EARTHING HIGH VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## KEY CHANGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Amendments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# EARTHING HIGH VOLTAGE EQUIPMENT

## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Purpose and Scope</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2  Definitions</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3  Dangers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4  General Requirement for Primary Earth(s)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5  General Requirements for Drain Earth(s)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6  General Requirements for Portable Earth(s)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7  Application of Earthing Device(s)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8  Special Cases of the Application of Primary Earth(s)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9  Special Cases of the Application of Drain Earth(s)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Earthing Against Point(s) of Isolation from LV side of Voltage Transformers</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Appendix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A  Substation Multiple Primary Earth Requirements</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B  Example of Application of Earthing Device(s) in Hall Type 132kV Substations</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C  Guidance on the scope of NSI 2 when working on Cable Sealing Ends</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D  Creating Circulating Currents when applying Earthing Device(s)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E  Authorisation Matrix for Contractors Personnel</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 Purpose and Scope

To apply the principles established by the Safety Rules and provide guidance on National Safety Instruction 2, on the use of Earthing Device(s) to achieve Safety from the System for Personnel working on or near to High Voltage Equipment in substations.

Earthing is carried out as part of the application of safety precautions. It protects Personnel against the effects of inadvertent energisation and Equipment that may be Charged.

The management of earthing High Voltage Equipment on overhead lines and substation terminal Equipment is covered by the Management Procedure – NSI 4 “Work on or Near High Voltage Overhead Lines”.

National Grid Personnel when applying principles established by the Safety Rules on the use of Earthing Device(s) to achieve Safety from the System shall be appointed to this NSI. For Contractor appointment see Appendix E.

The layout of this guidance note reflects that of legislative codes of practice, where the rule (or mandatory obligation) is identified by a green panel on the left-hand side. The guidance follows after the rule and is identified by a blue panel.

Within National Grid, guidance notes hold equivalent status of an Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) in law. If not followed, you will be required to demonstrate that your safe system of work is of an equal or higher standard.

2 Definitions

Terms printed in bold type are as defined in the Safety Rules.

3 Dangers

The System Danger(s) to Personnel applying or removing Earthing Device(s) to HV Equipment are electrocution, burns and effects on eyes arising from:-

- Inadvertent infringement of Safety Distance
- The application of Earthing Device(s) to Live HV Equipment
- Badly connected or insecure Earthing Device(s)
- The incorrect sequence or method of application or removal of Earthing Device(s)
- Incorrect management of Impressed Voltage Conditions
- Charged Equipment and the voltage difference across a break in electrical conductors
- Incorrect management of circulating currents
- The electrical arc drawn by the application or removal of an Earthing Device
- The application of Earthing Device(s) to an inadequate or defective earth system
- Incorrect identification of Earthing Device(s)
- Inadequate permanent Earthing of Equipment / conductors (e.g. ‘floating’ sections of busbar)
4 General Requirements for Primary Earth(s)

4.1 Primary Earth(s) shall be of adequate strength and capability to provide an efficient connection between earth and the HV Equipment. Primary Earth(s) and the associated Equipment they are connected to shall be capable of safely discharging any resultant fault current due to any inadvertent energisation.

If the number of portable Earthing Device(s) applied needs to increase in line with current substation arrangements whilst quoted on already consented Safety Document(s) then the process within Appendix A13 shall apply.

4.2 A fixed Earthing Device, shall where reasonably practicable be used to make the first and break the last earth connection. This may include the use of indirect earthing of HV Equipment via the operation of a suitably rated circuit breaker or a disconnector to indirectly make the first and break the last earth connection to the HV Equipment. Where this is not reasonably practicable the Senior Authorised Person shall carry out a written risk assessment to determine the safest way to apply / remove portable Earthing Device(s) to / from the HV Equipment.

4.3 Primary Earth(s) shall be positioned within the zone established by the Point(s) of Isolation. They shall, where reasonably practicable, be positioned between the point of work and all Point(s) of Isolation. This should include, where applicable, the Point(s) of Isolation from common neutral earthing equipment.

Where it is not reasonably practicable to apply Primary Earth(s) between the point of work and the Point(s) of Isolation they may be placed in an alternative position so as to have a similar electrical effect. Such a position could be one of the following:-

a) On a permanent connection teed between the point of work and the Point of Isolation at a distance not exceeding 9m from the tee point or

b) At a permanent connection point not more than 9m beyond the point of work from the Point of Isolation or

c) As detailed in an Approved procedure

For SF₆, or any equivalent Type Registered Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS), the distance of 9m quoted above can be extended to 30m provided the full intent of this section is met.

4.4 Primary Earth(s) shall be applied to all 3 phases, including when the description makes reference to Equipment not present on all phases.

Where a phase is not present by design, such as at a connection to a 2 phase transformer, a Primary Earth shall be applied to the phase conductors present as per the Operational Diagram. Such an earth shall only be quoted to cover an infeed from a Point of Isolation on those same phases.

4.5 For work on the Line End of circuits; Point(s) of Isolation and Primary Earth(s) shall be established at all points of infeed.

Where the Primary Earth does not fulfil the requirements to manage the circulating current and voltage at the Line End, an alternative earth path shall be established, this can be achieved via the application of a Substation or Tower Drain Earth Shorting Scheme (DrESS).

A Safety Document can be Consented to and issued for the application and / or removal of a Substation Applied DrESS, Tower DrESS or an effective earthing scheme.
Alternatively, an NSI2 Senior Authorised Person staff may receive a suitable switching instruction from a Control Person (Safety) to apply or remove a Primary Earth to/from the OHL circuit Downdroppers/Downleads, as indicated in Fig 7.6A, subject to a Risk Assessment being undertaken.

The circuit where practicable shall be solidly bonded to Earth via a Primary Earth, up to the point of application. This may require HV Equipment being Locked in the closed position to establish/maintain the earth path. The Senior Authorised Person shall carry out a Risk Assessment to ensure the Dangers associated with establishing circulating current when applying or removing Earthing Device(s) are managed. Risk may be reduced or mitigated by the correct sequence of earthing.

The Substation Senior Authorised Person and OHL Senior Authorised Person shall consult, agree and record any Safety Precautions that need to be established and maintained throughout the course of the work.

4.6 The Senior Authorised Person shall ensure that no work will be undertaken that may prevent a Primary Earth from being effective.

4.7 When portable Earthing Device(s) are to be used as Primary Earth(s) a label shall be attached to identify them as Primary Earth(s).

### 4 General Requirements for Primary Earth(s)

4.1 Earthing Device(s) used as a Primary Earth and associated portable application device(s) shall be Type Registered.

At certain Location(s) it is necessary to apply multiple portable Earthing Device(s) per phase. at each point of earthing, to cater for the maximum fault level of the HV Equipment. These Location(s) and the number of earth(s) required are specified in Appendix A. During the switching instruction preamble, the number of portable Earthing Device(s) required per phase shall be confirmed between both the Control Person (Safety) and the Senior Authorised Person.

Primary Earth(s) subjected to short circuit fault current shall be inspected for damage prior to re-use. In the case of portable Primary Earth(s) the Senior Authorised Person shall immediately arrange disposal of the portable Primary Earth(s).

