

Webinar July 7, 2020

## HVDC switchgear



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### Content

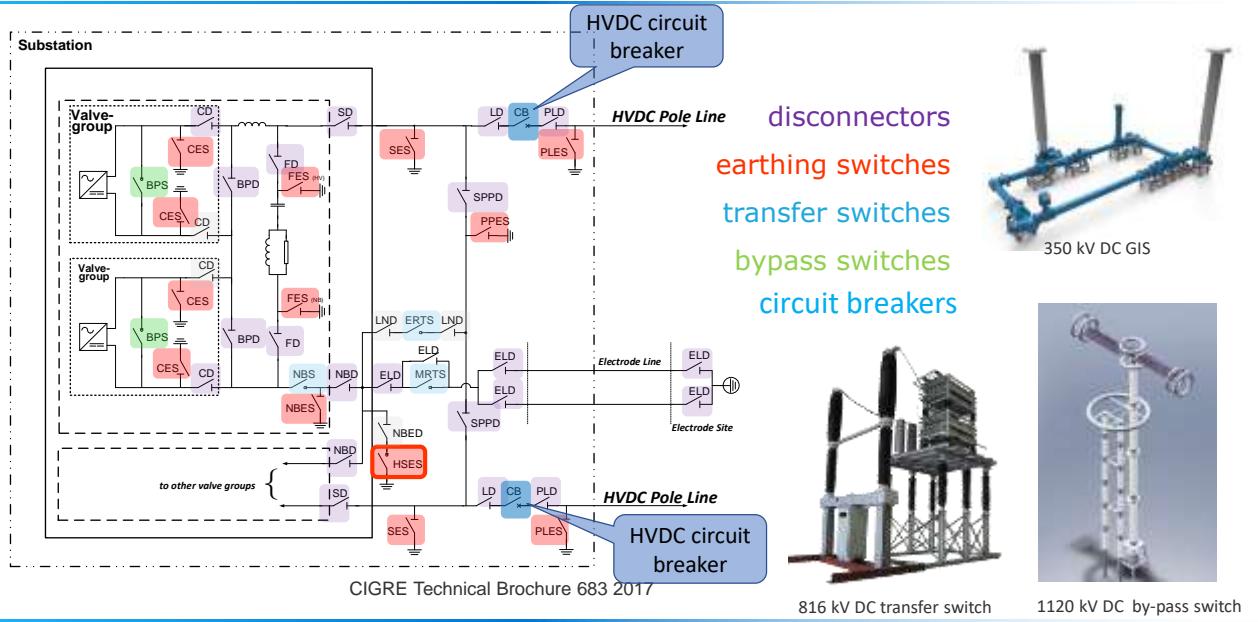
This project has received funding from the European Unions Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 691714.

- HVDC Switchgear → Overview
- HVDC GIS → Why special?
- HVDC Breakers → Why essential?
- Faults in HVDC Grids → What is the issue?
- DC vs AC Current Breaking → Fundamentals
- HVDC Breaker → Technology Status
- Testing → Challenges, Current Status
- Future → Trends and developments



