

# NECA 402

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## *Standard for Installing and Maintaining Motor Control Centers*

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148 **1. Scope**

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150 **1.1 Products and Applications Included**

151

152 This Standard describes the installation and maintenance procedures for low-voltage motor control  
153 centers (MCCs) rated 600 VAC or less with a horizontal bus rating of 2,500 amperes or less.

154

155 MCCs may be assembled with factory-installed dry-type transformers and panelboards. The testing and  
156 maintenance of such dry-type transformers is addressed in NECA 409, *Standard for Installing and*  
157 *Maintaining Dry-Type Transformers* (ANSI). The testing and maintenance of such panelboards is  
158 addressed in NECA 407, *Standard for Installing and Maintaining Panelboards* (ANSI).

159

160

161 **1.2 Regulatory and Other Requirements**

162

163 All information in this publication is intended to conform to the National Electrical Code (ANSI/NFPA  
164 70-2020). Installers shall follow the NEC, applicable state and local Codes, manufacturer instructions,  
165 and contract documents when installing and maintaining electrical equipment and systems.

166

167 Only qualified persons as defined in the NEC familiar with the construction and installation of electrical  
168 power distribution and control systems and equipment shall perform the technical work described in this  
169 publication. Administrative functions and other tasks shall be performed under the supervision of a  
170 qualified person. All work shall be performed in accordance with NFPA 70E, *Standard for Electrical*  
171 *Safety in the Workplace*.

172

173 General requirements for installing electrical products and systems are described in NECA 1, *Standard*  
174 *Practices for Good Workmanship in Electrical Construction* (ANSI). Other *NEIS* provide additional  
175 guidance for installing particular types of electrical products and systems. A complete list of *NEIS* is  
176 provided in Annex A.

177

178

179 **1.3 Mandatory Requirements, Permissive Requirements, Quality and Performance**  
180 **Recommendations, Explanatory Material, and Informative Annexes**

181

182 Mandatory requirements in manufacturer instructions, Codes, or other mandatory Standards that may or  
183 may not be adopted into law are those that identify actions that are specifically required or prohibited and  
184 are characterized in this Standard by the use of the terms “must” or “must not,” “shall” or “shall not,” or  
185 “may not,” or “are not permitted,” or “are required,” or by the use of positive phrasing of mandatory  
186 requirements. Examples of mandatory requirements may equally take the form of, “equipment must be  
187 protected . . .,” “equipment shall be protected . . .,” or “protect equipment . . .,” with the latter interpreted  
188 (understood) as “(it is necessary to) protect equipment . . .”

189

190 Permissive requirements of manufacturer instructions, Codes, or other mandatory Standards that may or  
191 may not be adopted into law are those that identify actions that are allowed but not required or are  
192 normally used to describe options or alternative means and methods and are characterized in this Standard  
193 by the use of the terms “may,” or “are permitted,” or “are not required.”

194

195 Quality and performance instructions identify actions that are recommended or not recommended to  
196 improve the overall quality or performance of the installation and are characterized in this Standard by the  
197 use of the terms “should” or “should not.”  
198

199 Explanatory material, such as references to other Codes, Standards, documents, references to related  
200 sections of this Standard, information related to another Code, Standard, or document, and supplemental  
201 application and design information and data, is included throughout this Standard to expand the  
202 understanding of mandatory requirements, permissive requirements, and quality and performance  
203 instructions. Such explanatory material is included for information only and is identified by the use of the  
204 term “NOTE,” or by the use of italicized text.  
205

206 Non-mandatory information and other reference Standards or documents relative to the application and  
207 use of materials, equipment, and systems covered by this Standard are provided in informative annexes.  
208 Informative annexes are not part of the enforceable requirements of this Standard but are included for  
209 information purposes only.  
210  
211

## 212 **2. Definitions**

213  
214 **Adjustable-Speed Drive:** A combination of the power converter, motor, and motor-mounted auxiliary  
215 devices, such as encoders, tachometers, thermal switches and detectors, air blowers, heaters, and vibration  
216 sensors. Adjustable-speed drives provide easily operable means for speed adjustment of the motor within  
217 a specified speed range.  
218

219 **Adjustable-Speed Drive System:** An interconnected combination of equipment that provides a  
220 means of adjusting the speed of a mechanical load coupled to a motor. A drive system typically consists  
221 of an adjustable-speed drive and auxiliary electrical apparatus.  
222

223 **Ground-Fault Protection of Equipment:** A system intended to provide protection of equipment  
224 from damaging line-to-ground fault currents by operating to cause a disconnecting means to open all  
225 ungrounded conductors of the faulted circuit. Through the operation of a supply circuit overcurrent  
226 device, this protection is provided at current levels less than those required to protect conductors from  
227 damage.  
228

229 **High-Impedance Grounded Neutral System:** An intentionally grounded system in which a  
230 grounding impedance, usually a resistor, limits the ground-fault current to a low value.  
231

232 **Motor Control Center (MCC):** An assembly of one or more enclosed sections having a common  
233 power bus and principally containing motor control units.  
234

235 **Motor Control Switch or Motor Control Pushbutton:** Any switch or device that is normally used  
236 to start and stop a motor by making and breaking motor circuit current.  
237

238 **Motor Control Unit:** An interconnected combination of equipment that is self-contained, provides a  
239 means of starting, stopping, and otherwise controlling one or more motors, and is intended for installing  
240 in a motor control center. Motor control units may contain controllers, starters, transformers, relays,  
241 fuses, circuit breakers, and capacitors, as necessary for the intended function.  
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### **3. Safety Procedures**

Before performing cleaning, inspections, testing, maintenance, or repairs, electrically isolate MCCs in accordance with established procedures. Consider all circuits live until they are confirmed by testing to be de-energized and are locked out of operation. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment in accordance with the Arc Flash Hazard level of the equipment. Failure to observe these precautions may result in severe personal injury and/or death.

#### **3.1 General**

For MCCs to work properly, they must be handled carefully, and installed, operated, and maintained correctly. Neglecting fundamental installation and maintenance requirements may lead to personal injury and/or death, and damage to electrical equipment or other property.

MCCs may have multiple sources of power, capacitors with stored electric charge, and control circuits from separate sources. Expect hazardous voltages in all interconnecting components and conductors.

Follow manufacturer instructions for electrically isolating MCCs and components. Open all external disconnects or circuit breakers to completely isolate all power sources. Check capacitors for voltage and discharge. Check equipment for voltage to ensure that equipment is electrically safe before performing any cleaning, inspections, maintenance, testing, or repairs.

Do not work on energized conductors or equipment. Do not enter MCC enclosures or compartments when components are energized. Using established safety procedures, guard energized conductors and equipment in close proximity to work.

Consider all ungrounded and grounded metal parts of equipment and devices to be energized at the highest voltage to which they are exposed unless they are de-energized, tested, locked, and red tagged in accordance with OSHA requirements.

#### **3.2 Safe Work Practices**

Perform preliminary inspections and tests prior to beginning work to determine existing conditions. Check existing conditions against available record documents.

Visually verify all cable connections to equipment. Confirm that supply and load cables are connected properly. Keep in mind that transposed cables may be connected to different terminals than expected.