Portable Earthing Device(s) used as a Primary Earth(s) shall not be connected to arcing horns, corona rings, hollow Holtom conductor etc.

Portable Earthing Device(s) used as a Primary Earth(s) may be applied to solid stranded aluminium conductors or internally supported (This can be verified by local knowledge or reference to engineering drawings), tinned, copper, Holtom type conductors.
When applying portable Primary Earth(s) to braid / shunts the following shall be confirmed by the Senior Authorised Person prior to application:-

- Braid / Shunt shall have a round profile, refer to Figure 4.1C
- Ensure the line end clamp is the correct size for the cross sectional area of the conductor
- Only one portable Primary Earth to be applied to each braid / shunt
- If a short circuit fault was to occur the busbar connector will require replacement

Figure 4.1C
Braid Example

For work involving line end Equipment it is also recognised that a potential hazard may exist under certain System configurations from high circulating currents. In line with Management Procedure – NSI 4 “Work on or Near High Voltage Overhead Lines” a Substation Applied Drain Earthing Shorting Scheme (DrESS) to the overhead line entry point may need to be applied.

Where portable Primary Earth(s) have been applied for more than 6 months they shall be replaced in agreement with the Control Person (Safety). They shall then be quarantined until maintained.

4.2 An example of where it is not reasonably practicable to apply a fixed Earthing Device is a mesh bus section where there are no fixed Earthing Device(s) by design. As Point(s) of Isolation are visible from the point of work, the correct circuit can be identified. Danger from Charged conductors is minimal due to the short length of busbar. There is therefore a reduced risk and it is acceptable to apply portable Earthing Device(s), refer to Guidance Section 7.2 for information on written risk assessments.

Where Point(s) of Isolation are not visible from the point of work and fixed Earthing Device(s) are not available, the indirect earthing of HV Equipment may be achieved by the operation of a circuit breaker or a disconnector to indirectly make the first and break the last earth connection to the HV Equipment.

Where reasonably practicable a circuit breaker shall be used in preference to a disconnector for indirect earthing. In this instance any disconnector between the Earthing Device, the circuit breaker and the planned point of work, shall be closed prior to the closure of the circuit breaker.

Where reasonably practicable local operation (e.g. at the CB or disconnector local control cubicle) to provide an earth, shall be avoided.

Line end disconnectors are not designed to make or break circulating currents created by overhead line circuits and shall not be closed / opened to indirectly make / break the first / last connection to earth which may interrupt circulating currents.

If a fixed Earthing Device has a technical limitation, stating it is not fully rated as a Primary Earth, it shall still be used to make the first and break the last earth connection, prior to the application or removal of portable Primary Earth(s).
Guidance
NSI 2
4.3

4.3 **Primary Earth(s)** should be close to and visible from the point of work. If not, the **Senior Authorised Person** shall consider the application of additional **Earthing Device(s)** at the point of work.

Schematic diagram for Option (a) and (b)

Option a) - On a permanently tacked connection at a maximum of 9m from the tee point

[Diagram showing POI and Point of Work with 9m Maximum]

Alternative position for **Primary Earth** on a permanent connection teed between the point of work and the **POI** at a distance not exceeding 9m from the tee point

Not reasonably practicable to apply **Primary Earth** between the point of work and **POI** e.g. busbars are vertical or angle is too steep

Option b) - Maximum of 9m beyond the point of work from the **Point of Isolation**

[Diagram showing POI and Point of Work with 9m Maximum]

Alternative position for **Primary Earth** a point not more than 9m beyond the point of work from the **POI**

Not reasonably practicable to apply **Primary Earth** between the point of work and **POI** e.g. busbars are vertical or angle is too steep
Primary Earth(s) shall, where reasonably practicable, be positioned outside the demarcated work area. If not reasonably practicable then a safe system of work shall be established to ensure that the integrity of the Primary Earth(s) are not affected by the work.

If the Primary Earth(s) are compromised stop work, withdraw the Working Party and inform an Senior Authorised Person immediately. If an Senior Authorised Person cannot be contacted, the PIC shall contact the TNCC and inform them of the location and description of the earth(s) that have been compromised.

A transformer coil or any other winding coil is always considered to be greater than 9m (30m - GIS) due to its inherent impedance.

4.4 When earthing is described in terms such as adjacent a VT that is not on all 3 phases, Primary Earth(s) shall still be applied to all the phases.

Where a two phase transformer is connected to the System, there will be a point at which the unused phase ceases. Any earthing applied where there is only 2 phases will cover any infeed that can cross those phases. It will not be suitable for the missing phase. This includes use of the 9m / 30m rule, and solid bonding to a VT.

Examples of phase segregated HV Equipment are 400 kV metal enclosed SF₆, or any equivalent Type Registered Gas Insulated Switchgear and generator terminal connections, where conductors are in individual single phase Earthed metal enclosures.

4.5 To fulfil the requirements to manage the induced current and voltage, consultation between the Substation Senior Authorised Person and the OHL Senior Authorised Person shall take place.

To manage the circulating current and voltage, a Substation or Tower DrESS can be applied. This shall be documented by the Substation Senior Authorised Person in the RAMS; or via further consultation with an OHL Senior Authorised Person, Control Person (Safety) and / or Engineering and Asset Management to develop an effective scheme, documented via the TGN 313 Form F1.

4.7 When portable Earthing Device(s) are to be used as Primary Earth(s), a label shall be attached in a position that is visible. The sign is designed to distinguish them from Drain Earth(s) and states: “No unauthorised interference”. When Primary Earth(s) are removed / replaced under a Sanction for Work, this is classed as authorised interference.

Figure 4.7 – Example of Portable Primary Earth Label
5 General Requirements for Drain Earth(s)

5.1 Where Charged Equipment may cause Danger, Drain Earth(s) shall be applied in accordance with an Earthing Schedule that will be issued along with the Safety Document.

5.2 The recipient of the Safety Document is responsible for the control and safe custody of Drain Earth(s) and associated application device issued with an Earthing Schedule.

The Competent Person, or a Person under their Personal Supervision may apply and remove Drain Earth(s) in accordance with an Earthing Schedule under a Safety Document.

Guidance
NSI 2
5.1 to 5.2

5.1 Earthing Device(s) to be used as Drain Earth(s) shall be Type Registered. Consideration shall also be made of Equipment disconnected from earth resulting in a floating section which may in itself become Charged.

The Senior Authorised Person shall also consider the potential to create circulating currents when applying Earthing Device(s). Where reasonably practicable, elimination of large earth loops should be made, when an Earthing Schedule is produced.

When planning any disconnection / connection of conductors, especially in an AIS 400kV double busbar substation, the Senior Authorised Person shall ascertain the adjacent circuit loadings and bay centre distances. Actions to be taken are determined by the table and advice in Appendix D.

5.2 Portable Drain Earth(s) where reasonably practicable shall be applied to a main current carrying conductors. Where this is not reasonably practicable, Drain Earth(s) may be applied to arcing horns, corona rings etc., this excludes HV Equipment which is electrically connected to the overhead line due to high circulating currents unless the circulating currents have been removed by the application of a TGN 313 Earthing Scheme.

