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ArresterFacts are information modules pertaining to the arrester industry.

How to use of an Infrared Thermometer to Field Test an Arrester

Anyone interested in commenting on this module is welcome to do so. Send comments to Jonathan Woodworth at jwoodworth@arresterworks.com

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Infrared Thermography

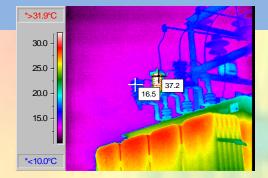
Two Types Available

1. Infrared Imaging

The output of the equipment is an image that shows temperatures of <u>all points</u> on the screen.

2. Infrared Thermometer

The output of the equipment is a simple temperature of <u>one point</u> where the device is pointed.







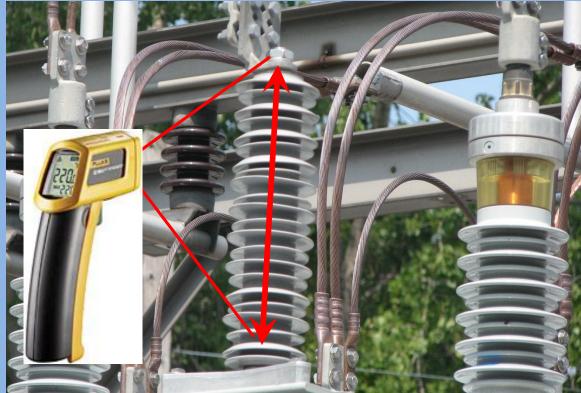
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Infrared Thermometer

Using an Infrared Thermometer

Since only one point on an arrester is measured at a time, the user must simply scan up and down the arrester and watch the output.

Can be done from 10-50ft away



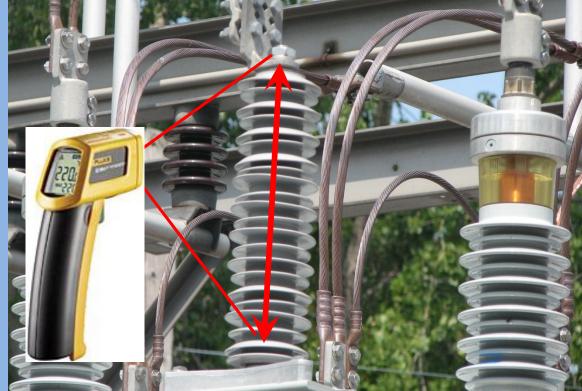


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Infrared Thermometer

What Temps to Expect

Arresters generally operate at ambient temperatures. If any spot on the arrester is 10C above the other, and similar nearby arresters are all at ambient then consider this a candidate for removal.





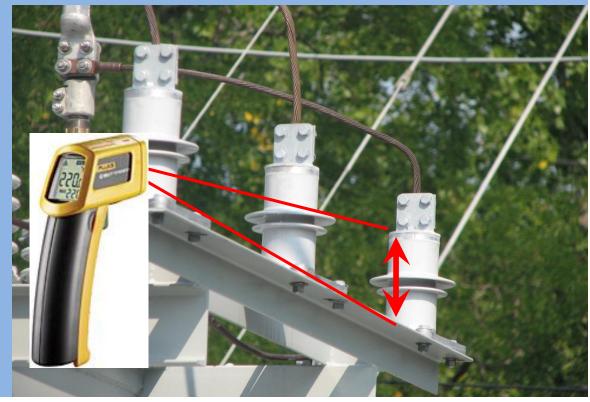
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Infrared Thermometer

Test 2 or 3 of the same style

For best results, scan 2 or 3 units of similar style and vintage.

Arresters as low as 3kV can be accurately scanned using this method





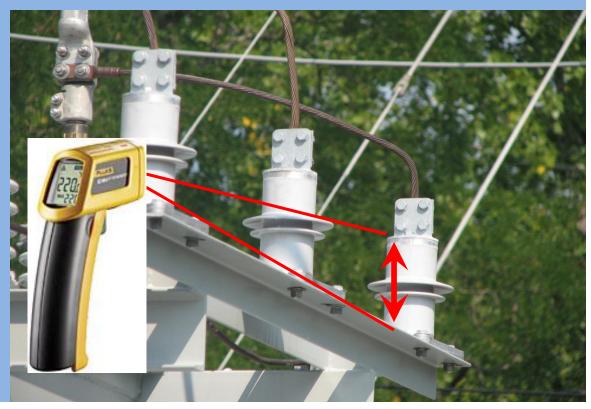
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Infrared Thermometer

There is one negative consideration with this method

The arrester must be energized for a short time before the temperature will increase.

This test is ineffective on a de-energized arrester.





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Infrared Thermometer Summary

There are several methods for effectively measuring the quality of an arrester in the field.

However using a Infrared Thermometer is

Fast Cost Effective and Safe

And it only runs on two 1.5V batteries



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Jon Woodworth