Resolve discrepancies between installed conditions and electrical drawings. Have drawings corrected, if required. Provide warning labels on equipment and cables, where necessary, to indicate unexpected and potentially hazardous conditions.

Maintain as much distance as practical from equipment and devices that may arc during operation or handling, but not less than the arc flash protection boundary specified in NFPA 70E.

Use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and established safety procedures when working on or near energized electrical equipment or equipment that has not been de-energized, tested, grounded, and tagged in accordance with NFPA 70E.

294  
295 Use insulated hand tools when working on or around energized equipment. Use only properly rated tools  
296 for the energy present. Maintain tool inventories to ensure that all tools are accounted for prior to  
297 energizing equipment.

298  
299 During normal operation, hazardous voltages are present on control circuits, potential transformers (PTs),  
300 current transformers (CTs), digital (status) input, external I/O circuits, and terminal strips. PT and CT  
301 secondary circuits are capable of generating lethal voltages and currents with the primary circuits  
302 energized. Do not open-circuit current transformer secondary circuits while equipment is energized.  
303 Open-circuited CT terminals can develop voltage near the nominal system voltage and are a significant  
304 shock hazard. Follow standard safety precautions while performing any installation or service work (such  
305 as removing PT fuses and shorting CT secondaries).

### 306 307 308 **3.3 De-energizing Electrical Equipment**

309  
310 Render equipment electrically safe. Follow lockout/tag-out procedures. Disconnect all sources of power  
311 before opening any enclosures or compartments. Verify that source circuit breakers and switches are  
312 open.

313  
314 Exercise caution around MCCs with external sources of control power, and MCCs supplied from more  
315 than one primary source of power, including MCCs with integral source transfer switches and main-tie-  
316 main equipment. Verify that all sources of power are removed before working on such equipment.

317  
318 Test conductors and equipment for the presence of voltage. Use electrical testing equipment rated for the  
319 operating voltage of the system. Test voltage-sensing equipment on a known, energized source  
320 immediately before and after testing the equipment to be tested to ensure that voltage-sensing equipment  
321 is operating properly.

322  
323 Apply locks and tags in accordance with NFPA 70E. Leave locks and tags in place until the work is  
324 completed and the equipment is ready to be put into service.

325  
326 Attach grounding leads to the line terminals of the main circuit breaker or main lugs, to the neutral  
327 terminal bus bar, if so equipped, and to the grounding terminal of the MCC.

328  
329 Do not make any modifications to the equipment or operate the system with interlocks or safety barriers  
330 removed. Engage lock-bars for compartment doors so equipped to prevent doors from accidentally  
331 closing.

332  
333 Protect against accidental energization of automatic or remotely-controlled equipment by identifying,  
334 opening, locking, and tagging starting devices. Remove locks and tags only after work is complete and  
335 tested, and all personnel are clear of the area.

336  
337 Carefully inspect work areas and remove any tools and objects left inside before energizing equipment.  
338 Install all devices, doors, and covers before energizing.

## 339 340 341 **4. Delivery, Handling, and Storage**

342  
343 Consult the MCC manufacturer for recommendations for shipping splits prior to ordering. Plan shipping

344 splits to ensure that large MCCs will fit through available openings and pathways through facilities.

345

346 Prior to the delivery of MCCs, obtain the shipping weight and the type of truck that will make the  
347 delivery to ensure that the proper handling equipment is available for receiving the shipment.

348

349 Coordinate the arrival of MCCs so that the installation of equipment pads and foundations is complete  
350 and ready to receive equipment upon delivery.

351

352 Review manufacturer installation instructions for any special storage conditions.

353

354

#### 355 **4.1 Delivery**

356

357 Provide suitable protection against the weather, dust, and debris in accordance with the information in  
358 manufacturer manuals and drawings, keeping in mind that MCCs are frequently delivered on an open  
359 flatbed truck.

360

361 Upon delivery of equipment and accessories, visually inspect packaging for physical damage. Carefully  
362 unpack protective crates and packing sufficiently to inspect for concealed damage resulting from shipping  
363 and handling. If damage has occurred, immediately notify the shipper and the manufacturer in writing.

364

365 Compare equipment and accessories received with the bill of materials to verify that the shipment is  
366 complete. Verify that equipment and accessories received conform to approved submittals and  
367 manufacturer quotations. If the shipment is not complete or deviates from submittals or quotations,  
368 immediately notify the manufacturer in writing.

369

370 If equipment and accessories are to be stored prior to installation, restore original packing materials and  
371 protect from exposure to environmental conditions. When conditions permit, leave the packing materials  
372 intact until equipment and accessories are ready for installation. Follow manufacturer instructions for  
373 proper protection and storage of the equipment.

374

375

#### 376 **4.2 Handling**

377

378 MCCs are typically large, bulky pieces of equipment, weighing several hundred pounds or more. Refer to  
379 the packing list for the actual weight of each item, and verify that the working load of the handling  
380 equipment is more than the weight to be moved. Follow the guidelines for sling safety in OSHA 3072.

381

382 Follow manufacturer handling instructions to avoid injury to personnel and damage to equipment.  
383 Handle MCCs carefully. Observe all packing and lifting warning labels.

384

385 Preferably, position MCCs in the final installation locations upon delivery. When MCCs are stored in  
386 other than the final installation location, coordinate storage to minimize handling.

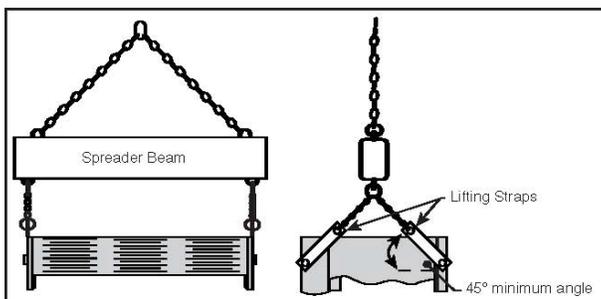
387

388 Do not remove MCC shipping skids. Handling MCCs while attached to the shipping skids prevents  
389 distortion of the structural skeleton or frame during moving and minimizes tipping. Handle MCCs to  
390 maintain an upright position.

391

392 Handle MCCs carefully, especially considering that the instrument panel on the front of the equipment  
393 may contain delicate instruments, relays, meters, switches, and controls that are easily damaged. Avoid  
394 impact, jolting, jarring, rough handling, and other movements that could damage the MCC.