To ensure Drain Earth(s), when not in use, are kept in safe custody, the Safety Document recipient shall keep them in a locked vehicle, box, cupboard or room etc. which can only be unlocked by themself, or:-

(a) For substation earth(s), by securing the earth(s) together by a lockable strap e.g. earth strap

For the application / removal of Drain Earth(s) the recipient of the Earthing schedule shall undertake a personal risk assessment to control the risks associated with weather conditions, ground conditions and manual handling etc. Where a Contractor is authorised to apply Drain Earth(s) they shall produce the risk assessment which shall be reviewed as acceptable by the Senior Authorised Person for safety from the system issues, e.g. detached Drain Earth.

For the application and removal of Drain Earth(s), refer to Section 7.3.

In order to hold a Safety Document where the Earthing Schedule is issued to a Contractor, the Contractor shall be authorised in accordance with Appendix E. The recipient of the Safety Document is responsible for the control and safe custody of Drain Earth(s).
6 General Requirements for Portable Earth(s)

6.1 Portable Earthing Device(s) and their associated application device(s) shall be inspected and maintained.

Earthing Device(s) shall be examined immediately before and after use for defects. Defective Portable Earthing Device(s) and application device(s) shall be immediately withdrawn from service.

Portable Earthing Device(s) will only remain suitable as a Primary Earth or a Drain Earth for a period of 6 months after application.

6.2 Type Registered Portable Earthing Device(s) shall be applied and removed using a Type Registered application device.

In any cell or cubicle, all exposed conductors shall be Isolated and Point(s) of Isolation established before any portable Earthing Device(s) are applied.

6.1 Portable Earthing Device(s) and their associated Type Registered application device(s) shall be maintained. Maintenance shall be carried out in accordance with the Maintenance Policy for all portable Earthing Device(s).

A Senior Authorised Person shall immediately arrange to withdraw from service and dispose of any Portable Primary Earth(s) subjected to short circuit fault current.

When portable Earthing Device(s) are to be applied, or issued under an Earthing Schedule, only those necessary for the immediate operations shall be removed from the store.

It is essential that low resistance connections be established with the portable Earthing Device, to ensure any voltage differences present are limited to within safe levels. Prior to the application of the earth end clamp, the portion of the earth tape to which the earth clamp is to be applied shall be inspected and cleaned to remove paint etc., refer to Figure 6.1B, to encourage a low resistance connection between the clamp and the earth tape.

When the line end clamp is being applied to the busbar appropriately sized earthing clamps shall always be used to ensure an adequate connection is made. Refer to the Type Registration List for details of clamp sizes and the busbar sizes they are designed for. Figure 6.1A shows incorrect application.

When fitting the line end clamp it should be partially rotated in both directions during tightening process to encourage a low resistance connection between the clamp and the busbar.

When applying or removing large head clamps, application device S2 Sockets, refer to Figure 6.1C are more suitable as they have a spigot retaining spring, for applying earth(s) in downward direction or at an angle, whilst allowing clamps free to rotate.

S1 Socket – has a slot, stopping the smaller clamps from rotating, but has no spigot retaining spring.
Guidance
NSI 2
6.1 Cont. to 6.2

Figure 6.1A Figure 6.1B Figure 6.1C “S2” clamp top

Portable Earthing Device(s) shall be returned to the storeroom as soon as practicable after use.

Due to imposed Impressed Voltage Conditions once applied and in addition to any weather factors, a 6 month limit is in place for portable Earthing Devices(s). This is to assure that the portable Earthing Device(s) remain electrically and mechanically suitable to carry a fault or induced current.

The TNCC carry out regular audits to identify Earthing Device(s) that have reached or are approaching this limit, and will inform the responsible Senior Authorised Person at the relevant Location. This allows for a controlled replacement of the Earthing Device(s) to take place where necessary.

Where portable Earthing Device(s) have been replaced with a maintained and inspected set as part of precautions that can be varied on a Safety Document, the TNCC should be informed at an appropriate point in time to ensure that they can update the records on the Integrated Energy Management System (IEMS), for example at the cancellation of the Safety Document.

6.2 Portable Earthing Device(s) and their associated application / removal device(s) are identified in Type Registered List TRL 2.2 Part 4 – Substation Portable Earthing Equipment.
7 Application / Removal of Earthing Device(s)

7.1 (a) Fully or partially interlocked fixed Earthing Device(s) shall be applied and removed by an Authorised Person, under the instructions of the appropriate Control Person.

(b) Non interlocked fixed Earthing Device(s) shall be applied and removed by a Senior Authorised Person, under the instructions of the appropriate Control Person.

7.2 Application or removal of portable Earthing Device(s) to be used as Primary Earth(s) shall be carried out by:-

- The Senior Authorised Person who has received the instruction from a Control Person (Safety)
- A Competent Person under the Personal Supervision of the Senior Authorised Person. The Senior Authorised Person will have received the instruction from a Control Person (Safety)

Where additional Personnel are required to assist in the application or removal of portable Earthing Device(s) their role is to provide physical assistance only. This activity shall be carried out under the Personal Supervision of the Senior Authorised Person.

7.3 Before Earthing Device(s) are connected to the earth system the earth system should be inspected to ensure it is intact.

When a portable Earthing Device is to be applied the following sequence shall be undertaken:-

- All earth end clamps shall be applied first
- All line end clamps can then be applied

For removal of a portable Earthing Device the following sequence shall be undertaken:-

- All line end clamps shall be removed first
- All earth end clamps can then be removed

At no time shall the line end clamp of a portable Earthing Device be allowed to remain connected when its earth continuity path has been compromised / detached. An additional earth shall be applied in parallel before the faulty Earthing Device is removed.

7.4 An appropriately authorised Competent Person may remove and apply Primary Earth(s) as defined on a Sanction for Work.

7.5 Before a break is made in an electrical conductor or a connection is made across a break, the Senior Authorised Person shall assess the means of excluding Danger, which could arise from voltage difference. Where Danger exists, Earthing Device(s) shall be applied on both sides of, and in close proximity to, the point where a break or connection is to be made.

7.6 Equipment connected to line end circuits are subject to circulating currents, before a break is made consultation shall be sought from an overhead line Senior Authorised Person.
7.7 When HV Equipment has been disconnected from all primary and secondary supplies in preparation for temporary removal from the normal position the use of Drain Earth(s) is not necessary, provided that it is not Charged and Danger is excluded.

7.8 When Drain Earth(s) prevent access to the point of work, and Danger could arise from Charged Equipment, the HV Equipment shall be connected to earth by applying Drain Earth(s) at the nearest convenient point. Drain Earth(s) shall be applied in accordance with an Earthing Schedule. These Drain Earth(s) may be removed in turn as the work is done. Each earth removed shall be replaced before the next one is removed.

7.9 When working on Metal Enclosed Switchgear and Earthing is required, reference shall be made to Management Procedure NSI 3 - High Voltage Metal Enclosed Switchgear.

7.10 Earthing Device(s) applied for the dissipation of trapped charge at GIS substations may only be applied to Isolated sections and does not require the establishment of Point(s) of Isolation prior to their application or removal.