Research work on HVDC breaker stresses @ KEMA labs

## HVDC Switchgear → Overview

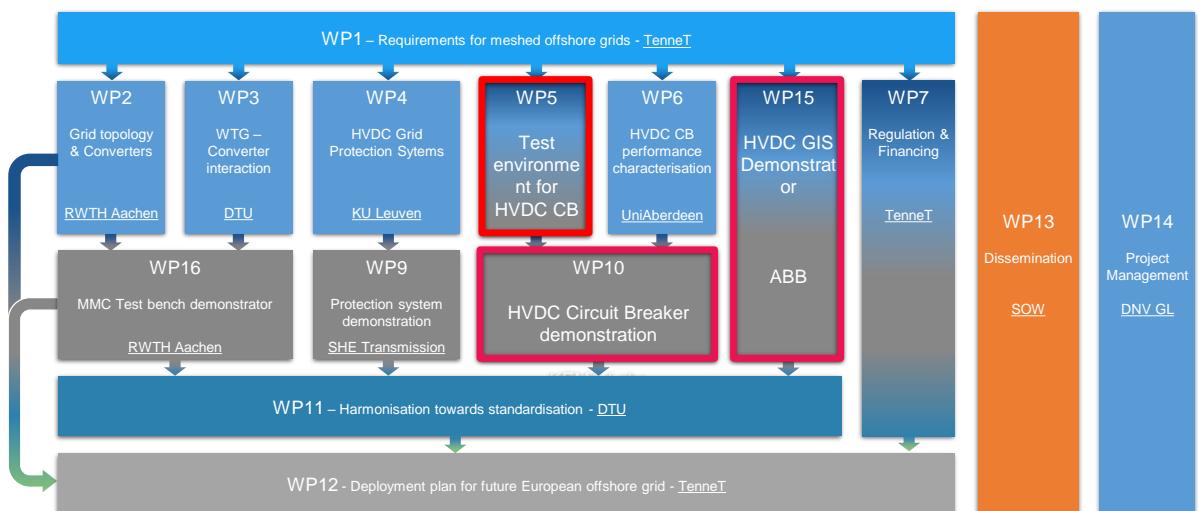


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## PROMOTIoN PROJECT



- 33 consortium partners
- 11 European countries
- 40 M€
- 2016-2020

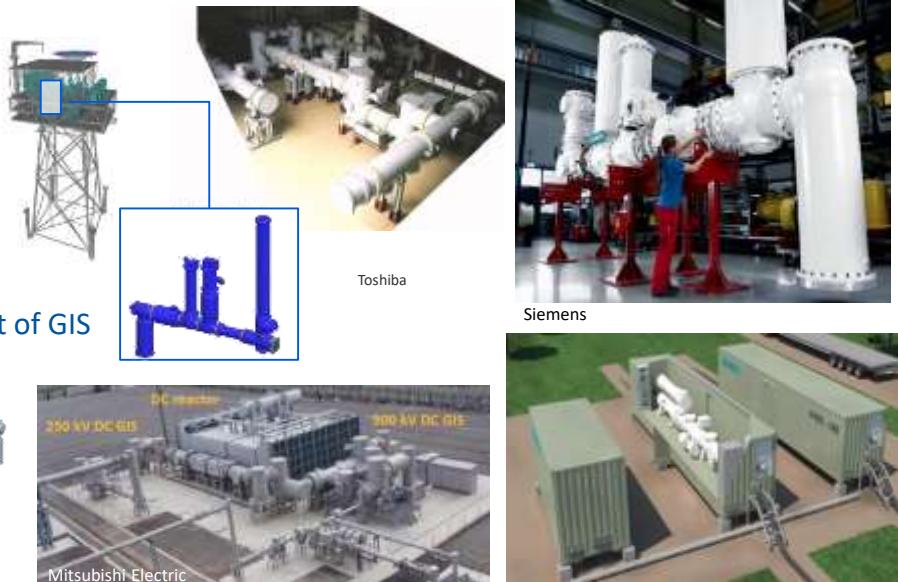
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## HVDC GIS

- Compact HVDC platforms and stations
- Connections of cables to OHL for MT systems
- Up to 500 kV in development
- Circuit breaker not part of GIS



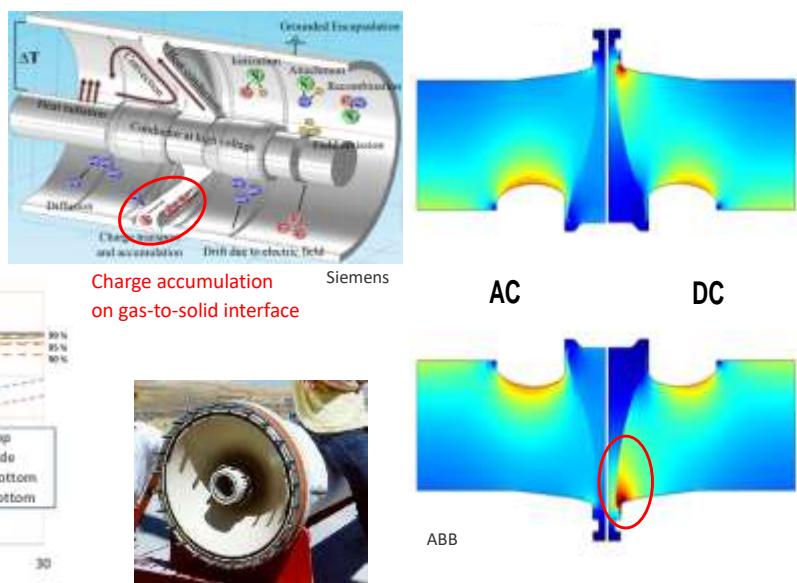
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## Electrical Stresses in HVDC GIS spacers

- Accumulation of space charges determines critical E field stresses
- Time constants are tens of day – weeks, depending on temperature



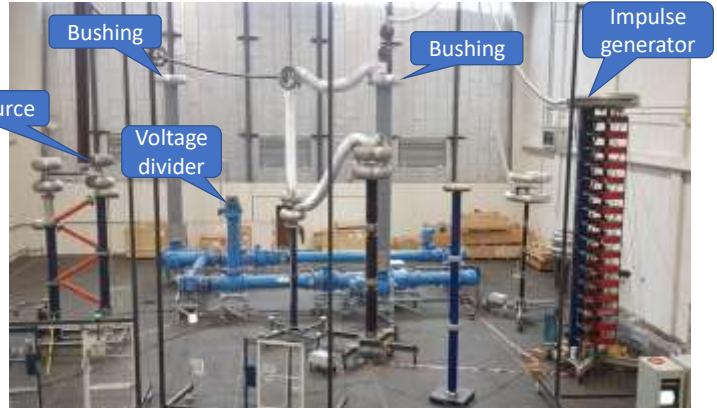
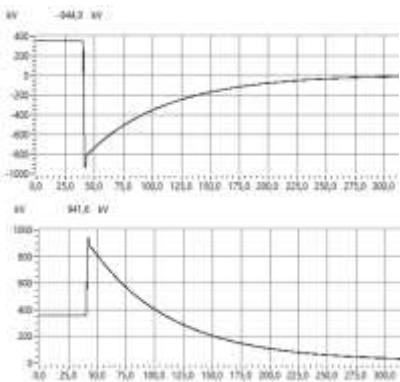
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## 350 kV HVDC GIS prototype installation test at KEMA Labs

- Long term test → 1.5 year
  - ✓ 6 Load cycles
- AC & DC PD measurements
- Lightning and Switching impulse
- Super imposed impulse
  - ✓ DC 350 kV + LI 940 kV / SI 760 kV
- Incl. SF6 free gas
  - ✓ Novec 5110/4710



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## HVDC Circuit Breakers – Enable Selective Protection of HVDC grids