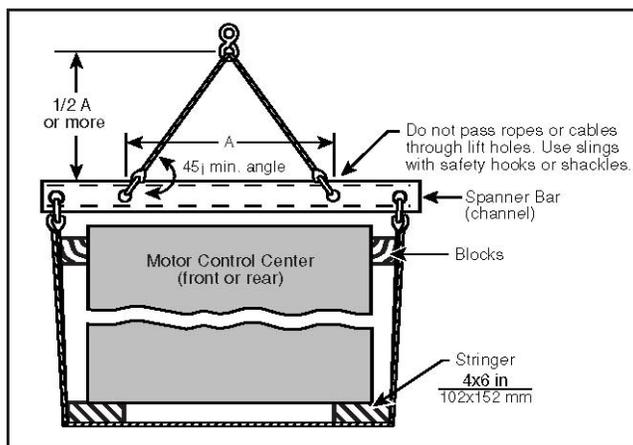
395  
 396 Preferably, use manufacturer-supplied lifting straps for handling MCCs. Provide vertical lift on the straps  
 397 to stabilize the load and to avoid damage to the frame or finish. Maintain a minimum 45-degree angle  
 398 above horizontal on lifting straps (see Figure 1). Secure lifting straps to a spreader or spanner beam to  
 399 ensure that lifting straps are at a suitable vertical angle.  
 400



401  
 402 *Figure 1: Handling MCCs with lifting straps*  
 403

404 When lifting straps are not provided by the manufacturer, handle MCCs using slings, forklifts, and/or  
 405 rollers. Manufacturers typically provide a handling warning if the use of straps would cause stress on the  
 406 motor control equipment or if the design of the equipment does not permit using straps.  
 407

408 *Slings.* Use slings when lifting MCCs with a crane, hoist, or similar lifting device. Construct slings of  
 409 chain or wire cable of sufficient rating to handle the weight of the equipment. Rig the sling completely  
 410 around the equipment and its shipping stringers. Use wooden blocks to protect MCC components and  
 411 finishes (see Figure 2). Pass slings underneath MCCs using a forklift or jacks to lift the equipment off the  
 412 floor. Attach the sling to spanner bars using safety hooks and shackles. Do not pass ropes, chains, or  
 413 cables through spanner bar lifting holes.  
 414



415  
 416 *Figure 2: Handling MCCs with slings*  
 417

418 *Forklifts.* Secure MCCs to forklifts using safety straps to prevent tipping or loss of the load. Extend  
 419 forklift forks to the furthest possible left and right positions for maximum stability, and ensure that forks  
 420 extend completely under the load and beyond the opposite side (see Figure 3).  
 421

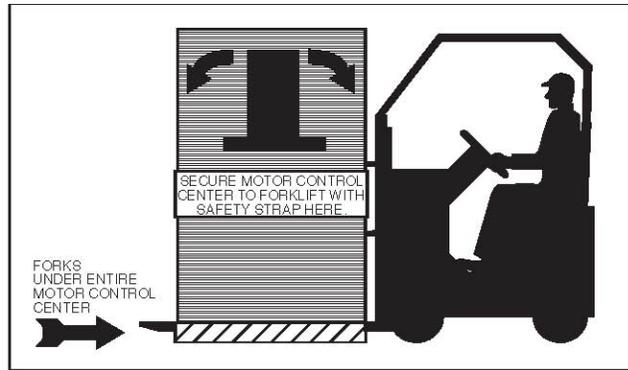


Figure 3: Handling MCCs with a forklift

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*Rollers.* Where conditions do not permit using a hoist, crane, or forklift to lift MCCs, use rod or pipe rollers suitable for the purpose. Use rollers for essentially level surfaces. Use rollers at least as wide as the equipment to be moved, and position rollers approximately 18 inches apart. Use a forklift or jacks to lift and position equipment onto rollers. Use extreme caution to steady the load when using rollers. Use pinch bars to control movement of the load. When necessary to travel on an incline, use a winch or chainfall to prevent the load from accelerating downhill.

### 4.3 Storage

Preferably, store MCCs in locations where they will be permanently installed whenever possible. Alternatively, store MCCs indoors in a dry, heated space that is secure or monitored to discourage vandalism and theft, and out of the way of construction traffic.

Cover stored MCCs with tarps or plastic protective covers to protect against dust, moisture, and corrosion, giving special consideration to horizontal bus runs and openings in shipping splits. If packing is removed, cover the top and any openings of the equipment during the construction period to protect against dust and debris until final assembly is completed.

Storing MCCs outdoors has a significant risk of water damage to the MCC and is highly discouraged. Outdoor storage can result in water damage to MCCs, which contain components that must be replaced if contacted with water, such as molded-case circuit breakers, contactors, and starters. Water damage may necessitate replacing the MCC in its entirety. Consult the manufacturer for recommendations for storing MCCs outdoors.

If outdoor storage of the MCC is necessary, ensure that tarps or plastic protective covers are tightly secured to prevent tearing during wind gusts and severe weather conditions, and are watertight to protect against rain, snow, and condensation.

Protect MCCs from mechanical damage, corrosive gases or fumes, foreign objects, and rodents. Moisture in combination with cement dust is very corrosive.

Provide a reliable source of heat when storing MCCs outdoors or in an unheated indoor location. Maintain the internal MCC temperature approximately 10°F above ambient temperature during storage. Remove all cartons, miscellaneous packing materials, and any other combustible materials inside MCCs before applying heat.

Temporarily energize space heaters, if so equipped, from an outside source. Open the control power

463 transformer secondary disconnecting means, remove the primary fuses, and install an out-of-service tag  
464 before energizing space heaters from an outside source to prevent backfeeding the main bus through the  
465 control power transformer.

466  
467 Use temporary heating sources for MCCs not equipped with space heaters. Provide a minimum of 250  
468 watts of heat for each vertical section. Do not use sources of heat that generate smoke, grease, or other  
469 products of combustion that can deposit carbon on insulation, resulting in tracking, corona, and eventual  
470 insulation failure.

471  
472

## 473 **5. Site Preparation**

474  
475 Unless designed for other-than-normal service conditions, do not locate MCCs where exposed to ambient  
476 temperatures above 40°C (104°F), corrosive or explosive fumes, dust, vapors, dripping or standing water,  
477 abnormal vibration, shock or tilting, or other unusual operating conditions.

478  
479

### 480 **5.1 Location**

481  
482 Consult contract documents to determine the installation location. Verify that MCCs and accessories are  
483 suitable for the intended location.

484

485 Verify that the environmental rating of the enclosure, Type 1, Type 3R, Type 12, or other, is suitable for  
486 the location. If an MCC is to be installed in an area protected by fire suppression sprinklers, a Type 3R  
487 rating may be required. Verify requirements with the authority having jurisdiction. Advise the general  
488 contractor or owner of any discrepancies.

489

490 Maintain access points of MCCs, keeping in mind that MCCs may be accessed from the front, rear, top,  
491 and/or bottom.

492

493 Maintain the minimum headroom of working spaces about MCCs, either 2 meters (6-1/2 feet) or the  
494 height of the equipment, whichever is greater. In calculating headroom above the equipment, consider the  
495 height of the foundation and the height of the equipment.

496

497 Ensure that clearances comply with all applicable building codes and working space requirements of NEC  
498 Article 110. Working space clearances greater than NEC minimums may be required for maneuvering  
499 equipment and temporary ramps or hoists during installation.

500

501 Ensure that entrance to and egress from the working space complies with NEC Article 110.

502

503 Verify that appropriate illumination is provided for all working spaces about MCCs installed indoors.

504

505 Install MCCs with sufficient clearances for ventilation of equipment. Ensure that ventilation openings are  
506 not obstructed by walls, ceilings, or adjacent equipment.

507

508 For damp or wet locations, take appropriate measures to prevent moisture and water from entering and  
509 accumulating in MCCs. In locations where a sump pump is installed, ensure that the pump is working  
510 properly and connected to a standby power source before installing the MCC.

