

Update on the Grounding Section

**“Guide for the Application of Surge Protective
Devices for Low Voltage AC Power Circuits”**

C62.72 draft 10/08/13

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Presentation Topics

- **SPDC WG 3.6.6 continuing work on C62.72**
- **Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13**
- **Problems(?) with grounding in C62.72-2007**
- **Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13**

SPDC WG 3.6.6 continuing work on C62.72

- Definitive upgrade work began in 2009
- **Several Task Forces on important issues**
- Cmte vote in 2013 to submit ballot version
- **Ballot particulars recently finalized 03/2014**
- Chair Ron Hotchkiss set to announce ballot
- **Ballot Cmte selected**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13 (With on-screen view of C62.72 draft)

- Change in Title, Abstract
- Specific work areas focused on by the working group
 - 28 citations listed
- Extensive revisions to Definitions, acronyms and abbreviations

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **5.3 Internally generated (switching) surges**
 - 5.3.1 Normal operations
 - 5.3.2 Abnormal operations
- **7.6 Risk assessments**
- **9.4 Available short-circuit current and SPD short circuit current rating**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **11 Grounding (earthing) and Bonding**
 - **11.1 SPD grounding lead and related considerations**
 - **11.2 Common bonding network**
 - **11.3 Grounding**
 - **11.4 Ground (earth) potential rise (GPR/EPR)**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

**12.1 SPD faulted protection mode (N-G)
relationship to load return current (neutral current)
flowing on unintentional grounding/bonding paths**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- 13.1.1 Surge tests
- 13.2 SPD surge current and nominal discharge current ratings
- 13.3 SPD maximum continuous operating voltage (MCOV)
- 13.4 SPD response time
- 13.5 Joule (energy) ratings
- 13.6 Rated load current

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **13.7 Fault current interruption capability**
 - 13.7.1 Short-circuit current rating
 - 13.7.2 Load-side short-circuit capability
- **13.8 Temperature range**
 - 13.8.1 Maximum operating temperature withstand
 - 13.8.2 Storage temperature
- **13.9 Load-side surge withstand**
- **13.10 Voltage regulation (voltage drop) of an SPD**
- **13.11 SPD power system configuration**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- 13.12 SPD types
- **13.13 SPD enclosure rating**
- 13.14 SPD status indicators
- **13.15 SPD disconnectors**
- 13.16 SPD certification and safety considerations
- **13.17 SPD modes of operation**
- 14.2 Temporary overvoltages (TOVs)

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **16 SPD coordination considerations**
 - **16.1 Surge waveform and duration**
 - **16.1.2 Combination wave surges**
 - **16.2 SPD conductor (lead) length**
 - **16.3 Distance between SPDs, types, location categories and IEC test classes**
 - **16.3.1 Distance between SPDs**
 - **16.3.2 SPD type terminology and location categories**
 - **16.3.3 IEC Class I, II, and III test terminology**
 - **16.3.4 Terminology and coordination**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **16 SPD coordination considerations**
 - **16.4 Distance between the origin of a surge and the end-use equipment**
 - **16.5 Surge-protective devices coordination**
 - **16.6 Surge current capacity and nominal discharge current ratings of the SPDs**
 - **16.7 Aging of SPDs**
 - **16.10 SPDs integral to electrical distribution and end-use equipment**

Major updates in draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **16 SPD coordination considerations**
 - **16.11 Coordination of the SPD's SCCR**
 - **16.12 SPDs used in a lightning protection system (LPS)**
 - **16.13 Installation in hazardous locations**
 - **16.15 SPD coordination and documentation**
- **Annex E – Surges Created by Transfer Switches**

Problems(?) with grounding in C62.72-2007

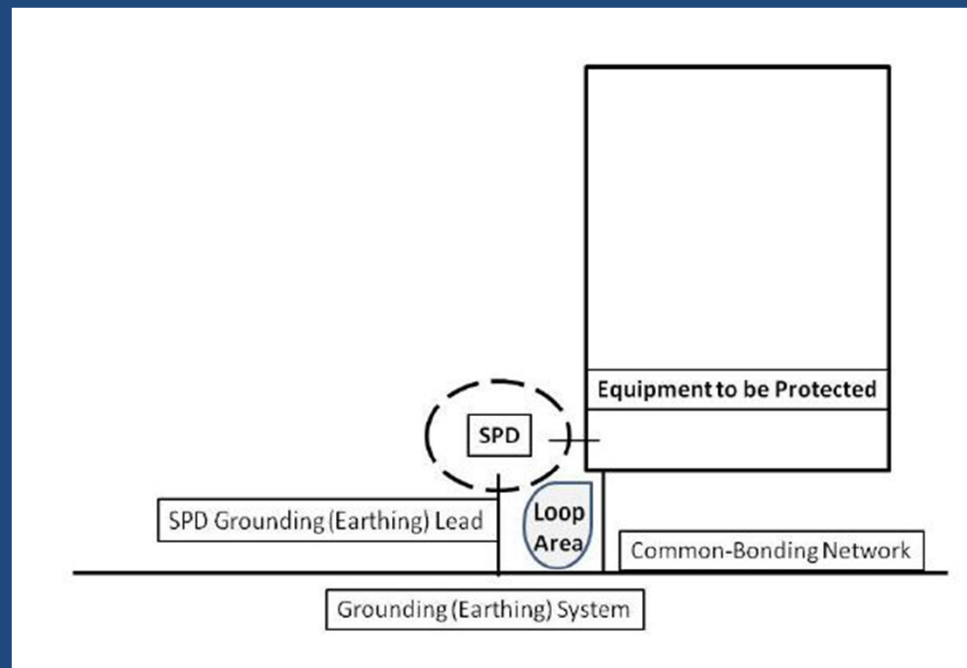
- Emphasized minimizing the earth impedance to optimize the **lightning protection** (LPS) performance of any installed SPDs
 - First “30 meters” impact lightning transient
- **No mention of SPD wiring geometry relative to the formed loop area of the grounding lead and the equipment to be protected**
- Overemphasis on N-G function of the SPD
- **No coverage of SPD N-G “short” fault mode**