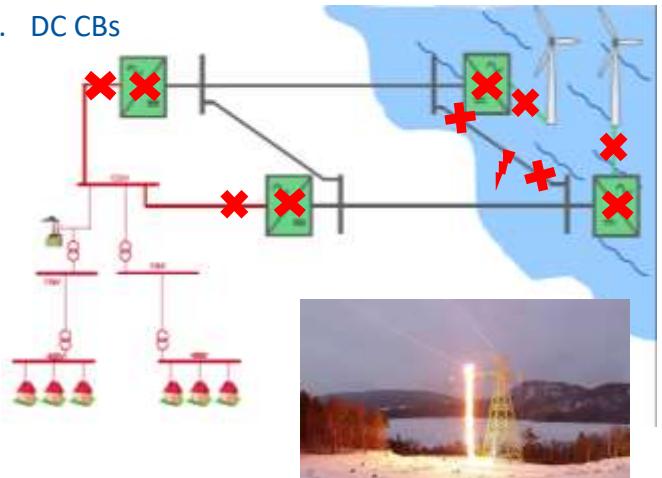


1. AC side → AC CBs

2. Converters

Multi-Terminal HVDC System

3. DC CBs



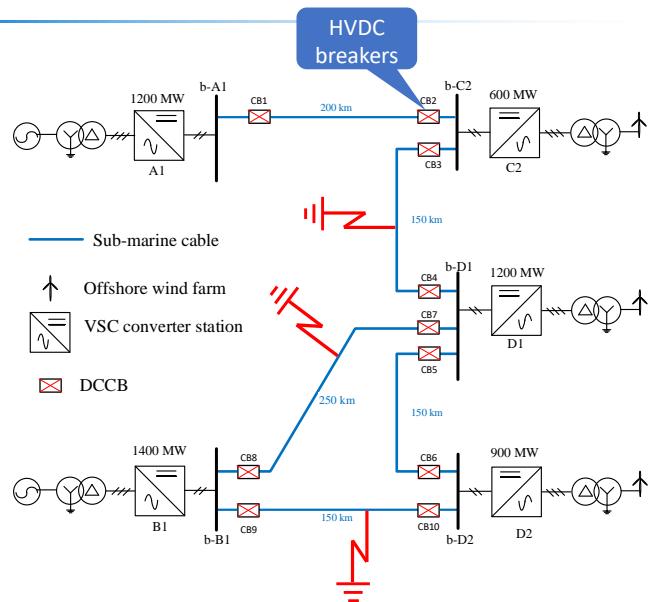
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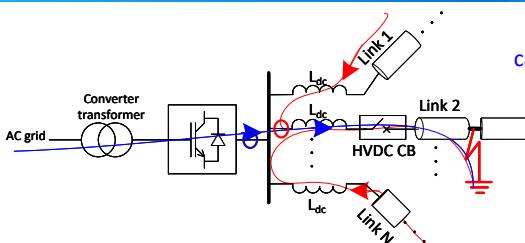
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## HVDC Fault Current Simulations

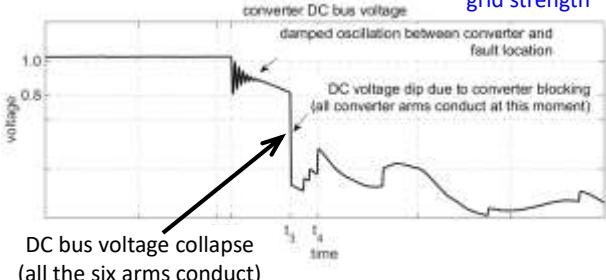
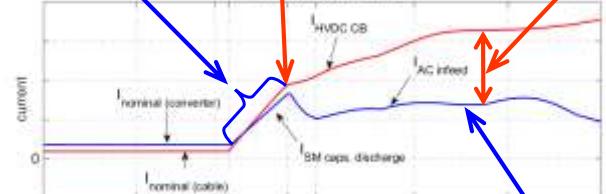
- Five terminal grid with bipolar converter configuration
- ±320 kV, half bridge MMC converter topology
- Only cable interconnection is considered
- Fault analysis without any HVDC Circuit Breaker
- Fault current interruption with models of HVDC circuit breakers embedded



## Fault Current Analysis first

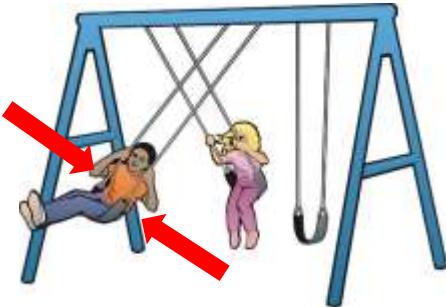


Sub-module capacitor discharge      Converter blocks      Depends on number of connection at DC bus



- The first few millisecond dominated by sub-module capacitor discharge
- At  $t_3$  converter blocks.
- The DC voltage drops following converter blocking
- From  $t_4$  onwards AC infeed through freewheeling diodes

## DC vs AC interruption



15 kA in 100 km line = 11 MJ  
= 30 ton train at 100 km/h



### ▪ AC interruption:

- ✓ Capture the swinging mass in its outer position (current zero)
- ✓ Zero kinetic energy → Max potential energy
- ✓ The sooner the better → min. momentum

