will be detected for a small increase in voltage.

#### **Ratio Test:**

The ratio test is performed by comparing a voltage applied to the secondary winding to the resulting voltage produced on the primary winding. As an example, if one volt per turn is applied to the secondary winding, the voltage present on the primary winding would be one volt. More specifically, if 120 volts is applied to the secondary of 600/5 CT (120:1 ratio), one volt would be present on the primary winding.

#### **Polarity Test:**

Polarity of the current transformer under test is determined by special circuitry which divides the voltage applied to the secondary winding by either 10 or 100 (depending on magnitude) and then adds the result to the primary voltage. An increase in magnitude indicates correct polarity and a decrease shows incorrect polarity.

## Features

- Bushing CTs can be tested while mounted inside transformers or switchgear.
- Excitation, ratio and polarity tests are all performed without changing test lead connections.
- Digital instruments read exciting current, secondary excitation voltage and primary voltage.
- Overload and short circuit protection is incorporated.
- Voltmeter can be used to measure external voltages up to 600 volts AC.
- Lead compartment for storage of test leads.



Connections for performing saturation, ratio and polarity tests.

## **Specifications**

Input (specify one): 120V, 50/60 Hertz, 1φ OR 240V, 50/60 Hertz, 1φ

Output: Continuously variable 0 to 600 volts AC at 1.5 amperes maximum

Voltmeters: Two 4.5-digit autoranging, solid-state instruments

Ranges: 0.0000 to 1.9999/19.999/199.99/600.0 volts

Accuracy:  $\pm$  0.25% of reading  $\pm$  1 digit.

Ammeter: One 3.5-digit, solid-state instrument Range: 0.000 to 1.999 amperes Accuracy: ± 0.85% of reading ± 1 digit.

**Interlock:** A zero-start interlock is incorporated to minimize the possibility of energizing the CT under test with a sudden high voltage.

#### **Test Leads:**

One pair No. 18AWG leads each 5 ft. (1.5m) long, Part No. 1282 One pair No. 18AWG leads each 12 ft. (3.7m) long, Part No. 2997

**Housing:** The test set is housed in a high-strength, molded suitcase-type enclosure with carrying handle and removable cover. Storage space is provided for test leads.

#### **Dimensions:**

Height  $9\frac{7}{8}$  in. (25.1 cm) Width:  $14\frac{1}{16}$  in. (35.7 cm) Depth:  $11\frac{5}{16}$  in. (28.7 cm)

#### Net Weight: 33 lbs. (15 kg.)

#### Polarity

- 1. Switch Test Selector Switch to "SEC +10 + PRI" position.
- 2. Slowly increase main power control to a known voltage per turn. Read on the secondary voltmeter. Primary voltmeter should read the voltage being applied divided by ten plus voltage feeding back from the primary.
- 3. Slowly decrease main power control to zero.
- 4. Switch Test Selector Switch to "SEC + 10 PRI" position.
- 5. Repeat step 2. Primary should read applied voltage divided by 10 minus primary voltage.

4.

6. Slowly decrease main power control to zero. NOTE: For divide by 100 positions, use same procedure.

#### INSTRUCTION MANUAL FOR CTER-83 CURRENT TRANSFORMER EXCITATION RATIO TEST SET

Controls and Instrumentation

Power ON/OFF

Output Control

AC Secondary Voltmeter

AC Primary Voltmeter

External Voltmeter Binding

External Ammeter Binding

Selector Switch

X1, X2, H1, H2,

Binding Posts

Range Switch

AC Ammeter

Energize the test set

A variable autotransformer with two ranges, 0-150 volts and 0-600 volts which provides continuous control of the output voltage. The variable transformer must be at zero before unit can be initiated.

Measures current in the output circuit.

Measures voltage in the output circuit that is connected to the secondary of the CT under test.

Measures voltage on primary of CT under test.

Selects desired test to be performed.

Connects the CT under test to the test set.

Enables the primary voltmeter to read an external ac voltage or 0-600 volts when the selector switch is in the external voltmeter position.

Selects 150 or 600 volt range.

Provides a means of connecting an external ammeter in the circuit. It is not to be used to measure an external ac circuit.

1 1/2 amp "Push to Reset" breaker which protects the variable transformer.