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- The dispersion of the surge currents from the SPD grounding lead/terminal to earth is outside the scope of this standard
- **The SPD grounding lead should be as short as practical and installed in a straight and direct manner as feasible.**
 - Partial self-inductance of this lead will be the dominant impedance factor for the lead during a surge current event such as lightning

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- Conceptual drawing of SPD installation geometry with a minimized loop area

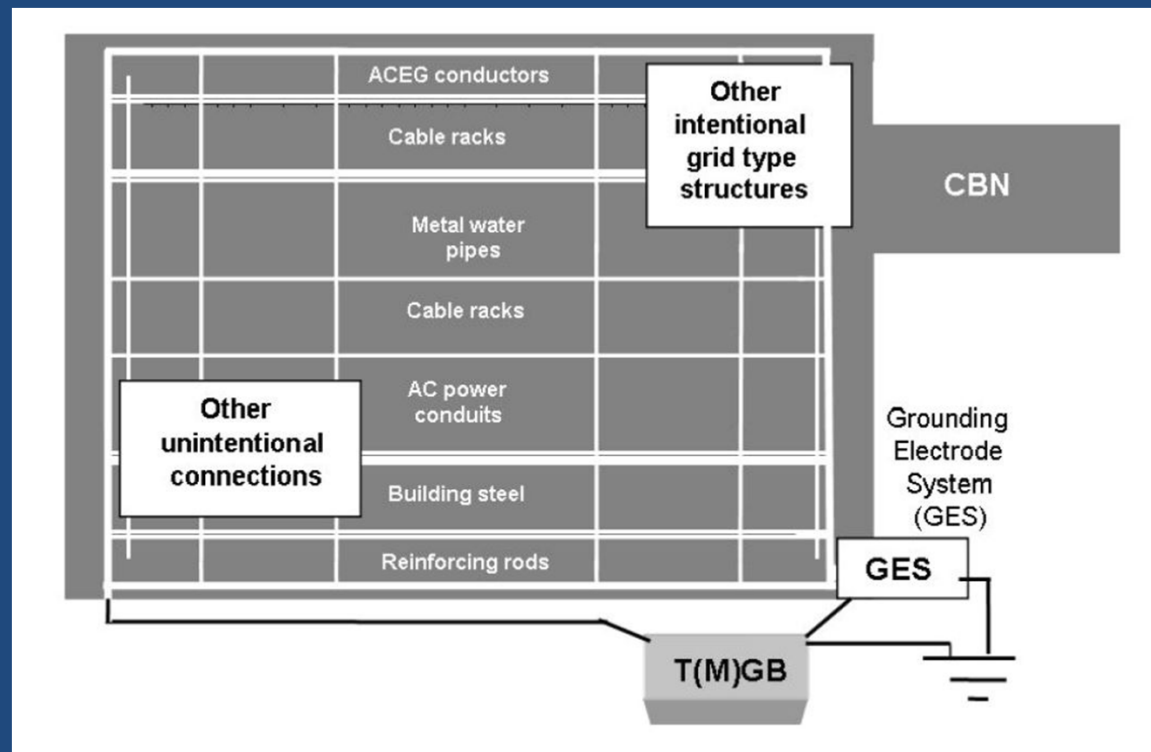


Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **Other related SPD wiring considerations include**
 - **locating the SPD where interconnecting lead lengths are as short as feasible (to reduce lead partial self-inductance)**
 - **protected and unprotected leads are routed and dressed separately (to avoid cross coupling of transient energy)**
 - **leads enclosed in non-metallic bodies are twisted together (to reduce inductive coupling)**

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- Description of common bonding network



Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **Grounding**

- Relative to the installation of SPDs, the condition of the grounding system for the common-bonding network should be inspected to ensure compliance to applicable electrical codes and lightning protection system requirements.
- **Attempts to reduce the net impedance value of the connection of the common-bonding network to the grounding system are unnecessary. Such a reduction does not improve the protective performance of the SPDs inside the facility.**

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **Grounding**

- Therefore, more important than the absolute value of the grounding resistance or impedance is to ensure that all the equipment in the facility is referenced to the common-bonding network.
- **At a minimum, local/regional areas within the network raise/lower to the same relative potential during an impinging surge current event independent of the grounding system.**

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **GPR (EPR)**
 - The SPD can experience an injection of current from a local GPR which is not developed by that SPD. In effect, the SPD then injects current backwards (backfiring) from grounding into the input/output wiring of the SPD.

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **GPR (EPR)**
 - This difference in voltage, applied across the equipment (ports) or across a communication link between two pieces of equipment, can result in permanent damage as well as upset.
 - **Equalizing these voltages can be achieved by proper routing of the input/output wiring through a single device, termed a Multiservice (Multiport) SPD (ports include ac power, coaxial, twisted pair, etc.).**

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- **12.1 SPD faulted protection mode (N-G) relationship to load return current (neutral current) flowing on unintentional grounding/bonding paths)**
 - **Recognizes there can be N-G current due to a faulted SPD in “shorted” N-G mode**
 - **Not considered a safety hazard**
 - **EPRI tests confirmed**

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

- SPD equipped with an added N-G suppression mode installed at a main entrance panel or panel fed from a transformer is unnecessary
 - In countries where N-G bonds at building entrances are not required or are prohibited, the N-G suppression mode may be required at building entrances.

Grounding update to draft C62.72 – 10/08/13

Questions??