7.11 Fixed line end Earthing Device(s) at the Mid-Point of a complex circuit should be identified by the additional nomenclature suffix ‘R’ (or determined by a suitable Technical Limitation). These are restricted to a specific operating sequence to prevent them interrupting high levels of circulating current. This shall be co-ordinated and instructed by the Control Person (Safety).

If any restricted Earthing Device is required:

i) as a Drain Earth on an Earthing Schedule

ii) to be operated under a Sanction for Work

iii) as Equipment to be maintained under a Safety Document

iv) under an ‘Operate as Required’ switching instruction

The Control Person (Safety) shall confirm the availability of the restricted Earthing Device(s) as a Drain Earth(s) and / or its suitability to be maintained before Consent to a Safety Document.

If an ‘Operate As Required’ instruction is requested for a restricted Earthing Device(s) by substation staff, the Control Person (Safety) shall review the overhead line circuit on which the restriction exists on the Integrated Energy Management System (IEMS).

Where a suffix ‘R’ Earthing Device has been installed, the route it is associated with is classified as a Complex Circuit and the circulating current flowing could be up to a maximum of 900A. See Appendix A12 for the earthing requirements.
7 Application / Removal of Earthing Device(s)

7.1 The application or removal of any Earthing Device, including an ‘Operate As Required’ (OAR) switching instruction, requires the receiver of the instruction to be compliant with NSI 30 and all relevant Operational Authority Authorisations.

7.2 Application and removal of portable Primary Earth(s) is controlled by either switching instruction, or under a Safety Document.

A Senior Authorised Person shall receive the instruction for the application or removal of portable Primary Earth(s). Switching Instructions for earthing shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of Management Procedure - NSI 1 “Operational and Safety Switching”.

Before applying portable Primary Earth(s) the Senior Authorised Person shall carry out a risk assessment and record the appropriate controls e.g. Model Risk Assessment for Application and Removal of Portable Primary Earth(s)” or the rear of the Switching Instruction Sheet. To achieve this, the Senior Authorised Person shall carry out a visual risk assessment at the point of earthing.

Senior Authorised Person shall consider the following as part of their risk assessment:-

- Condition of portable Primary Earth(s) inspected for damage and within inspection date
- Condition of earth tape at point of application
- Point(s) of Isolation confirmed
- Point at which Earthing Device(s) are to be applied
- Proximity of adjacent Live HV Equipment
- Proximity of lower level exposed conductors e.g. stress shields, corona rings, CT housing etc.
- Ground conditions at point of application
- Height at which portable Earthing Device has to be applied
- Prevailing weather conditions
- If using already applied Earthing Device(s), the time they have been applied for and whether a new set will need to be applied to comply with the 6 months rule.

Figure 7.2A - Example of proximity of lower level equipment - Safety Distance to be maintained when applying portable Earthing Device(s) will be from the bottom of the CT housing not the conductor as indicated by the red arrows.
The control measures shall include, where appropriate:

- Switching out adjacent Live Equipment
- Ensuring that electrical protective device(s) are in service on adjacent busbars and circuits
- Number of portable Earthing Device(s) required
- Deciding whether additional Personnel should be used to assist with the application or to help prevent loss of control
- Reference to dimensional drawings
- Use of Optical measuring device(s)
- Use Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP) for application / remove of Earthing Device at height

If a MEWP is used for high level application / removal of portable Earthing Device(s), Safety Distance shall be maintained at all times. The controls for this shall be identified in the generic risk assessment, which is made site specific by the Senior Authorised Person.

The risk assessment shall be retained in an A4 folder titled “Portable Earthing Device(s) Risk Assessments” located within the substation switching office for a period of 6 months.

Contractors shall not apply, remove or assist in the application or removal of portable Primary Earth(s) to or from the System unless they are under the instructions specified with a Sanction for Work Safety Document and have the appropriate authorisations to do so.

Where reasonably practicable portable Earthing Device(s) with single earth leads shall be applied. The application of single earth leads will assist to reduce potential manual handling issues associated with the application of multiple earth leads. An example where it is not reasonably practicable is where some caged equipment have double earth leads specifically designed.

Earthing at Hall Type 132 kV Substations is controlled via an interlock system. An example is included in Appendix B for guidance.

Where portable Primary Earth(s) are applied or removed under a Safety Document, this shall be noted in the ‘Work to be Done’ area, and no switching instruction will be issued.

Where portable Primary Earth application or removal requires a Safety Document for proximity only, it is permitted to obtain such a document for the Equipment on which proximity will be infringed, and then obtain a switching instruction for the application / removal.

Example: High level National Grid busbars are to be earthed, requiring approach to the conductors in the bay of a 3rd party.

- A Safety Document would be obtained from the 3rd Party for proximity working only.
- The Senior Authorised Person shall confirm possession of the proximity Safety Document to the NG Control Person (Safety), who can then issue a switching instruction to apply portable Primary Earth(s) to the busbar.

7.3 Before Earthing Device(s) are connected to the earth system endeavours should be made to ensure the earth system is intact. This may consist of a visual inspection, communication with site representatives or viewing Technical Limitations.
When an increase of number of portable Earthing Device(s) is required for existing portable Primary Earth(s) as detailed in Section 4.1 Guidance; the requirement to ensure all ear end clamps are applied first followed by all line end clamps will apply for the additional Earthing Device(s) only.

Operating pole, type ESI-P1 for the application and removal of portable Earthing Device(s) shall not be greater than 6.1 metres in length (2 long poles and 1 short pole).

Where multiple earth leads are connected in close proximity to each other at the ear end connection, and cannot be adequately separated, if one is required to be removed then both shall be removed prior to the re-application of the other.

When the continuity path of a portable Earthing Device has been compromised, an additional earth shall be applied in parallel. All work relying on the portable Earthing Device as a safety precaution or as a further precaution shall be halted, until the portable Earthing Device has been replaced. For Primary Earth(s) the Control Person (Safety) shall be immediately informed.

The risk assessment for the application of the additional portable Earthing Device shall ensure that no Personnel are exposed to Danger.

7.4 A Competent Person authorised to Management Procedure – NSI 9 “Testing High Voltage Equipment”, may remove and apply Primary Earth(s) as defined on a Sanction for Work.

7.5 Where Danger is excluded due to existing earthing arrangements, reduced drain earthing may be utilised, for example, where Primary Earth(s) is in close proximity to the break.

7.6 High circulating currents may appear on substation line end Equipment. The Senior Authorised Person shall consult with an overhead line Senior Authorised Person competent to Management Procedure - NSI 4 “Working on or Near High Voltage Overhead Lines”.

High circulating currents (900 A) can flow in the Earthing Device(s) applied by overhead lines to a Complex Circuit. Prior to work commencing the overhead line Senior Authorised Person may apply additional Primary Earth(s) to sectionise the circuit or by the local application of a DrESS.

High circulating currents (450 A) can flow in the conductors of a simple circuit. The overhead lines Senior Authorised Person will guide and assist in the management of this current.
Typical Configurations of Circulating Current in Substations

Guidance
NSI 2
7.6 Cont.
Figure 7.6A shows the overhead line and substation authorisation interface when earthing on line end **Equipment**.