CB-2

Posts

Posts

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#### Description of Tests

Saturation Test

IEEE defines saturation as the maximum value of induced voltage possible in a material.

With the test set secondary binding posts X1 and X2 connected to the CT secondary and the H1 and H2 binding posts connected to the CT primary, increase output observing the ammeter and secondary voltmeter. Increase voltage until a small increase in voltage causes a large increase in current. Most CT's will saturate at 1 amp or less and 600 volts or less.

Note: It may be necessary to plot a curve to detect the saturation point. See Figure 7 which illustrates typical curves for class C transformers.

Ratio Test

The ratio is defined as the number of turns in the secondary as compared to the number of turns in the primary.

Apply one volt per turn to the secondary of the CT under test. Raise voltage slowly while observing meters. When one volt per turn has been reached on the secondary voltmeter, one volt should appear on the primary meter. If the CT saturates before one volt per turn is reached, apply a voltage of smaller magnitude at some convenient fraction of one volt per turn. (e.g. .5v per turn). The primary voltmeter should read that fraction of a volt. If a multi-ratio CT is being tested, the selector switch can be placed in the "External meter" position. The primary voltmeter can be used to read the voltage between taps on the secondary winding while a known voltage per turn is applied to the winding, either between taps or to the full winding.

Caution: To protect against insulation failure, do not exceed more than 600 volts on any of the secondary windings of the CT under test.

Leads should be connected to the test set "external volts" binding posts only when the selector switch is in the "external meter" position.

Polarity Test

Indicates the designation of the relative instantaneous directions of the currents entering the primary terminals and leaving the secondary terminals during most of each 1/2 cycle.

Switch the rotary switch to the "SEC  $\pm$  10  $\pm$  primary" position. Raise the secondary voltage to a known voltage per turn or to a percent of volts per turn that will not saturate the CT. Voltage displayed on the primary meter should be secondary voltage divided by 10 plus the primary voltage. Switch the rotary switch to sec  $\pm$  10 - primary position voltage displayed on the primary meter should be secondary voltage divided by 10 minus primary voltage.

Example: For a CT with a ratio of 120/1 apply 1/2 voltage or 60 volts. If the polarity is correct the primary meter should read 6.5 which is 60 divided by 10 plus the voltage from the primary winding. Switch the rotary to "SEC  $\div$  10 - primary" and reading should be 5.5. The divide by 100 positions may be used in the same manner.

SEC  $\div$  100 + Primary = (.6 + .5) = 1.1 volts SEC  $\div$  100 - Primary = (.6 - .5) - .1 volts

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CAUTION: For operator and equipment saftey, make sure current transformers are de-energized before <u>any</u> testing is started. Refer to Figures 1 through 6 for test connections. Types of Tests

Saturation Ratio Polarity

SET-UP OF CONTROLS BEFORE TESTING

Control

#### Position

Power ON/OFF

Output Control

#### OFF

Zero (counterclockwise)

Saturate and ratio test

Test Selector Switch (Rotary)

Range Switch

As required

#### Saturation Test

- 1. Connect the test set to a suitable source of power (as indicated on the nameplate), and ground. Be sure that the Power ON switch is OFF.
- Connect the test set secondary output binding post X1 and X2 to secondary of current transformer X1 and X2. Observe polarity marks on CT. (X1 is polarity.)
- 3. Connect test set primary binding posts H1 and H2 to CT primary busings H1 and H2. Observe polarity marks. (H1 is polarity.)
- 4. Turn "Power ON Switch" ON.
- 5. Slowly increase main power control observing ammeter and voltmeter secondary. When a very small increase in voltage causes a large increase in current, the CT has reached the saturation point. (Usually less than one amp.) Record voltage and current readings.
- 6. Slowly decrease main power control to zero.

#### Ratio

- 1. Slowly increase main power control applying 1 volt per turn to the transformer under test. When correct value is read on secondary voltmeter, one volt should appear on primary voltmeter. (Note: If CT saturates, apply a fraction of a volt per turn.) That fraction of a volt should then appear on the primary voltmeter.
- 2. Slowly decrease main power control to zero.

3.