### ▪ DC interruption:

- ✓ Oppose the motion of a linearly moving mass ---> **counter voltage**

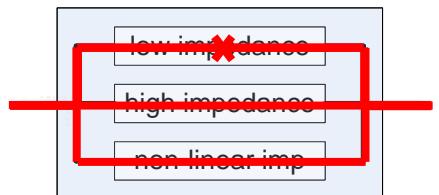
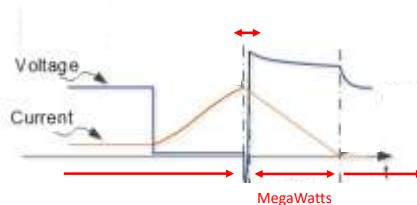
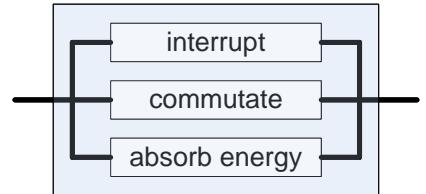
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## HVDC Fault Current Interruption Technique

- How to generate counter voltage?
- Strategy:
  - ✓ Create a current zero in the main path: interrupt
  - ✓ Commutate the current in high-impedance path: commutate
  - ✓ Limit and sustain the counter voltage with a MOSA: absorb energy
- Current will be suppressed to zero



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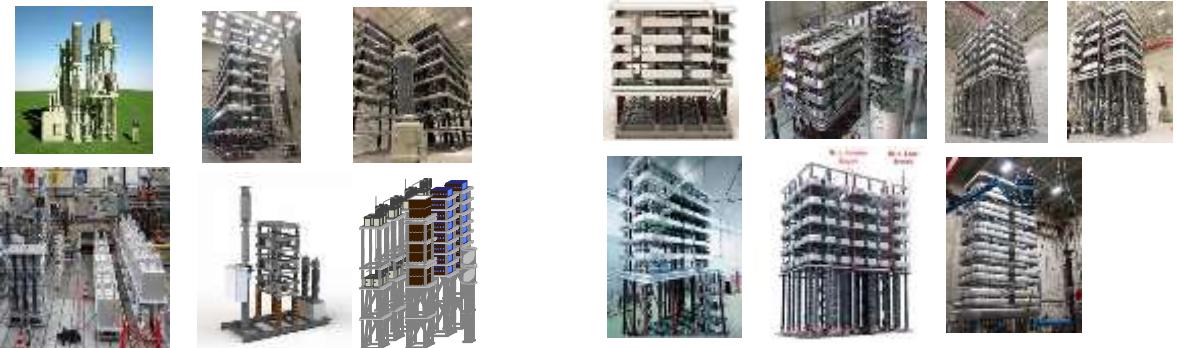
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## Two Mainstream HVDC Circuit Breaker Technologies

- Active current injection technology
  - ✓ Create current zero in a vacuum interrupter
  - ✓ with discharge of pre-charged capacitor
  - ✓ with a power electronics excitation circuit
- Realized up to 500 kV

- Hybrid technology
  - ✓ Block main current path
  - ✓ Force current into a power electronics path
  - ✓ Interrupt with power electronics
- Realized up to 500 kV

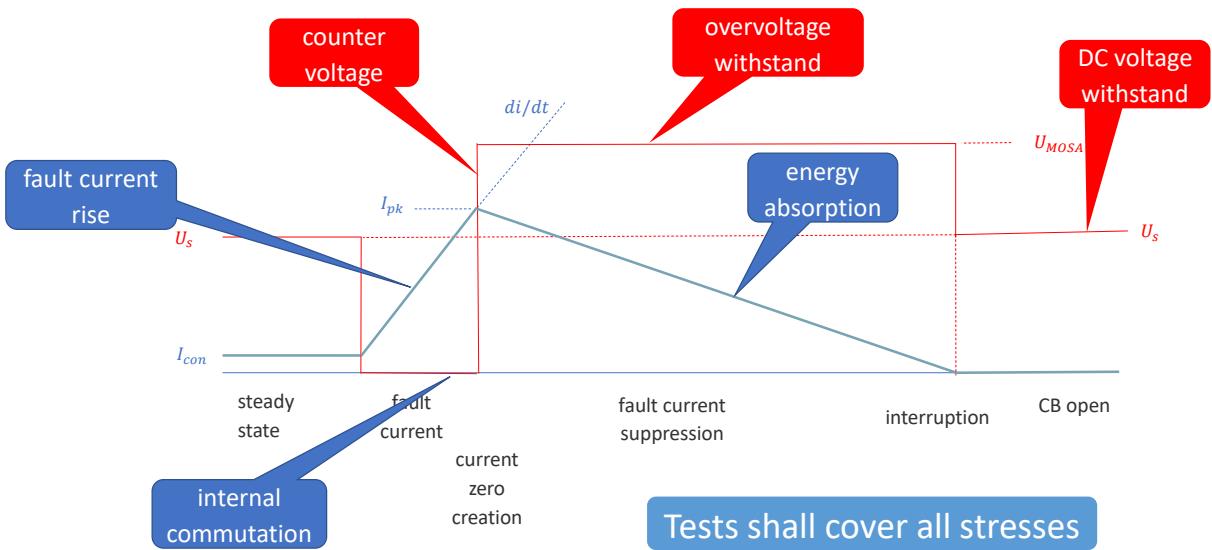


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## The Critical Stresses on HVDC Circuit Breakers