**Note:** NSI 6 & 8 applies to all work inside the HV compound

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**NSI 2 / 4 Authorisation Boundaries**

**Notes—Typical example layout arrangement**
- When the Terminal Tower Downlead is fully within the Substation fence line—it is permissible for the NSI2 Senior Authorised Person (SAP) to allow the application of the Substation Applied DrESS to any point on the Downlead.
- The application of all Substation Applied DrESS schemes shall follow the guidance information within TGN 313 Section 3—Scheme 3 (Application of a Substation Applied DrESS).
- All Substation Applied DrESS Schemes shall be applied under a Safety Document.
- An NSI 2 SAP shall consult with an NSI 4 SAP prior to the application of any Substation Applied DrESS Scheme, for the management of induced circulating currents.
### Guidance

**NSI 2**

7.7 to 7.11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidance NSI 2</th>
<th>7.7 Management Procedure NSI 33 – “The Addition / Removal To / From The System” gives guidance on the process for temporarily removing <strong>Equipment</strong> from the <strong>System</strong> e.g. for workshop repair.</th>
<th>7.11 Where a fixed <strong>Earthing Device</strong> has been identified as at the Mid-Point of a complex circuit, it should be identified with a suffix ‘R’; for example, X101AR.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>A Technical Limitation can also identify a suffix ‘R’ fixed <strong>Earthing Device</strong>, but this should be temporary until such time as the numbering can be updated.</td>
<td>The sequencing to prevent a Mid-Point earth from interrupting established high levels of circulating current is ‘not last one applied’ and ‘not first one removed’. To avoid the interruption of any circulating current, the methodology of ‘first applied’ and ‘last removed’ shall be utilised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Where an alternative <strong>Earthing Device</strong> is utilised in place of a suffix ‘R’ device, e.g. X101B, then all the requirements and restrictions of being a Mid-Point earth still apply. The rating for a portable <strong>Earthing Device</strong> in such a position is covered in A12.</td>
<td>Where a fixed <strong>Earthing Device</strong> has been identified as at the Mid-Point of a complex circuit, it should be identified with a suffix ‘R’; for example, X101AR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A suffix ‘R’ <strong>Earthing Device</strong> can be maintained / operated under a <strong>Safety Document</strong>, provided a suitable earth is quoted adjacent or on its line side.</td>
<td>A suffix ‘R’ <strong>Earthing Device</strong> can be maintained / operated under a <strong>Safety Document</strong>, provided a suitable earth is quoted adjacent or on its line side.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An ‘Operate As Required’ (OAR) switching instruction can only be issued if the principles above are adhered to, with the appropriate control measures put in place.</td>
<td>An ‘Operate As Required’ (OAR) switching instruction can only be issued if the principles above are adhered to, with the appropriate control measures put in place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This will be coordinated by the <strong>Control Person (Safety)</strong> at the TNCC.</td>
<td>This will be coordinated by the <strong>Control Person (Safety)</strong> at the TNCC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8 Special Cases of the Application of Primary Earth(s)

8.1 Earthing at Tandem Isolators

When it is necessary to apply or remove portable Primary Earth(s) at Tandem Isolators and special earthing facilities are not provided, this shall where reasonably practicable be carried out with Point(s) of Isolation established at both sides of the Isolator. If this is not reasonably practicable the Senior Authorised Person shall carry out a written risk assessment and decide the appropriate control measures and safe method of applying the portable Primary Earth(s) to the HV Equipment.

8.2 Earthing Above Live Circuits shall not be carried out.

8.3 Indoor Type Substations

When applying Earthing Device(s) at Hall Type Indoor 132 kV Substations the Senior Authorised Person shall carry out a written risk assessment detailing the control measures required to prevent items falling out of the busbar trolley whilst traversing above Live circuits.

8.4 Transformers and Reactors

If the work involves any disconnection of the Transformer or Reactor from the earthed HV System, all three phases of at least one winding of the Transformer or Reactor shall remain earthed to avoid the possibility of induced voltages.

The requirement for continued earthing, will be assessed by the Senior Authorised Person on site and if required may be achieved by the application of either additional Primary Earth(s) or Drain Earth(s). (The Senior Authorised Person shall assess if the transformer or reactor windings need to remain Earthed.)

When a generator transformer is connected to a generator turning on barring gear, care shall be taken that the continuity of the earth path through the windings is maintained. If work on the tap changer or windings is undertaken, any point of disconnection shall first be bridged. This is to avoid an induced decaying High Voltage being produced across the disconnection due to the collapse of a magnetic field associated with any small circulating current in the transformer windings.

8.5 In-feeds from Auxiliary and Earthing / Auxiliary Transformers

a) Primary Earth(s) shall where reasonably practicable be applied to the HV System between the point of work and the LV Point(s) of Isolation on Auxiliary or Earthing / Auxiliary Transformers.

b) Where it is not reasonably practicable to apply Primary Earth(s) to the HV System between the point of work and the LV Point(s) of Isolation on Auxiliary or Earthing / Auxiliary Transformers, then the requirement of NSI 2 Section 4.3 shall where practicable be applied.

c) Where this is not practicable, safety from the LV System shall be achieved by applying two Point(s) of Isolation in series on the LV side of the transformers.
8 Special Cases of the Application of Primary Earth(s)

8.1 The design of Tandem isolators is such that it is possible when applying or removing portable Earthing Device(s), with one side of the Tandem Isolator still Live, for loss of control to result in inadvertent earthing of Live Equipment.

Figure 8.1A – End Rotating Post Busbar Isolators Arranged in Tandem

Figure 8.1B – Schematic View of Busbar Arrangement

8.3 The risk assessment shall take account of how all items of tools; objects etc. are to be secured within the trolley to prevent the potential for them to fall onto Live circuits whilst the trolley is traversing.
8.4 The possibility of induced voltages appearing on a disconnected transformer terminal may be avoided by ensuring that all three phases of at least one winding of the transformer are short circuited and earthed, and all windings are earthed either at a terminal or the neutral. The short circuit and earth may be formed by the previously applied Primary Earth(s).

If the neutral connection of an autotransformer which has three separate phase neutral connections is broken, then both the higher and lower voltage terminations of that winding will need to be earthed to maintain an effective short circuit.

For example, it is possible to change the 400kV bushings of a 400 / 132kV autotransformer provided earth(s) are maintained on the 132kV terminals, the Neutral and the Tertiary terminals (if connected to an Auxiliary Transformer).

8.5 b) Where the point of work is the Auxiliary / Earthing Auxiliary Transformer then the Primary Earth(s) shall where reasonably practicable be applied to the HV conductors adjacent the Auxiliary / Earthing Auxiliary Transformer.

c) Where two Point(s) of Isolation are utilised on an Auxiliary / Earthing Auxiliary Transformer any Point(s) of Isolation under the control of CPS2 shall be held for the CPS1 by the issue of a RISSP (Record of Inter System Safety Precautions).
9 Special Cases of the Application of Drain Earth(s)

Application / Removal of a Substation Applied DrESS

9.1 **Point(s) of Isolation, Primary Earth(s)** shall be established to cover all infeeds; prior to a Safety Document being issued to apply or remove a Substation Applied DrESS.