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FIGURE 1 SATURATE AND RATIO TEST

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FIGURE 2 POLARITY TEST



FIGURE 3 MULTI-RATIO CT TEST



FIGURE 4

Bushing CT's can be tested in a de-energized power transformer which has been totally isolated from the power system. CT secondary leads will normally terminate in the control cabinet. Refer to the chart on figure 6 for connections.



FIGURE 5

CT LOCATION	TESTS SET CONNECTIONS X1 X2 H1 H2			JUMPERS
H1 Bushing	Secondary of H1 CT located in control cabinet	H1 Bushing	H2 Bushing	H2 - H3 X1 - X2 - X3
H2 Bushing	Secondary of H2 CT located in control cabinet	H2 Bushing	H3 Bushing	H3 - H1 X1 - X2 - X3
H3 Bushing	Secondary of H3 CT located in control cabinet	H3 Bushing	H1 Bushing	H1 - H2 X1 - X2 - X3
X1 Bushing	Secondary of X1 CT located in control cabinet	X1 Bushing	Neutral Bushing	H1 - H2 - H3
X2 Bushing	Secondary of X2 CT located in control cabinet	X2 Bushing	Neutral Bushing	H1 - H2 - H3
X3 Bushing	Secondary of X3 CT located in control cabinet	X3 Bushing	Neutral Bushing	H1 - H2 - H3

Figure 6



Fig. 7



Maximum Hatio - 2000/5 ASA Accuracy - 10L800

Typical CT Exciting Current Curves.

Figure 4.

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#### Saturation Test.

This test considers the CT as a reactor. Voltage is applied to the secondary winding and the exciting current is measured. The voltage is raised until the CT saturates if this is within the capability of the test equipment.

The test leads should be connected to the CT secondary leads at the terminal block closest to the CT's. All wiring to the burden or switchboard must be disconnected and pulled clear to prevent high test voltages from endangering personnel or damaging equipment.

Using a Variac to control the voltage into a 240/480 or 120/480 volt test transformer, connect the 480 volt winding of the transformer to the *full winding* of a CT. Apply voltage in increasing steps, measuring the exciting current at each step. For these measurements, the ammeter must be connected directly in series with the CT secondary, so that it reads the CT exciting current only. The voltmeter must be connected between the 480 volt winding and the ammeter, *not* between the ammeter and the CT. Plot the results on log-log paper. The plot will be a ctraight line as long as the CT has not saturated. Continue to raise the voltage until either the CT starts to saturate or 500 volts is reached. CT's used in a PVD bus differential scheme must be tested to at least 300 volts.

If the CT has not saturated before maximum test voltage is reached, reconnect the test leads to the CT taps giving half ratio (e.g., 1000/5 taps on a 2000/5 full ratio CT). Repeat the test, increasing voltage and recording the voltage and current until saturation is reached. Be aware that the CT secondary acts as an auto-transformer, and that double the applied voltage will appear across the full CT winding during this test.

When the highest test voltage has been reached on any CT, the voltage *must* be *gradually* reduced to Zero over a period of several seconds to prevent leaving residual magnetism in the CT core. Residual magnetism can cause poor CT performance, including saturation at low current values during faults. The plotted excitation curve should be compared with the manufacturer's curve for that type of CT, of with a previous test curve. A typical set of excitation curves for a CT is shown in Figure 4. The accuracy class of the CT gives a rough approximation of the voltage at which the CT will saturate. For example, a 2000/5 multi-ratio CT rated 10L800 will saturate at around 800 volts on the full winding (2000/5 ratio). If connected 1000/5, it will saturate at around 400 volts.

A CT which saturates at a voltage lower than normal is faulty. Raise the voltage to drive the CT well into saturation and then gradually reduce the voltage to zero to remove any residual magnetism which may have been present. If the CT still tests bad, it must be replaced.

If the current into the CT is higher than normal excitation current at a given voltage, look for extraneous conducting loops around the CT core. The problem may be caused by personal grounds on both sides of the CT primary, allowing current to circulate in the primary. It is also possible that CT mounting clamps on bushing or slip-on CT's are improperly installed, allowing current to circulate through a metallic path around the CT core.

When the saturation tests are complete, be sure to reconnect the lifted leads. If any doubt exists as to where each lead should be connected, ratio and/or load checks must be conducted to prove correct reconnection.



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