511

512 For cool or damp locations, it may be necessary to provide an appropriate supplemental heat source for

513 the area or within the MCC. Consult the manufacturer for recommendations.

514

515

## 516 **5.2 Foundation Preparation**

517

518 Provide a smooth, hard, level surface to support the weight of the MCC without bowing or sagging.

519 Coordinate the installation of embedded conduits, including spare conduits, and MCC base channels, if  
520 provided, prior to placing concrete.

521

522 Install concrete equipment foundations in accordance with contract documents and manufacturer  
523 recommendations. Concrete equipment foundations are typically raised 102 mm (4 inches) above the  
524 general floor level, with the surrounding floor area gently sloping toward a drain.

525

526 Ensure that the maximum projection of embedded conduits and fittings is 76mm (3 inches) or less above  
527 concrete equipment foundation in accordance with the NEC, and 25 mm (1 inch) or less above the level  
528 of the MCC bottom plate. Consult the bottom-view drawings to verify that the conduit layout matches  
529 the available conduit entry space and to prevent any mechanical interferences. Block the opening of each  
530 conduit with material that rodents will not be able to gnaw through, squeeze through, or push out of the  
531 way, keeping in mind that bottom closure plates will not keep out rodents that enter through the conduits.

532

533 Install base channels in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Ensure that base channels are flat and  
534 level over the entire length of the MCC. Ensure that non-supporting areas of the foundation are lower  
535 than the tops of the steel channels. Grout base channels into the concrete equipment foundation.

536

537 Do not install continuous loops of reinforcing rods, structural steel, or circular cutouts of steel sheets or  
538 plates where circuits are installed in an isolated phase arrangement. *NOTE: An isolated phase*  
539 *arrangement is where the phase conductors of a three-phase system are installed in separate raceways;*  
540 *the phase conductors are physically isolated from each other.*

541

542 Consult local building codes and coordinate seismic requirements for MCCs prior to installation. In  
543 seismic locations, provide a minimum of 4000 psi concrete for foundations. Use manufacturer-  
544 recommended anchoring means, such as stud anchors, sleeve anchors, or concrete anchor bolts.

545

546

## 547 **6. Installation**

548

549 Proper installation is essential to the successful operation of all MCC components. Advance preparation  
550 and planning for installation is advisable. Request manufacturer instruction manuals, related literature,  
551 and drawings before the MCC is delivered, and study this material thoroughly before installation.

552

553

### 554 **6.1 General**

555

556 Install MCCs in accordance with contract documents, manufacturer instructions, and approved shop  
557 drawings.

558

559 Install MCC sections in final positions, progressively leveling each section and bolting frames of shipping  
560 splits together. Secure the MCC to walls or other supporting surfaces in accordance with manufacturer  
561 recommendations, if necessary. Do not secure MCCs with wooden plugs driven into holes in masonry,  
562 concrete, plaster, or similar materials.

563  
564 Install MCC sections starting with the most restrictive section first. If the MCC has incoming cables or  
565 busway near or in its center, start with that vertical section first and work outwardly on each side. If the  
566 MCC is fed from the left-most section, start from the left and work toward the right. If the MCC is fed  
567 from the right-most section, start from the right and work toward the left. If the MCC is close-coupled to  
568 a transformer, start at the transformer and work away from the transformer.

569  
570 Clean dirt and debris from the concrete equipment foundation and the surrounding area where the MCC  
571 will be located before moving the MCC into its final position.

572  
573 Remove shipping skids before installing the MCC on the foundation.

574  
575

## 576 **6.2 Installing Vertical Sections**

577  
578 If MCC sections are equipped with bottom closure plates, temporarily remove these plates. Cut holes in  
579 MCC bottom closure plates that correspond to the conduits entering the bottom of each enclosure based  
580 on that section's conduits. Saw kerfs between conduit holes in bottom closure plates for isolated phase  
581 installations where individual phase conductors are run in individual conduits, such as duct bank risers.  
582 Reinstall bottom closure plates after the vertical sections of the MCC have been installed. Ensure that  
583 steel bottom plates are provided for MCCs installed on combustible surfaces.

584  
585 Install MCC vertical sections in sequence. Position each section carefully. Follow handling instructions  
586 in Section 4.2.

587  
588 Level sections with shims, if necessary, and align each section with the previous section. Ensure proper  
589 alignment for joining structures and through-bus. Improper alignment of the through-bus can result in  
590 personal injury, death, and/or property loss.

591  
592 Lift each shipping section vertically into place using a crane, timbers, jacks, or a forklift to clear  
593 embedded conduit projections above the finished concrete equipment foundation, when necessary.

594  
595 Remove lifting straps or slings so that vertical sections can be joined flush. Leave lifting hardware on the  
596 section if their removal is not required to join adjacent sections flush together.

597  
598

## 599 **6.3 Joining and Anchoring Motor Control Center Sections**

600  
601 Open all doors or remove all panels that provide access for bolting adjacent sections together.

602  
603 Bolt sections together in accordance with manufacturer instructions, keeping in mind that the authority  
604 having jurisdiction may require that all bolts connecting bus sections be inspected for proper torque prior  
605 to closing up the MCC.

606  
607 Anchor each vertical section to the base channel or foundation to protect against bumping or shifting that  
608 can damage interior components, conduit hubs, and cable and busway connections (see Figure 4).

609

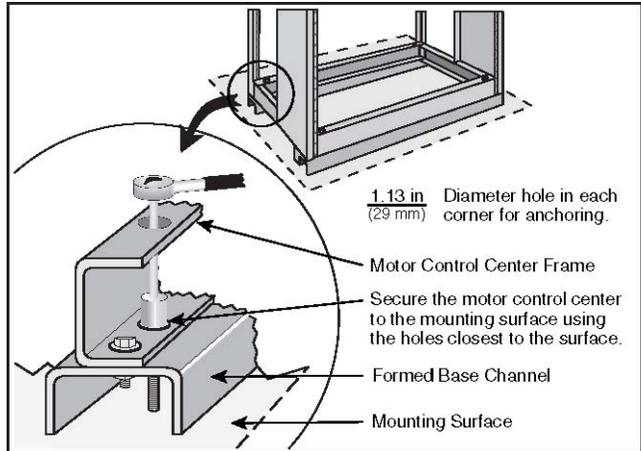


Figure 4: Anchoring the MCC

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Anchor MCCs for seismic conditions in accordance with contract documents and local building codes.

Seal between the concrete foundation and the MCC structure completely to prevent the entry of rodents, rain, and snow.

#### 6.4 Electrical Interconnections Between Vertical Sections

620  
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626

Vertical sections of MCCs are electrically linked together using through-bus or cables. Through-bus splice connections are extremely important to the performance of the MCC, because these connections carry the full current intended for the operation of the MCC. Failure to properly make through-bus splice connections can result in property damage, death, and/or serious injury. Ensure that each source is in phase across tie-breakers in double-ended equipment.