For the application or removal of a Substation Applied DrESS, the circuit where practicable shall be solidly bonded to Earth via a Primary Earth, up to the point of application. This may require HV Equipment being locked in the closed position to establish and maintain the earth path. The Substation Senior Authorised Person and OHL Senior Authorised Person shall consult, agree and record any Safety Precautions that need to be established and maintained throughout the course of the work.

9.2 The methodology within TGN 313 – Section 3 - Schemes 3A or 3B shall be utilised when applying / removing a Substation Applied DrESS.

9.3 The Substation Applied DrESS shall be applied in accordance with an Earthing Schedule that will be issued along with the Safety Document.

The recipient of the Safety Document is responsible for the control and safe custody of the Substation Applied DrESS Earthing Device(s) and application device(s) issued with an Earthing Schedule.

A Competent Person, or a Person that is under their Personal Supervision may apply and remove the Substation Applied DrESS in accordance with an Earthing Schedule under a Safety Document.

The application and removal of a Substation Applied DrESS, can only be undertaken by National Grid Personnel, under no circumstances should any contractor be allowed to apply or remove a Substation Applied DrESS.

9.4 Substation Applied DrESS Earthing Device(s), and the application device, shall be Type Registered, inspected, and maintained. They shall be examined immediately before and after use for defects. Defective Earthing Device(s) and application device(s) shall be immediately withdrawn from service.

9.5 For all following work, separate, dedicated Safety Document(s) shall be issued. Reference to the Substation Applied DrESS Safety Document shall be made on all subsequent Safety Document(s) quoting that DrESS.

9.6 Immediately prior to the clearing of Safety Document(s), all issued Substation Applied DrESS Earthing Device(s) and associated application device(s) shall be accounted for.

9.7 Prior to cancelling the Safety Document(s), the Senior Authorised Person shall ensure that, all the Substation Applied DrESS Earthing Device(s) and associated application device(s) has been accounted for.

9.8 The Substation Applied DrESS may be converted to a Primary Earth, where suitably rated, on cancellation of the Safety Document. This process will be managed by the TNCC.
9 Special Cases of the Application of Drain Earth(s)

9.1 The point a Substation Applied DrESS is being applied to must be connected to a **Primary Earth** at the time of application and removal. This can be achieved on the same document that makes a disconnection between the point of work and the **Primary Earth**, provided the sequencing of work ensures a connection between the point of application and a **Primary Earth** is in place at the time it is applied / removed.

Where the point at which a Substation Applied DrESS is required cannot be connected to a **Primary Earth** at the time of application (e.g. downed conductors), an alternative Safe System of Work will need to be established. Consultation should include the Substation **Senior Authorised Person**, **Control Person (Safety)**, OHL **Senior Authorised Person** and Asset Engineering to develop an effective earthing scheme.

9.3 For the application / removal of a Substation Applied DrESS the recipient of the **Earthing Schedule** shall undertake a personal risk assessment to control the risks associated with weather conditions, ground conditions and manual handling etc.

**Note:** Dedicated Type Registered Substation Applied DrESS Earthing Device(s) have a cross sectional area of 50mm² and are a maximum of 30m in length.

A Type Registered Earth pole of 1400 mm in length has been designed and Type Registered for use when applying / removing the Substation Applied DrESS. Calculations undertaken, confirm that the circulating current that creates an **Impressed Voltage** at the application / removal point will be no greater than 30kV.

The Type Registered 1400 mm Earth pole, as a minimum, can therefore be utilised but a greater length pole can be used. Which length pole is used should form part of the risk assessment considering accessibility, manual handling, working position, etc.

For further information on the sequence of the application and removal of **Drain Earth(s)** in general, refer to Section 7.3.

9.4 Dedicated Type Registered (Substation Applied DrESS only) Earthing Device(s) and their associated application devices shall be uniquely identified and stored in the Earth store.

Substation Applied DrESS **Earthing Device(s)** and their associated application devices shall be maintained. Maintenance shall be carried out in accordance with the Maintenance Policy for all portable **Earthing Device(s)**.

Further information on the general requirements for portable earths can be found in Section 6.

9.5 The **Safety Document** issued for the application / removal of the Substation Applied DrESS is a stand-alone **Safety Document** for the application / removal of the Substation Applied DrESS only.

**Control of a Substation Applied DrESS Safety Document**

The **Safety Document** and associated **Earthing Schedule** after the application of the DrESS shall be **Locked** in a **Card Safe**.
The Senior Authorised Person issuing any subsequent Safety Document(s) shall issue a Key from the Card Safe holding the DrESS Safety Document. The Key issued shall be recorded on that subsequent Safety Document(s) in Section 5.

All subsequent Safety Document(s) shall also be endorsed in Section 2, under “Further Precautions”, with the words “Substation DrESS is applied (location) under Safety Document (no.)”

When all subsequent Safety Document(s) are cancelled the Substation Applied DrESS Safety Document can be released from the Card Safe to remove the Substation Applied DrESS and then cancelled.

9.8 An appropriately uniquely named / rated Substation Applied DrESS can be declared to a Control Person (Safety) at the TNCC, as a Primary Earth on cancellation of a Safety Document(s); to allow for alternative earthing to be quoted on further Safety Document(s).

10 Earthing Against Point(s) of Isolation from the LV Side of Voltage Transformers

10.1 When earthing against Point(s) of Isolation from the LV side of a Voltage Transformer (VT), the preferred method is for a Primary Earth to be applied and quoted either;
   a) between the point of work and the VT.
   or
   b) solidly connected to the HV side of the VT, throughout the course of the work. This is irrespective of the distance between the voltage transformer and the Primary Earth.
   or
   c) solidly connected to a teed section of the conductors between the Point of Work and the VT, throughout the course of the work. This is also irrespective of distance.

10.2 Where it is not reasonably practicable to utilise a Primary Earth as per 10.1, Danger shall be excluded from inadvertent energisation from the VT by either;
   a) Drain Earth(s) applied to the VT HV connection.
   or
   b) two Point(s) of Isolation in series should be established on the LV side of the VT, to form Double Isolation as per AMBP101.

Note: Should any work on a Capacitor VT be required, especially if dismantling the Capacitor VT, whilst utilising Double Isolation; then caution should be taken to ensure all capacitive elements are discharged and shorted out prior to physical contact.

10.3 Where a VT features an integral Earthing Device, that connects it to an earth as part of the same action that disconnects itself from the HV System:
   a) The isolating mechanism can be moved to the earthing position as part of the same instruction that establishes the Isolation.
   b) The Earthing Device is considered a Primary Earth solely for the requirements of earthing the VT itself.
10 Earthing Against Point(s) of Isolation from the LV Side of Voltage Transformers

10.1a Where an HV capacitor is in series between the VT and the Primary Earth, the electrical properties of the capacitor will result in the capacitor being a solid connection between the VT and Primary Earth.

Capacitor C1 electrical properties act as a solid connection to earth switch X251A.

