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## Pressure rise calculation due to an internal arc fault in HV metal-enclosed SF6 GIS

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High reliability of HV  $SF_6$  switchgear makes an internal arc fault an extremely rare event. However, its occurrence cannot be completely avoided, and therefore, must be considered in the design process. Internal arc testing in  $SF_6$  is not recommended due to its harmful environmental impact, but if necessary, tests should be performed only inside special containers, that will prevent the release of  $SF_6$  into the atmosphere. Having in mind that tests in  $SF_6$  and air are not yet fully comparable, accurate modeling of pressure rise due to internal arc faults is still the main means to evaluate required design parameters of  $SF_6$  switchgear in respect of safety from internal arc faults.

A simulation tool, which calculates the pressure rise due to an internal arc inside a metal-enclosed  $SF_6$  compartment, was developed and used in the design of a new HV GIS. The calculation procedure and obtained results are described and discussed. Validation of the tool was performed using experimental data from  $SF_6$  internal arc tests, dating back several decades ago, when internal arc tests in  $SF_6$  were not questionable as today.

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