*NOTE: Other than for required interconnections and control wiring, and with the exception of conductors that are isolated from the busbars by a barrier that are traveling horizontally between vertical sections, only those conductors that are intended for termination in a vertical MCC section are permitted to be located in that section.*

631  
632

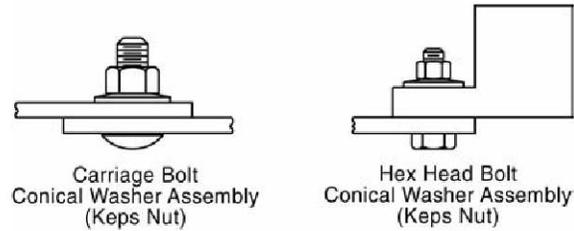
##### 6.4.1 Through-bus Splices

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Through-bus splice kits are provided by the MCC manufacturer when more than one section is required to be electrically connected together by through-bus. The splice kits may be in separate boxes, be shipped inside the sections to be spliced, or be installed on the through-bus of one or more vertical sections.

639  
640  
641  
642

Follow the proper sequence of hardware installation, as specified in the manufacturer installation instructions. Conical washers should be installed with the convex or “top” side against the nut (see Figure 5).



*Figure 5: Proper positioning of conical washers*

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Torque each splice bolt to the values recommended by the manufacturer. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70. Mark each torqued connection with a permanent marker.

Follow the manufacturer instructions for installing insulation on through-bus splice connections, if applicable.

### **6.4.2 Cable Interconnections**

For cable interconnections between MCC sections, install interconnection cables between sections as shown on manufacturer drawings.

Interconnecting cables may or may not be supplied by the MCC manufacturer. When cables are not provided, size interconnecting cables in accordance with contract documents, manufacturer recommendations, and the NEC.

Torque all connections to the manufacturer recommended values. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70. Mark each torqued connection with a permanent marker.

### **6.4.3 Ground Bus Splices**

Ground bus splice connections are provided by the manufacturer when more than one section of the MCC is required to be electrically connected (see Figure 6). Proper installation of ground bus splice connections is essential to providing a low-impedance path to ground for temporary currents resulting from phase-to-ground faults.



Figure 6: Ground bus splice connections

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At the time of delivery, ground bus splice kits may be contained in separate boxes, be installed on the ground bus of one or more sections, or be stored inside the MCC sections.

Follow the proper sequence of hardware installation, as specified in the manufacturer installation instructions. Conical washers should be installed with the convex or “top” side against the nut (see Figure 5).

Torque the splice bolts to the recommended value. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70. Mark each torqued connection with a permanent marker.

#### 6.4.4 Ground Cable Connections

Bond MCC vertical sections with an equipment grounding conductor or an equivalent grounding bus sized in accordance with NEC Article 250. If the MCC does not include a ground bus, provide bonding between sections in accordance with NEC Article 250.

Terminate equipment grounding conductors on the grounding bus or to a grounding termination point provided in a single-section MCC.

Torque all connections to the manufacturer recommended values. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70. Mark each torqued connection with a permanent marker.

### 6.5 Grounding and Bonding

Ground and bond MCCs in accordance with manufacturer instructions and NEC Article 250.

Install conductors for ground-fault protection systems in accordance with the manufacturer interconnection wiring diagrams.

710  
711 Where the MCC contains the first disconnecting means or overcurrent protective device of a separately-  
712 derived source, ground and bond the separately-derived source in accordance with Section  
713 6.5.1 of this standard and NEC Article 250, where the system bonding jumper is the main bonding jumper  
714 referenced.

715  
716

### 717 **6.5.1 Service-Entrance Equipment**

718  
719 For ungrounded systems, install a grounding electrode conductor from the grounding electrode system to  
720 the ground lug of the MCC. Comply with NEC Article 250 for requirements for grounding electrode  
721 conductors. If there is no existing grounding electrode system, install a grounding electrode in  
722 accordance with contract documents, manufacturer recommendations, and the NEC Article 250.

723

724 For solidly-grounded systems, install a grounding electrode conductor in accordance with NEC Article  
725 250 from the grounding electrode at the installation site to the grounding electrode conductor connection  
726 or ground lug on the MCC ground bus (see Figure 7).

727



728  
729 *Figure 7: Ground lug*

730

731 Install a main bonding jumper in accordance with NEC Article 250 within one of the sections for MCCs  
732 where a grounded conductor or neutral is provided. Connect the supply side of the grounded conductor to  
733 the MCC equipment ground bus. *NOTE: A label on the front of the MCC will identify the section(s) that*  
734 *incorporate the main bonding jumper(s).* For MCCs with multiple sources, there will be two or more  
735 main bonding jumpers to install.

736

737

### 738 **6.5.2 High-Impedance Grounded Neutral Systems**

739

740 In accordance with NEC Article 250, high-impedance grounded neutral systems require that the  
741 conditions of maintenance and supervision ensure that only qualified persons service the installation,  
742 continuity of power is required, ground detectors are installed on the system, and line-to-neutral loads are  
743 not served from the equipment.

744

745 Connect the system neutral conductor to ground only through the grounding impedance. Where no

746 neutral conductor is available, install the grounding impedance between the grounding electrode  
747 conductor and the neutral derived from a grounding transformer, if so equipped. Ensure that no phase-to-  
748 neutral loads are served from high-impedance grounded neutral systems.

749  
750 Install fully insulated neutral conductors sized for the maximum current rating of the grounding  
751 impedance, but not less than 8 AWG copper or 6 AWG aluminum or copper-clad aluminum. The  
752 conductor connecting the neutral point of the grounding resistor or transformer to the grounding  
753 impedance is permitted to be installed in a separate raceway.

754  
755 Install an unspliced equipment bonding jumper from the first system disconnecting means or overcurrent  
756 protective device to the grounded side of the grounding impedance. Size the equipment bonding jumper  
757 in accordance with NEC Article 250 where the grounding electrode conductor connection is made at the  
758 grounding impedance, or with the same ampacity as the neutral conductor in Section 6.5.1 where the  
759 grounding electrode conductor is connected at the first system disconnecting means or overcurrent  
760 protective device.

761  
762 Connect the grounding electrode conductor at any point from the grounded side of the grounding  
763 impedance to the equipment grounding connection at the service equipment or first system disconnecting  
764 means.

765  
766

## 767 **6.6 Installing Conduits**

768  
769 Install top- and side-entry conduits after MCC installation is complete. Route conduits entering the MCC  
770 in accordance with conduit entry drawings provided by the manufacturer for each section of the MCC to  
771 prevent cables and conductors from interfering with live bus or structural members.

772  
773 Bond all conduits, stubs, and ring connectors to the enclosure in accordance with the manufacturer  
774 instructions.

775  
776

## 777 **6.7 Installing Cables and Conductors**

778  
779 To prevent cracking or freezing of the insulation, install conductors at ambient temperatures above  
780 freezing. As an alternative, use conductors that are suitable for installation at temperatures below  
781 freezing.

782  
783 Verify that termination lugs are compatible with conductors prior to installing cables and conductors.

784  
785 Install the most restrictive set of conductors first.

786  
787 Unless installing an isolated phase arrangement, pass all phase and grounded conductors of the same  
788 circuit through the same metal opening together, as required by NEC Article 300, to prevent inductive  
789 heating within the MCC.

790  
791 Ensure that cable pulling lubricants do not drip or come into contact with overcurrent protective devices  
792 or bus bar plating.