Figure 10.1a – HV Capacitor in Series between VT and Primary Earth

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To protect from inadvertent energisation of the VT the Primary Earth has to remain solidly connected to the HV side of the VT, throughout the course of the work. This is irrespective of the distance between the VT and the Primary Earth, as indicated by the Red arrowed line.

Solid connection means that the VT is connected directly to a Primary Earth i.e. no physical break between the two, for example by:-

- a disconnection.
- Disconnector / Isolator or Circuit Breaker in the open position.
- double wound transformer winding.

A solid connection is however acceptable provided through a disconnector or circuit breaker providing the Equipment is in the closed position and secured by a locking device i.e. Locked and the associated Safety Key secured in a Key Safe as a safety precaution.
Guidance
NSI 2
10.1b to 10.1c

Figure 10.1c

In this example the capacitor VT on the capacitor bank does not have a Primary Earth solidly connected to the VT, as in example 10.1b.

The Primary Earth (PE1) is solidly connected to a teed section of the conductors between the point of work and the capacitor VT, as indicated by the red arrowed line. This is irrespective of distance and therefore is adequate earthing against the capacitor VT Point of Isolation.

The windings of a double wound transformer shall not be considered as a solid connection.

The tertiary connection of a transformer is double wound and hence shall not be considered as a solid connection between the HV or LV windings of the transformer.

The windings of an auto transformer are considered a solid connection.

10.2a To protect against in-feed from the VT itself, it is acceptable to apply Drain Earth(s), these may be applied to the VT arcing horns / corona rings.

10.2b Where two Point(s) of Isolation are utilised on a VT any Point(s) of Isolation that are under the control of CPS2 shall be held for the CPS1 by the issue of a RISSP.
Appendix A - Substation Multiple Primary Earth Requirements

A.1 The assessment of the number of portable Earthing Device(s) to form a Primary Earth at each substation owned or operated by National Grid has been based on the projected maximum and worst case fault level for each substation. Where Earthing Device(s) are to be applied to Equipment operating at a different voltage to that shown listed in Appendix A.10 e.g. 132kV Transformer Bushings in a 400kV Substation, the number of Earthing Device(s) applied shall be as shown for the operating voltage of the Equipment.

A.2 This assessment also included a consideration of the maximum theoretical induced circulating current likely to be seen on circuit line ends at 400 kV and 275 kV substations against that of the continuous current rating of the portable Earthing Device. It should be noted that in some circumstances line end circulating currents may be present further in the substation and where this condition is applicable; then the line end earthing requirements shall be used. See Table A11 “Earthing Line End Sub-conductors” for details of number of portable Earthing Device(s) for circuit line end sub-conductors.

A.3 Normal running arrangement fault levels (or switchgear nameplate short circuit fault current ratings when no other information was available at the time of publication) have been used to calculate the required number of portable Earthing Device(s) to form a Primary Earth for substations at 132 kV and below which are not owned or operated by National Grid.

Where the number of portable Earthing Device(s) are calculated using switchgear nameplate short circuit fault current ratings, it may be possible to reduce the number required if the maximum fault level for the site in question can be established prior to their application. The Senior Authorised Person should seek advice on the expected fault levels from the owner or operator of the substation and apply the appropriate number of portable Earthing Device(s) to cater for new fault levels.

A.4 At sites not listed the number of portable Earthing Device(s) applied should be equal to or exceed the rating of the switchgear installed at the substation.

A.5 13 kV tertiary fed busbar systems, by exception default to 3 leads.
25 kV Rail Connection systems, by exception default to 1 lead.

A.6 The short circuit capability of a portable Earthing Device has been reviewed and reassigned for use within 400 kV and 275 kV substations where switchgear ratings are defined against a 1 second rating. The benefits from this are an increase in short circuit capability of the portable Earthing Device at these voltages. The new short circuit rating of a single lead and clamp system for use at 400 kV or 275 kV is 25 kA / 1 second.

A.7 The existing rating of 17.5 kA / 2 seconds for a portable Earthing Device still applies to 132 kV substations and below.

A.8 The numbers of portable Earthing Device(s) declared within the lists are based on portable Earthing Device(s) which have a single lead attached (150mm² flexible aluminium).

A.9 The Standard Number of Portable Earthing Device(s) (A.10) is now a live document which is updated as necessary.

A10. The Table (NSI 2 AppA.10) – can be accessed via the National Grid Infonet in the SHES Briefcase or via the ECM portal.
A.11 Earthing Line End Sub-conductors

Where it is necessary to apply portable Earthing Device(s) on subconductors, most commonly at line ends, each of those subconductors must have the same number of Earthing Device(s) applied, and the total number of Earthing Device(s) must equal or exceed the requirement listed in table A10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Substation Portable Earthing Device(s) applied per phase on line end equipment</th>
<th>Overhead Line Sub conductor Configuration</th>
<th>No. of 150mm² Portable Earthing Device(s) per sub conductor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Single</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twin</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Triple</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quad</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Single</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Single</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Twin</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Triple</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quad</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Earths with a different equivalent cross sectional area, such as 50mm Duplex earth(s), can only be applied under a suitable Safety Document, and not under a switching instruction.

A12 Earthing Applied at the Mid-Point of a Complex Circuit [e.g. - adjacent to suffix ‘R’ Earthing Device(s)]

Earthing at a Line End is nominally managed by the Appendix A10; combined with Table A11 where applicable to manage the sub-conductor requirements. This is due to the circulating current being no greater than 450A and therefore a minimum of two 150mm² Portable Earthing Device(s) per phase are required to manage the circulating current level.

Where suffix ‘R’ Earthing Device(s) are installed the circulating current could be up to 900A and therefore four 150mm² Portable Earthing Device(s) per phase are required to manage the increased level of circulating current.

| No. of Substation Portable Earthing Device(s) (150mm²) applied per phase adjacent to suffix ‘R’ Earthing Device(s) | 4 |

A13 Changes to Appendix A10

If calculations, undertaken by Engineering and Asset Management determine, that the number of portable Earthing Device(s) required - changes in the Appendix A10 table then the following process shall be followed.

1. Engineering and Asset Management to communicate all portable Earthing Device(s) changes to the Safety Rules Team and the TNCC Policy Team.

Changes could occur due to a new Location being constructed, addition / removal of Equipment at an existing Location; or as part of the nominal, frequency derived, portable Earthing Device(s) calculations review.

(TP 106 – Equipment Commissioning and Decommissioning; contains a process for any portable Earthing Device(s) requirement additions / changes at a new Location / existing Location).
2. Safety Rules Team and TNCC Policy Team to review and agree the content changes.

Safety Rules Team to prepare the documentation changes - this shall include:

a) Appendix A10 table update, that clearly indicates all the portable **Earthing Device(s)** changes to be made.
b) Immediate Action Safety Bulletin issued, prior to the release of the updated Appendix A10 table to warn all parties of the impending changes. Safety Bulletin to contain agreed Appendix A10 change-over ‘go-live’ date.