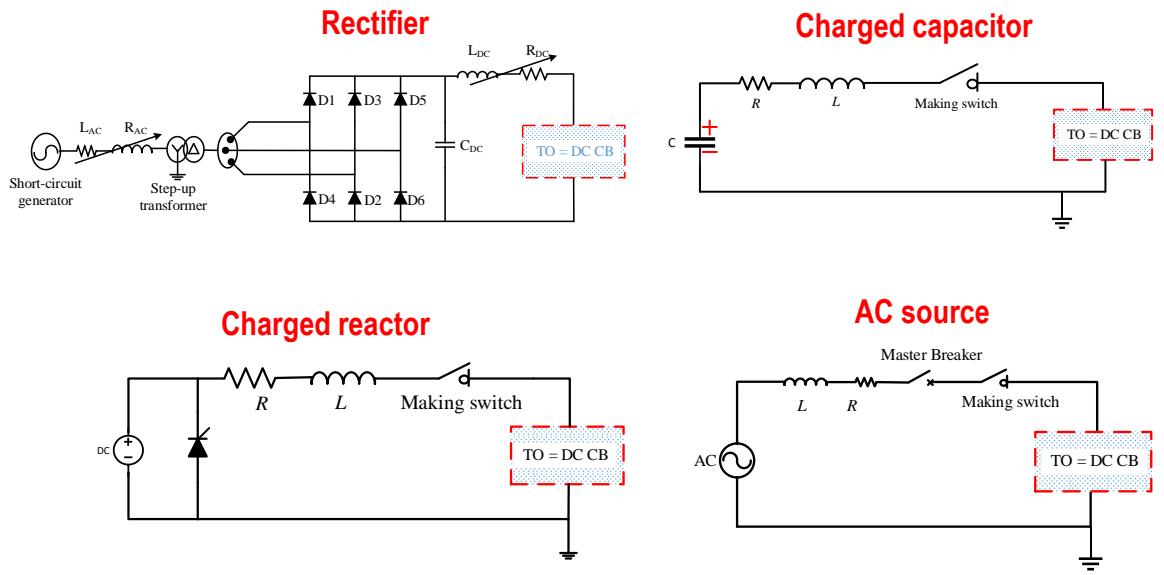


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## HVDC Circuit Breaker Test Methods and Circuits

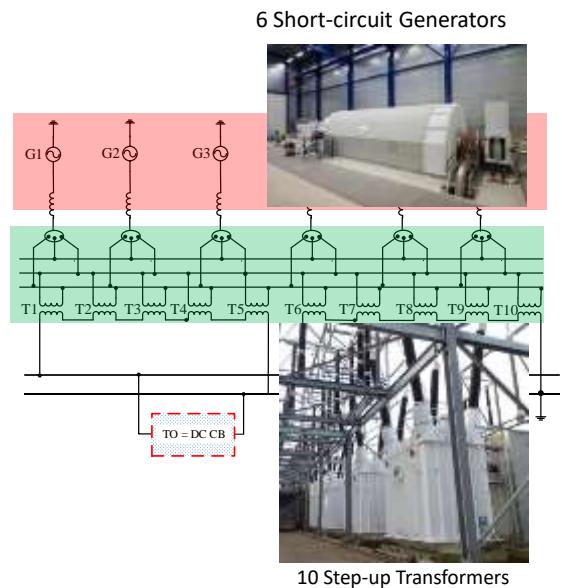
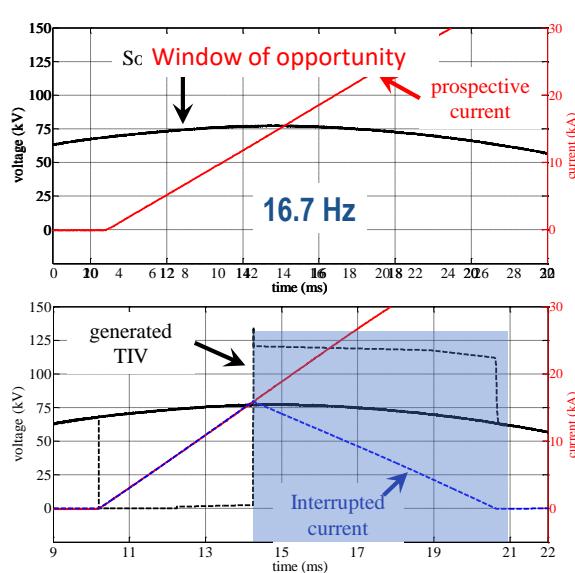


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## KEMA Method → Using Low Frequency AC Generators