793  
794 Use the largest practical bending radii to avoid damaging conductor insulation. Train and form  
795 conductors to minimize stress on terminals, minimize sag, and prevent physical damage or overheating.  
796 Check manufacturer instructions to determine which connections require sag to permit future maintenance

797 on the MCC.

798

799 Support cables and conductors independently of connections, terminations, and overcurrent protective  
800 devices. Protect cable and conductor insulation when conductors are in contact with structural members  
801 by placing suitable protective material at the contact point.

802

803 Brace or lace conductors in accordance with the manufacturer instructions or contract documents. Use  
804 approved materials on both vertical and horizontal wireways to support the load and interconnection  
805 wires. Secure incoming conductors to prevent or minimize separation under short-circuit conditions.

806

807 Provide a minimum of 76mm (3 inches) of slack in top-entering cables and conductors in geographic  
808 areas where seismic conditions apply to accommodate seismic movement. Provide sufficient slack in  
809 bottom-entering cables and conductors to accommodate seismic movement.

810

811 Install approved cable hubs and ring connectors to prevent moisture from entering conduits or the MCC  
812 enclosure.

813

814 Protect very low-voltage signals, such as those transmitted from programmable controllers, computers,  
815 and field-mounted control devices, by using shielded cables inside flexible metal conduits. Maintain the  
816 separation between such low-voltage signal conductors and power conductors by providing suitable  
817 barriers in vertical and horizontal wireways.

818

819

## 820 **6.8 Terminating Conductors**

821

822 Strip a sufficient length of insulation from the conductor end to fit into the full length of the lug barrel  
823 using an appropriate insulation stripping tool to avoid nicking conductor strands. Avoid stripping cable  
824 beyond the length of the lug barrel.

825

826 Torque mechanical lug or set-screw type connectors in accordance with manufacturer instructions to  
827 avoid stripping threads or cracking the lug body. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten  
828 terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70.

829

830 Crimp compression connectors using tools and dies recommended by the lug manufacturer. Remove  
831 excess compound, if required.

832

833 Use connectors specifically tested and approved for use on aluminum conductors. Clean contact surfaces  
834 by removing oxides from aluminum conductors. Apply antioxidant joint compound to the conductor  
835 unless provided in the connector. Use joint compound compatible with conductor insulation and as  
836 recommended by the manufacturer. Insert the conductor immediately into the connector after cleaning  
837 and application of compound, if required.

838

839

## 840 **6.9 Busway Connections**

841

842 Power is often distributed to MCC units using busway or bus duct. Busway is provided in different  
843 configurations by different manufacturers. One sample configuration is shown in Figure 8.

844

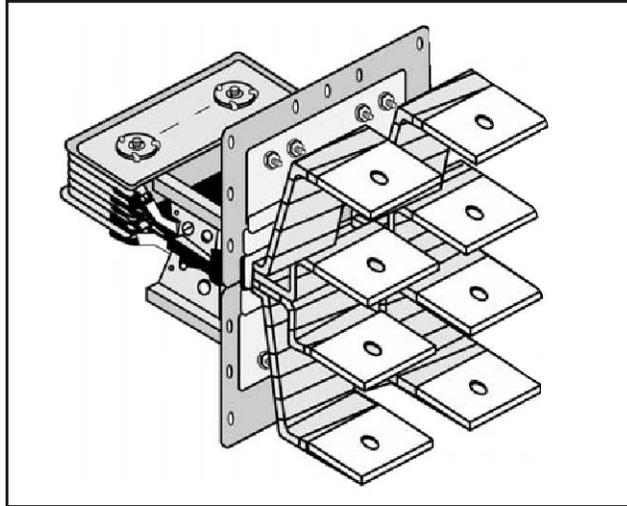


Figure 8: Busway (bus duct) connection

845  
846  
847

848 Install busway in accordance with NECA 408, *Standard for Installing and Maintaining Busways* (ANSI).

849

850 Support the busway independently of the MCC.

851

852 Install conical spring-steel or Belleville-type washers such that the convex side of the washer is against  
853 the nut (see Figure 5). Tighten conical spring-steel or Belleville washers according to the manufacturer  
854 instructions, if provided. If not provided, retighten until the washer is flat.

855

856 Confirm proper phasing of busway and MCC connections before energizing.

857

858

## 859 **6.10 Installing Motor Control Units**

860

861 Follow the manufacturer instructions to install motor control units and doors.

862

863 Carefully unpack motor control units to avoid damage. Examine for shipping damage and verify that  
864 units are correct for the installation. Verify that the correct doors are provided.

865

866 Turn both the main disconnecting means for the MCC and the unit disconnecting means to the “OFF”  
867 position. Install motor control units in the MCC.

868

869 Make wiring connections in accordance with wiring diagrams and manufacturer instructions. When units  
870 are rear-mounted and the motor control sections have a common vertical bus, verify that the wires to the  
871 motor leads are in proper phase sequence, and that motor control units are marked for the phase  
872 arrangement.

873

874

## 875 **7. Closing Equipment**

876

### 877 **7.1 Clean-up**

878

879 Remove any remaining packing material from MCC enclosures, including foam blocks and temporary  
880 cushioning.

881  
882 Remove all foreign objects, such as tools, scraps of wire, and other debris.  
883  
884 Clean all traces of cable-pulling compound residue from MCC components using clean, lint-free cloths  
885 dampened with clean water.  
886  
887 Vacuum all MCC compartments to remove all dust and debris. Do not use compressed air. Compressed  
888 air may contain moisture, which can lead to corrosion, and may cause dust to settle inside devices,  
889 impairing their ability to function.  
890

891

## 892 **7.2 Inspections and Adjustments**

893

894 Because of the diversity of MCC components, follow all manufacturer instructions for inspecting and  
895 adjusting components.

896

897 Visually check the bus insulators for cracks, and check bus supports for alignment and damage.

898

899 Check to ensure that dents or other damage to the enclosure have not resulted in clearances that violate  
900 NEC requirements.

901

902 Check that all circuits and conductors are installed in accordance with manufacturer instructions and  
903 wiring diagrams. Verify that all interconnecting wiring between sections of the MCC has been  
904 connected. Ensure that field wiring does not contact live bus, and that the wiring is properly braced and  
905 secured to withstand the effects of fault currents. Check that each motor is connected to its intended  
906 starter.

907

908 Check all bus bar connections, circuit breaker and switch terminals, contactor and relay terminals,  
909 terminal blocks, lug terminations, and conical spring-steel or Belleville washers for tightness. Torque  
910 connections to manufacturer requirements. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten  
911 terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70. If manufacturer instructions are not provided for  
912 conical spring-steel (Belleville-type) washers, retighten until washers are flat.

913

914 Check to determine that all grounding connections are made properly. Ensure that MCC sections are  
915 bonded when no ground bus is provided. Check ground-fault circuitry, if installed, to ensure that there  
916 are no grounds on the grounded or neutral conductor downstream from the service entrance point of the  
917 installation.

918

919 Verify that the MCC overcurrent protective device, either located ahead of the MCC, or located within the  
920 MCC, has a rating that does not exceed the rating of the common power bus.