(date to be agreed by Safety Rules Team and TNCC Policy Team)

(May take up to 7 days to complete)

3. TNCC Policy Team to communicate to all **Control Person (Safety)** staff the impending changes of portable **Earthing Device(s)** requirements at all **Locations**, as per Appendix A10.

a) When the change-over date directly impacts a **Location(s)** with already issued **Safety Document(s)**, a plan shall be in place for any increase of portable **Earthing Device(s)** required.
b) No action is required where the portable **Earthing Device(s)** have decreased at a **Location**, with already issued **Safety Document(s)**, the existing earthing arrangements shall stay in place until the **Safety Document(s)** they are quoted on are all cancelled.

4. Safety Rules Team to ensure the publication of Appendix A10 aligns with the change-over ‘go-live’ date stated within the Safety Bulletin, if this cannot be achieved then communications are sent out to confirm a revised ‘go-live’ date.

5. **Control Person (Safety)** to liaise with any **Location** that requires an increase in Portable **Earthing Device(s)** requirements, an appropriately Authorised **Senior Authorised Person** shall need to be at the **Location** to follow the process outlined below:

   The **Control Person (Safety)** shall confirm with the **Senior Authorised Person** that;

   a) The **Working Party** is withdrawn from the work area and the **Competent Person** has signed the Transfer Record Section of the **Safety Document**.
b) The **Safety Document** is in the safe custody of the **Senior Authorised Person** and managed by the Status of Transfer Form.
c) The **Control Person (Safety)** will then confirm with a logged statement that all affected **Safety Document(s)** are accounted for, and in safe custody.
d) A Switching instruction shall then be given by the **Control Person (Safety)** to the **Senior Authorised Person** to apply portable **Earthing Device(s)** (amount per phase) to achieve the correct number.
e) Once the switching instruction is confirmed back to **Control Person (Safety)**, the **Safety Document** can be taken out of safe custody by the **Senior Authorised Person** and reissued to the **Competent Person**.
Appendix B - Example of Application of Earthing Device(s) in Hall Type 132 kV Substations

B.1 This appendix is for the guidance for applying Earthing Device(s) to the busbar side of busbar isolators in 132 kV Hall Type substations with a full interlocking system of busbar isolators, busbar fixed earth(s) and bascule / trolley doors. Actual switching sequence may vary depending upon the interlocking design for the substation in question.

B.2 With reference to Figure B1, to apply the first fully rated Earthing Device to the appropriate section of busbar after Point(s) of Isolation have been established to the appropriate section of busbar. Safety Distance shall be maintained at all times for the application of the first fully rated Earthing Device:-

- To earth busbar adjacent to isolator 414
- 413, 416, 514,154,314, 184, 104, 136, 128 all Point(s) of Isolation
- Close and lock isolator 134
- Close the appropriate fixed Earthing Device i.e. earth switch 131B
- Close bus coupler circuit breaker 130
- Close the appropriate fixed Earthing Device i.e. earth switch 131A
- Open the bus coupler circuit breaker 130

Figure B1 – Hall Type 132 kV Substation

B.3 Once the above sequence has been followed and the appropriate section of busbar has been Earthed via a fully rated Earthing Device, where it is not reasonably practicable to maintain Safety Distance, encroachment within the specified Safety Distance may now be allowed for the application / removal of Type Registered Earthing Device(s) and their associated application device(s) under rule R2.3b of the National Grid UK Electricity Transmission plc Safety Rules.
Appendix C - Guidance on the scope of NSI 2 when working on Cable Sealing Ends (CSE)

When cable is earthed at local CSE by the application of an Earthing Device, disconnections can be made from the cable primary conductor connection to the busbar side by NSI 2 authorised Senior Authorised Person / Competent Person. Consideration shall be given to circulating currents when the cable is part of line end equipment.

The scope of NSI 5 includes not only the cable but also any Equipment electrically connected (not via an earth) to the cable as current may be circulating in or voltage may be transferred onto the connected Equipment.

The Equipment affected by the requirements of NSI 5 is illustrated in Figure 1.

![Figure 1 Scope of NSI 5.](image)

Referring to Figure 1, a number of features are observed. Auxiliary cables are included within the scope of NSI 5 as induced voltages or transfer of earth potential rise affect auxiliary cables. Oil tanks are outside the scope of NSI 5 since pipeline insulators isolate the oil tanks.

Note: That while the earth(s) of cable systems are outside the scope of NSI 5, that currents circulating in cables can be returned via the earth and that the requirements of NSI 24 Shall to be met.
Appendix D - Creating Circulating Currents when applying Earthing Device(s)

The following process shall be followed by an Senior Authorised Person when preparing a Safety Document for work involving the separation / disconnection / reconnection of conductor joints.

The table below summarises the variation of calculated circulating current magnitude, as a function of loading condition and bay separation distances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bay-centre to bay-centre distance (m)</th>
<th>Load (MVA)</th>
<th>150</th>
<th>200</th>
<th>250</th>
<th>500</th>
<th>750</th>
<th>1000</th>
<th>1250</th>
<th>1500</th>
<th>1750</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Load(A) 400kV case</td>
<td>216.5</td>
<td>288.7</td>
<td>360.8</td>
<td>721.7</td>
<td>1082.5</td>
<td>1443.4</td>
<td>1804.2</td>
<td>2165.1</td>
<td>2525.9</td>
<td>2886.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Calculated Circulating current</td>
<td>17.41</td>
<td>23.22</td>
<td>29.02</td>
<td>58.05</td>
<td>87.07</td>
<td>116.10</td>
<td>145.12</td>
<td>174.15</td>
<td>203.17</td>
<td>232.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.6</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.67</td>
<td>14.22</td>
<td>17.78</td>
<td>35.56</td>
<td>53.33</td>
<td>71.11</td>
<td>88.89</td>
<td>106.67</td>
<td>124.45</td>
<td>142.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.07</td>
<td>8.09</td>
<td>10.11</td>
<td>20.23</td>
<td>30.34</td>
<td>40.45</td>
<td>50.56</td>
<td>60.68</td>
<td>70.79</td>
<td>80.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.42</td>
<td>5.89</td>
<td>7.36</td>
<td>14.73</td>
<td>22.09</td>
<td>29.45</td>
<td>36.81</td>
<td>44.18</td>
<td>51.54</td>
<td>58.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>4.57</td>
<td>5.72</td>
<td>11.43</td>
<td>17.15</td>
<td>22.87</td>
<td>28.59</td>
<td>34.30</td>
<td>40.02</td>
<td>45.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a Green level, no further action is required in addition to applying NSI 2.

For a Red level, further actions are required that need to be determined on advice from the Earthing Specialist within Engineering and Asset Management.

Immediately before any separation / disconnection / reconnection of conductors the SAP shall re-check the adjacent circuit loadings and confirm if the level of calculated circulating current is as planned. If not, STOP, re-reference the table and determine if Red or Green actions are required.

A hold point reflecting this check shall be included in the Risk Assessment for the work being undertaken.
## Appendix E - Authorisation Matrix for Contractors Personnel

Contractors appointment under this NSI shall be limited to the following sections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contractor Personnel</th>
<th>Person Competent</th>
<th>Authorised Person</th>
<th>Senior Authorised Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sections</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>6.1, 6.2, 7.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.4*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If the contractor is Competent to NSI 9 then in addition to the above sections they will also be limited to 7.4.