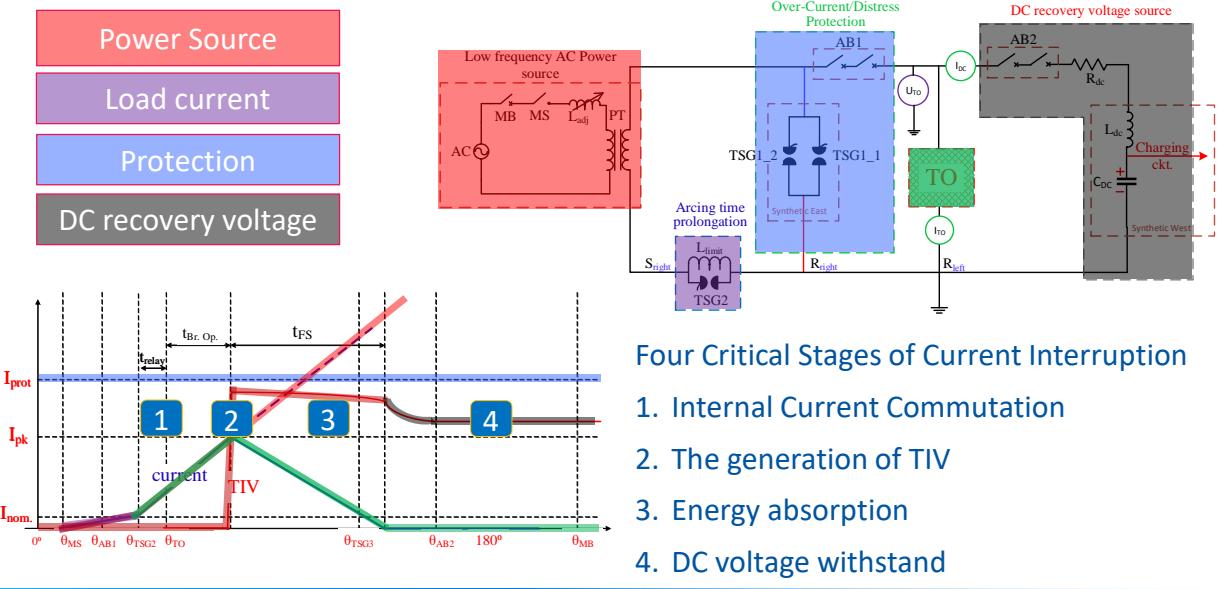


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## Test Circuit for HVDC Circuit Breakers → Critical Aspects



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## SciBreak 24 kV 10 kA DC Breaker under Test – 2018 @KEMA Labs

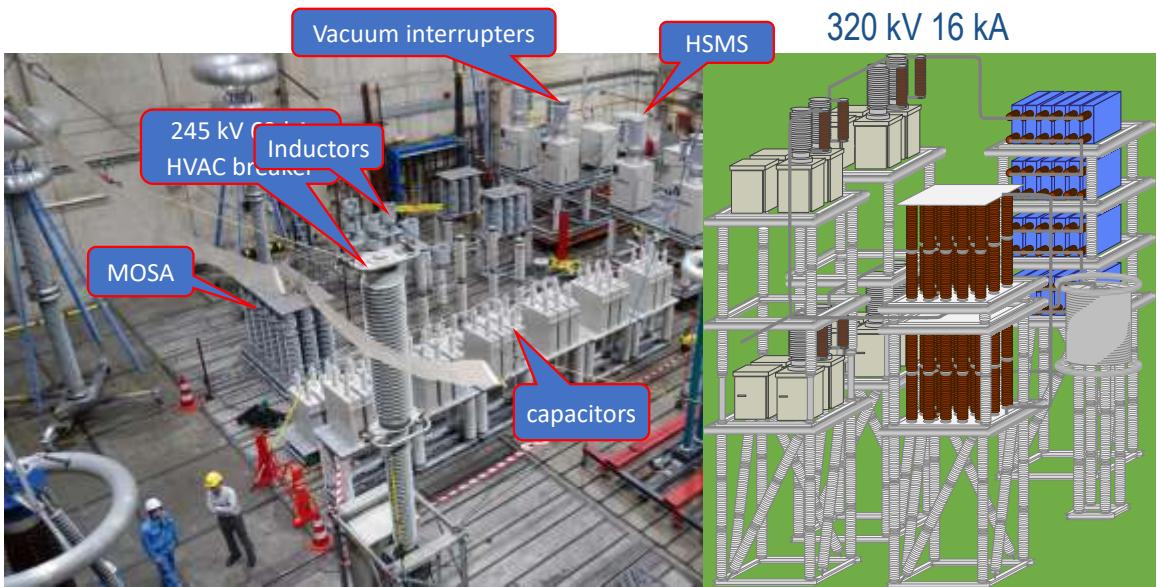


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## Mitsubishi Electric 160 - 200 kV / 16 kA HVDC Breaker under Test @KEMA Labs