921

922 Verify that MCCs that are rated as service equipment are provided with a single main disconnecting  
923 means.

924

925 Correct any identified discrepancies in accordance with manufacturer instructions.

926

927

## 928 **7.3 Insulation Resistance Testing**

929

930 If a short-circuit or ground-fault condition exists and is not identified and corrected during insulation  
931 resistance testing, serious personal injury and/or equipment and property damage can result when the

932 MCC is first energized.  
933  
934 Perform insulation resistance testing using a 1000 VDC megohmmeter to assure that the MCC and field  
935 wiring are free from short circuits and grounds.  
936  
937 Disconnect and isolate conductors, components, and equipment normally connected to equipment under  
938 test, including phase and neutral connections, surge arrestors, capacitors, meters, relays, and control  
939 power and instrument transformers. Remove all instrumentation and control fuses prior to testing.  
940 Disconnect all accessories and electronic devices, such as solid-state relays and controllers, which may be  
941 subjected to the test voltage. Perform testing with no loads connected to the MCC.  
942  
943 Apply test voltages in accordance with transformer and test equipment manufacturer instructions. Follow  
944 manufacturer instructions for solid-state electronic components. Insulation-resistance measurements on  
945 any instrument transformer should be in accordance with transformer and test equipment manufacturer  
946 instructions. Ground conductors, components, and equipment not being tested. Ground each phase at the  
947 completion of each test.  
948  
949 Test insulation resistance from phase-to-phase, phase-to-ground, and from phase-to-neutral, where  
950 available. Perform testing for all circuits with circuit breakers and switches in both the open and closed  
951 positions.  
952  
953 Test current transformers from wiring-to-ground, and test control wiring. Measure insulation resistance at  
954 one minute following the application of the test voltage.  
955  
956 Test potential transformers and control power transformers, from winding-to-winding and each winding-  
957 to-ground, recording measurements at one-minute intervals for 10 minutes.  
958  
959 Measure the insulation resistance of each combination starter, phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground, with  
960 the starter contacts closed and the protective device open. Refer to manufacturer instructions for devices  
961 with solid-state components.  
962  
963 Record test values for future reference on the insulation resistance chart shown in Section 9.  
964  
965 Insulation resistance values for bus, circuit breakers, control power transformers, voltage transformers,  
966 and current transformers should be in accordance with the manufacturer published data. Control wiring  
967 insulation resistance should be a minimum of two megohms.  
968  
969 Consult the MCC manufacturer published data for acceptable test results. If published data is not  
970 available, investigate any values that deviate from previous test results under similar conditions by more  
971 than 50 percent of the lowest value. Investigate any results less than 1 megohm with the overcurrent  
972 protective devices in the open position for possible tracking on insulation or insulation breakdown.  
973 Correct any deficiencies.

#### 974 975 976 **7.4 Circuit Breakers and Fusible Switches**

977  
978 Manually exercise all switches, circuit breakers, and other operating mechanisms to ensure smooth  
979 operation.  
980  
981 Electrically exercise all electrically-operated switches, circuit breakers, and other mechanisms to  
982 determine that the devices operate properly. Use an auxiliary source of control power for electrically-

983 operated devices.

984

985 Set any adjustable current and voltage trip mechanisms to the proper values. *NOTE: Damage from faults*  
986 *can be reduced if devices used for short-circuit and ground-fault protection are set to operate*  
987 *instantaneously, or with no intentional time delay, at 115 percent of the highest value of phase current*  
988 *that is likely to occur as the result of any anticipated motor starting currents.*

989

990 Consult the coordination study for protective and control device settings. *NOTE: The coordination study*  
991 *is typically prepared by the consulting engineer, or by other persons responsible for setting up the MCC.*  
992 *Settings are not found on the manufacturer installation or shop drawings.*

993

994 Adjust the instantaneous or magnetic trip on thermal magnetic circuit breakers and motor-circuit  
995 protectors to their proper settings based on the coordination study or MCC schedule. Do not exceed the  
996 magnetic trip value of instantaneous-trip circuit breakers specified in NEC Article 430.

997

998 Adjust instantaneous, short-time, long-time, and ground-fault settings of electronic circuit breakers. If  
999 values are not provided, consult the circuit breaker manufacturer instruction manual for values that will  
1000 set the electronic circuit breaker to function with thermal magnetic circuit breaker characteristics.

1001

1002 Check that overload relays or heater elements are installed and selected or adjusted or any combination  
1003 thereof to the full-load current shown on the nameplate of each motor and manufacturer instructions.

1004 Check that solid state overload relays, relays with integral phase and ground-fault protection, and other  
1005 than full-voltage starters, such as autotransformers, solid-state, wye-delta, part-winding, and adjustable-  
1006 speed drives, are adjusted in accordance with contract documents and manufacturer instructions. Check  
1007 that fuses, overload heater ratings, or solid-state overload ratings or settings are properly selected for  
1008 power-factor correction capacitors connected to the load side of the protection.

1009

1010 Install all power and control power fuses. Install fuses so that rating information is visible without  
1011 removing the fuses. Ensure that fuses are firmly inserted in the clips provided. Do not attempt to defeat  
1012 fuse clip rejection features. Check fuse current ratings for NEC compliance.

1013

1014 Remove shorting bars from the secondary of current transformers. Do not operate a current transformer  
1015 with its secondary circuit open. Exercise extreme caution around current transformer circuits. A current  
1016 transformer carrying primary current can develop high secondary terminal voltages if the secondary  
1017 terminals are open-circuited.

1018

1019

## 1020 **7.5 Ground-Fault Protection Systems**

1021

1022 Check circuiting for ground-fault protection systems with manufacturer interconnection wiring diagrams.  
1023 Correct any discrepancies.

1024

1025 Conduct performance testing of ground-fault protection systems in accordance with the manufacturer  
1026 instructions provided with the equipment. Maintain a written record of all testing.

1027

1028 Use a certified third-party testing firm when required by contract documents or by the authority having  
1029 jurisdiction.

1030

1031 Use factory-trained representatives for adjusting and testing zone-selective ground-fault protection  
1032 systems.

1033

1034 Ensure that the ground-fault protection system is fully operational at the conclusion of all testing and prior  
1035 to placing MCCs into service.

1036  
1037 See Section 9.4.8 for additional guidance.

## 1038 1039 1040 **7.6 Final Checks**

1041  
1042 Ensure that all parts and barriers that were removed during wiring and installation have been properly  
1043 reinstalled.

1044  
1045 Remove all metal chips, scrap wire, foreign objects, dust, and other debris from the MCC interior. Clean  
1046 equipment and components using a brush, vacuum cleaner, or clean, lint-free rags.

1047  
1048 Replace all barriers and covers, and close all doors. Check for pinched wires. Check enclosure parts for  
1049 proper alignment. Check that all doors and covers are fastened securely.

1050  
1051 Open all circuit breakers and switches.

### 1052 1053 **7.6.1 Labeling**

1054  
1055 Verify that the MCC is marked in accordance with NEC Section 110.21, and includes the common power  
1056 bus current rating and the MCC short-circuit rating.

1057  
1058 Verify that motor control units within MCCs comply with NEC Section 430.8.

