ASTROL Product Introduction

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Astrol Electronic AG



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Goals of this webinar

- To get an overview over the new Astrol products and platforms
- To have an idea of the possible applciation of each product group
- To know the strong points of the products





Customized Electronic Solutions



Gate Drive Units and Power Supplies



Trigger Controllers and Optical Interfaces



Power Switches



AC- and DC-Breakers



Corporate Snapshot



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Products

Solid-State Circuit Breakers	Solid-State Power Switches	Gate Drive Units and Isolated Power Supplies	Customized Electronics	Further Products
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Marine DC-Grids	Pulsed Power	IGBT (all types of modules)	Electronics design and	Battery Cyclers
Smart-Grid DC and AC	Railway Neutral Section	Thyristors	manulacluring	Semiconductor Testing
Industrial / Research	Electromagnetic	High di/dt thyristors	 HW and SW design Prototype 	Equipment
maddinar, noodaron	Acceleration (e.g. Maglev		Industrialization	FADEC 3 (Thyristor tester)
	frains)	Digital gate drive units for	Series production	Various controllers and
	Fusion Power / Nuclear Research	series and parallel connection		optical interfaces
	Crowbar Switches	Customized behaviour, feedback etc		
	etc			



Solid-State Breaker - Technology

What is the difference between Astrol Solid-State Power Switches and Astrol Solid-State Breakers?

Solid-State Power Switch

- Typically based on thyristors
- Current interruption needs zero-crossing of the current.
 - AC-Switches
 - Pulsed-power applications with capacitor discharge
- Not suitable for DC applications

Main function:

Controlled <u>switch-on</u> and in some applications switch-off Capacitor discharge, energy dump etc

Solid-State Breaker

- IGBT based
- Immediate current interruption at anytime no zero-crossing required
- Ultra-fast reaction time (within microseconds)
- Suitable for DC applications

Main function: **Protection Switch-off Alternative to fuses and mechanical breakers**



Solid-State Breaker - Technology

What is the difference between a mechanical breaker and the Astrol Solid-State Breaker?

Mechanical Breaker

- Moving parts to create an air-gap
- Standard Current interruption within milliseconds (ms)
- High maintenance cost
- Arcing
- Efficiency close to 100% (only conduction losses of copper)

Astrol Solid-State Breaker

- No moving parts, no air-gap
- Ultra-fast current interruption within microseconds (μs)
- Low maintenance cost
- No arcing
- Efficiency >99% (conduction losses of IGBT)

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Solid-State Breakers - Application Areas

Under the following conditions, Astrol Solid-State Breakers are typically the most favorable solution :

Fast Switching

Some application require immediate switch-off within microseconds. Mechanical breakers are too slow.

Frequent Switching

No wear of electrodes, no moving parts. In contrast to a mechanical switch, the solid-state breaker can be considered maintenance-free.

Save Switching

In hazardous environments such as chemical plants, the breaker is not allowed to cause arcing. The solid-state breaker operates arc-free.

Marine On-Board DC-Grids

The ultra-fast DC breaker protects the onboard DC grids against short circuit currents in any part of the grid, enabling much more efficient topologies.

Microgrids are very low inductive \rightarrow require ultrafast detection and turn-off

Power Distribution – Smart Grid

The ultra-fast breaker

- protects grid connected equipment such as batteries, power electronics etc. from short circuits and over currents.
- Disconnects faulty parts from the grid and limits the propagation of fault currents to other parts of the system





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Solid-State Breakers - Product Offering

Model	3-Phase AC-Breaker	Marine DC-Breaker	Universial Solid-State Breaker
Voltage rating	11kV nominal 27kV peak	1kV	1kV
Current rating	300A nominal 600A peak	200A air-cooled 500A - 5kA water-cooled	2kA
Phase / Pole design	3-phase AC	Bi-directional DC - one pole	Bi-directional DC - one pole
switching speed	Ultra-fast (<10µs)	Ultra-fast (<10µs)	Ultra-fast (<10µs)
IGBT type	Stakpak IGBTs	Hipak IGBTs	Hipak IGBTs
Cooling	Deionized water cooling	Air cooling / water cooling / optional ambient air cooling	Water cooling
Product Certification	-	DNV, Lloyd's	-
Typical application	Power Distribution, Smart Grid, Industry	On-board DC distribution	Industry, Research
First delivery	2019	2018	2020
Picture			



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3-Phase AC-Breaker for Smart Grid Application AA-10755-001



3-Phase 11kV AC-Breaker



12-level IGBT assembly with series connected StakPak modules

Smart Node Application (Soft power processing)

Primary objective of the project

To strenghten the power grid and improve flexibility to cope with changing power demand (for EVcharging etc)

System scope

Connection of two Medium Voltage Substations

The main purpose of the system is to act as a soft power processing unit between two neighbouring electrically connected MV substations. The system will facilitate a controlled transfer of power between the sub-stations bringing flexibility to the MV network and improving the utilisation of the existing infrastructure.



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Solid-State Power Switches - System Integration

Power Electronics

- ► PSU Charging power supply
- S1 Mechanical discharge switch (in case of fault)
- TH1 Electrical discharge switch (in case of fault)
- ► TH2 Main switch
- D1, D2 Protection diodes for charging supply
- D3 Crowbar diode for main switch
- ► R1 current limiting in charging part
- Mechanical impact on all components (in case of fault)
- ► C1 Main storage capacitor
- L1 Output inductance
- ► S1 Mechanical discharge switch

System Control and Monitoring

- Charger and thyristor control
- Current and voltage measurement
- HMI and configuration software



Electrical Design



Mechanical Design

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Solid-State Power Switches - Astrol controller COMICON



COMICON controller

- Charger control
- Thyristor control
- Switch failure feedback
- ► Charging system failure feedback
- Safefy discharge control
- Voltage and current measuring control
- Safety system interface
- All control functions integrated in one device

Current and voltage measurement

- Capacitor voltage measurement
- ► HV output current curve
- Semiconductor failure detection
- Charging current measurement

HMI, operation settings

- System status monitoring
- Charging command
- Discharge sequence setting
- Operational discharge command
- ► Safety capacitor discharge command
- Charging system failure feedback
- Measurement data analysis mode
- Automatic measurement data storage



Products - Strong Points

Solid-State Circuit Breakers



Biggest variety of products

- Especially designed for use as DC-Breaker first product on the market
- Highest di/dt capability available, thereforevery low-inductance system designs possible.
- No added inductance required

Based on widely available semiconductor components

Solid-State Power Switches



Special di/dt thyristors from ABB are exclusivly used by Astrol

Long-term experience with hundreds of systems in operation

Close cooperation with ABB – allowing system specific simulation and out-of-spec use of semiconductors

Best available reliability and system lifetime

Everything designed in-house

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Gate Drive Units and Isolated Power Supplies



Digital Drive Technology offers key advantages:

Higher level of customization

Parametrization and software updates possible

Higher efficiency by digitally optimized switching → Energy Savings!

Longer life-time of IGBTs

Safer system by improved protection functions

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THANKS!