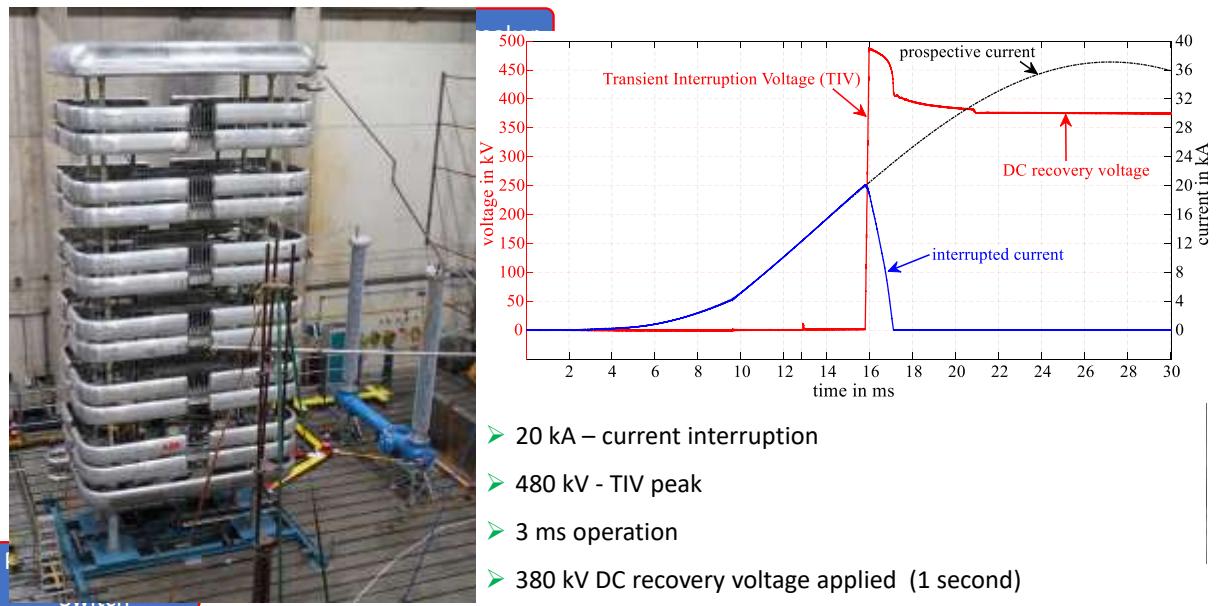


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## ABB 350 kV 20 kA Hybrid HVDC Circuit Breaker under Test @KEMA Labs



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## ABB 350 kV 20 kA Hybrid HVDC Circuit Breaker under Test @ KEMA Labs

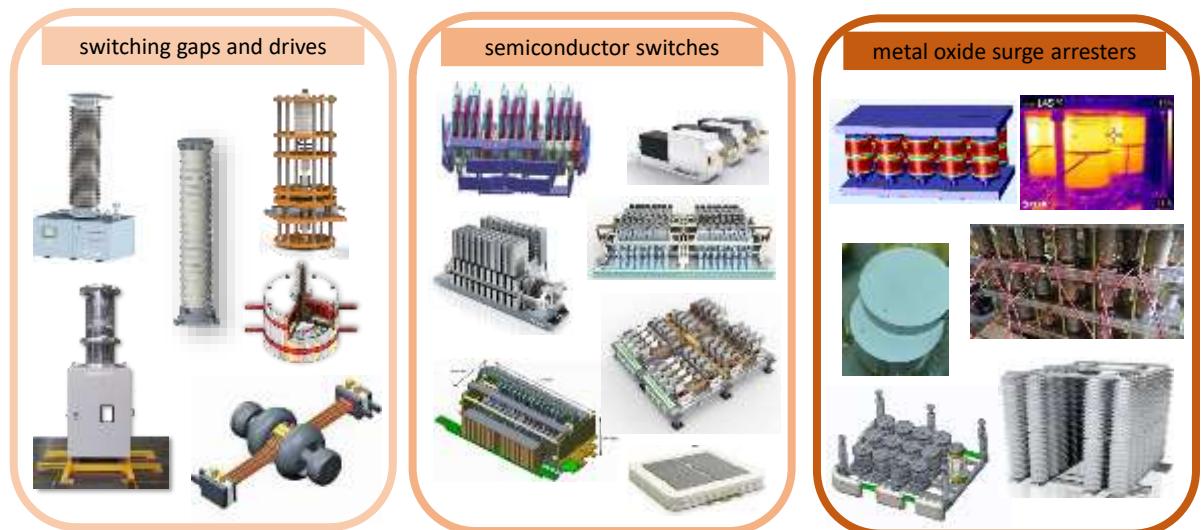


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## Standard Components used in a Non-standard Application → New Stresses



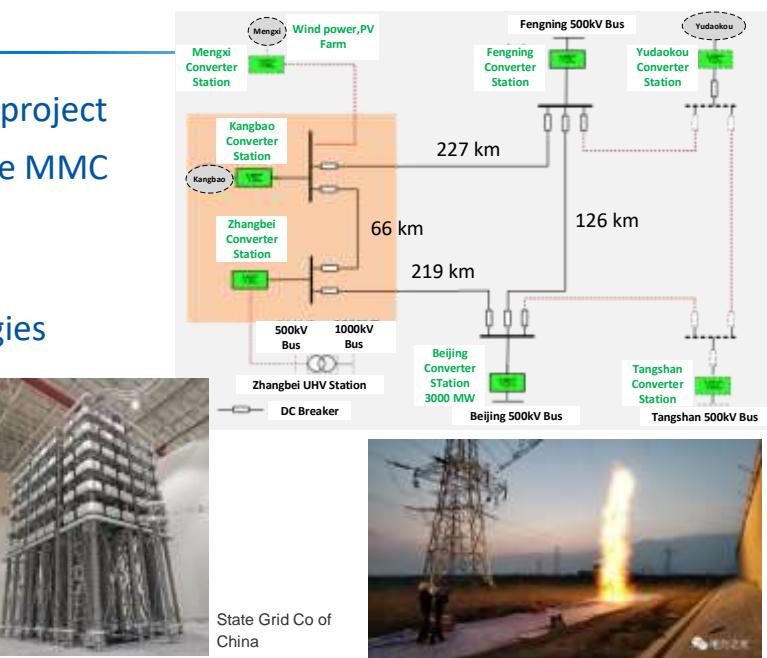
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## Zhangbei project China 2020

- ± 500 kV 4-terminal onshore project
- Symmetric bipolar, half-bridge MMC
- 4.5 GW renewable energy
- 16 HVDC circuit breakers
- 5 manufacturers, 3 technologies



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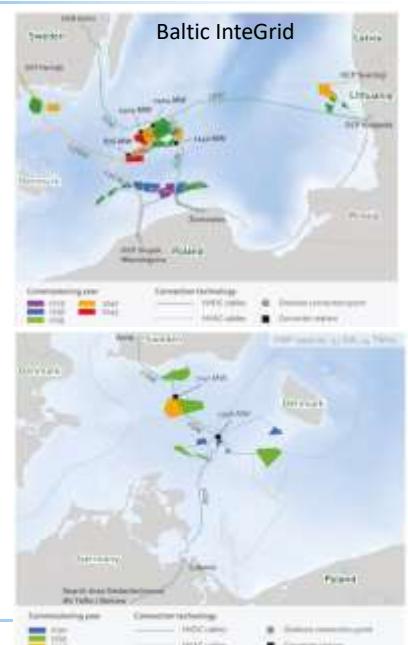
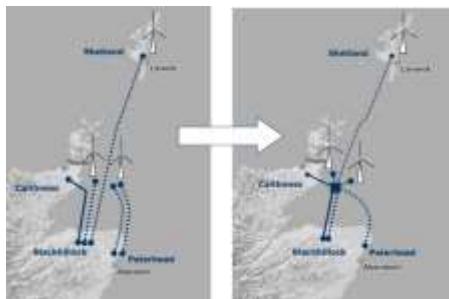
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## Future projects → 2020

- Small-scale multiterminal projects in Italy (SACOI), Canada, China
- Future projects, extensions,
  - Baltic Integrid
  - European Offshore Busbar

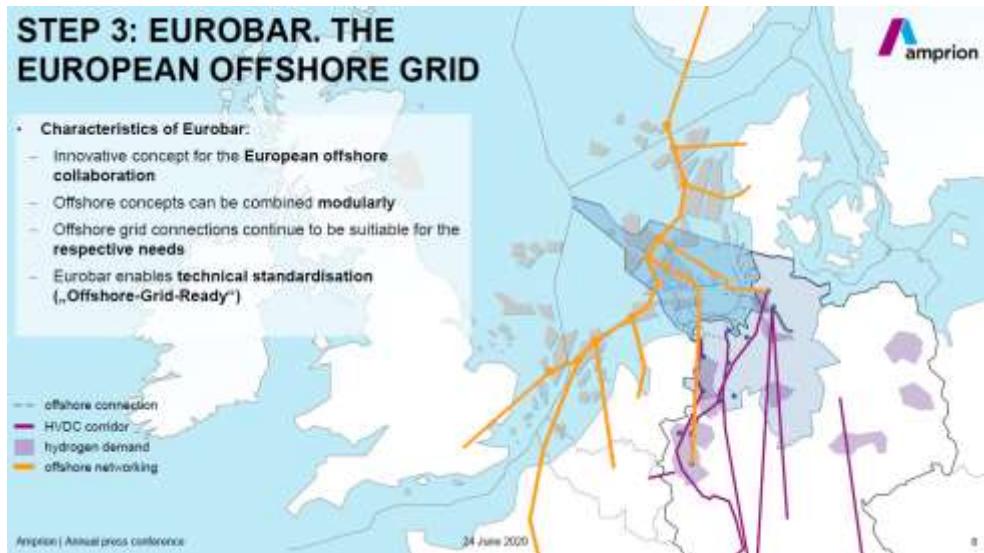
Caithness Moray MT proposal SSE, UK



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## Future projects → 2020: EuroBar



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## Public Demonstrations → LIVE



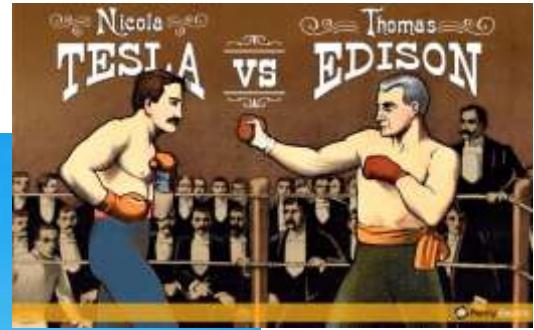
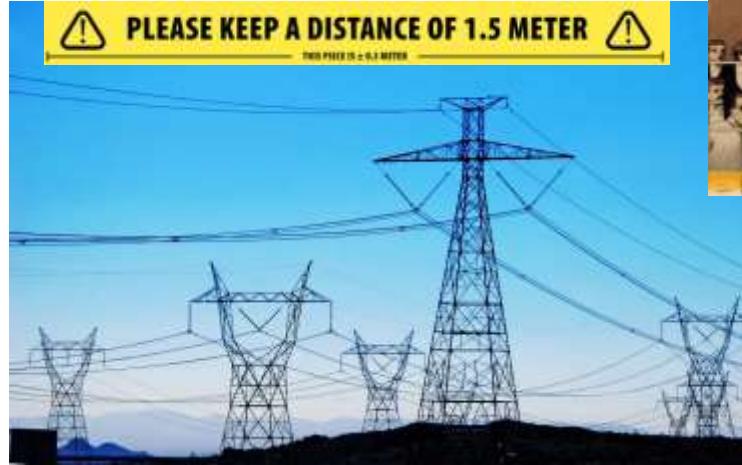
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AC and DC will live together in close harmony → no more “current” War

Thank you for your attention!



PROMOTioN @ CIGRE: Aug. 24 14:00-17:30

PROMOTioN Live Q&A 12:00-14:00:  
 Offshore HVDC Grid Technology Sept 4  
 HVDC technology qualification Sept 11  
 HVDC Grid planning Sept 18

Final Conference: Sept. 21  
 Register [www.promotion-offshore.net](http://www.promotion-offshore.net)

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