1059  
1060 Verify that MCCs are field or factory marked with warning signs and labels to warn qualified persons of  
1061 potential electric arc flash hazards in accordance with NEC Section 110.16. Ensure that labeling for  
1062 service equipment rated 1200 amps or more includes the following additional information:

- 1063 • Nominal system voltage
- 1064 • Available fault current at the service overcurrent protective devices
- 1065 • The clearing time of service overcurrent protective devices based on the available fault current at  
1066 the service equipment
- 1067 • The date the label was applied

1068  
1069 Markings should be clearly visible to qualified persons before examination, adjustment, servicing, or  
1070 maintenance of the equipment. Refer to NFPA 70E, *Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace*, for  
1071 assistance in determining the severity of potential exposure, planning safe work practices, and selecting  
1072 personal protective equipment. Refer to ANSI Z535.4, *Product Safety Signs and Labels*, for guidelines  
1073 for the design of safety signs and labels for application to products.

## 1074 1075 1076 **8. Energizing Equipment**

1077  
1078 Hazards exist when energizing electrical equipment. Use proper safety and personal protective  
1079 equipment. Follow manufacturer safety precautions and established safety procedures using appropriate  
1080 tools and test equipment. See Section 3, Safety Procedures.

1081  
1082 Consult the MCC manufacturer for any abnormal operating conditions encountered. Qualified personnel  
1083 should be present when the equipment is first energized. If short circuit or fault conditions caused by

1084 damage or poor installation practices have not been detected, serious personal injury, death, and/or  
1085 property damage or loss can occur when the equipment is first energized.

1086  
1087

## 1088 **8.1 General**

1089

1090 Energize equipment in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Exercise caution around MCCs with  
1091 external sources of control power, and MCCs supplied from more than one primary source of power,  
1092 including MCCs with integral source transfer switches and main-tie-main equipment. Verify that all  
1093 sources of power are removed before working on such equipment.

1094

1095 Before energizing digital meters, ensure that all ground connections are securely connected and that the  
1096 supply voltage is within the allowed range of the meter's power supply.

1097

1098 Check control functions, interlocks, and alarms for proper operation, and check voltage, current, and  
1099 phasing as components are energized. Measure and record phase-to-phase, phase-to-neutral, phase-to-  
1100 ground, and neutral-to-ground voltages, where available as components are energized.

1101

1102 Measure and record the incoming line voltage of MCCs at each step during energization. Undervoltages,  
1103 overvoltages, and phase imbalances affect performance, efficiency, operation, and life expectancy of  
1104 motors, contactors, overload devices, and overcurrent protective devices.

1105

1106 Listen for excessive contactor hum, chattering, and sizzling as evidence of abnormal operating conditions.  
1107 Investigate hardware that has not been tightened or metal parts that are improperly assembled as possible  
1108 sources of extraneous noise.

1109

1110 De-energize equipment and make corrections or repairs for any abnormal operating conditions in  
1111 accordance with manufacturer instructions. Inspect all parts for evidence of overheating and evidence of  
1112 physical damage, including worn insulation and corrosion, as components are energized. Inspect  
1113 terminals for loose or broken connections, burned insulation, and other evidence of thermal damage.

1114

1115 Perform acceptance testing in accordance with contract documents and manufacturer recommendations.  
1116 *NOTE: Often, construction contracts require testing of MCCs by an independent third party. Refer to*  
1117 *InterNational Electrical Testing Association's Acceptance Testing Specifications for further guidance.*  
1118 *Also see Section 9, Maintenance, for further guidelines for inspections and testing.*

1119

1120

## 1121 **8.2 Energizing Motor Control Centers and Equipment**

1122

1123 Prior to energizing, ensure that there is no load on the MCC. Verify that all circuit breakers and other  
1124 overcurrent protective devices are open, and that all switches and controls are in the "OFF" position,  
1125 including all contactors, heaters, and motors, and any other controls or loads that are remote from the  
1126 MCC.

1127

1128 Verify that the insulation rating of all power, control, communication, and data conductors in raceways  
1129 entering the MCC are either rated 600V, or that separation is provided as required by NEC Articles 300,  
1130 725, 727, and Chapter 8. Replace lower-rated conductors with 600V rated conductors, or provide  
1131 separation in accordance with the NEC.

1132

1133 Close the source circuit breaker to energize the input feeder(s) to the MCC. Check the voltage and  
1134 phasing at the primary terminals of the MCC. Check the phasing of MCCs with more than one primary

1135 source of power, including MCCs with integral source transfer switches and main-tie-main equipment  
1136 prior to connecting loads. *NOTE: If phasing is not checked prior to energizing rotating machinery,*  
1137 *motors and connected mechanical loads and equipment can be damaged by reverse rotation.*  
1138

1139 Close the main disconnecting means on the MCC, if so equipped. Verify proper source transfer operation  
1140 for MCCs with more than one primary source of power, including MCCs with integral source transfer  
1141 switches and main-tie-main equipment. Correct any issues with source transfer operation prior to  
1142 connecting loads to the MCC.  
1143

1144 Energize individual components sequentially from the source toward the load, close main, feeder, and  
1145 branch circuit devices in sequence. Measure voltages and currents at each step. Close circuit breakers  
1146 and disconnect-switch operating handles sequentially, using a firm, decisive motion.  
1147

1148 Energize downstream loads, contactors, heaters, starters, and motors sequentially. Check each motor for  
1149 proper phase rotation (clockwise/counterclockwise) with respect to the load. *NOTE: Three-phase NEMA*  
1150 *motors rotate counterclockwise from the motor shaft end of the motor when connected A-B-C/L1-L2-L3*  
1151 *when the branch circuit is a counterclockwise rotation A-B-C.* Correct any issues with motor phase  
1152 rotation.  
1153

1154 Inspect all indicating and control devices for correct operation.  
1155

1156 Configure digital metering, communication, and programming in accordance with manufacturer  
1157 recommendations and owner preferences.  
1158

1159 Perform startup of adjustable speed drives in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Calibrate drives  
1160 to the minimum and maximum speed control signals. Perform operational tests by initiating control  
1161 devices, including remote start/stop and speed control signals. Check motor rotation operating on the  
1162 drive and on the bypass. Slowly vary drive speed between minimum and maximum, observing the motor  
1163 and the load for unusual operation or vibration. Program drives to step over frequencies where excessive  
1164 vibration occurs. Measure and record the total voltage and current harmonic distortion of each drive.  
1165 Adjust overtemperature controls for adjustable-speed drive systems in accordance with manufacturer  
1166 instructions.  
1167

1168 Verify proper operation of electronic equipment, such as adjustable speed drives and digital metering.  
1169 Note whether communications are acknowledged by flashing LED lights on the equipment, if so  
1170 equipped. Scroll through the display settings and review the data and settings displayed to verify proper  
1171 operation, that proper units are displayed, and that displayed quantities are accurate.  
1172

1173 Record the programming parameters and settings of all electronic components, such as digital metering  
1174 and adjustable speed drives, and maintain for future reference.  
1175

1176 Measure load currents. Verify that total continuous load currents do not exceed the current rating of the  
1177 MCC. For all overcurrent protective devices, verify that load currents do not exceed 80% of circuit  
1178 breaker or fuse ratings, or 100% of circuit breakers rated for 100% operation. Check terminations and  
1179 lugs for proper ampacity and temperature ratings. Verify that load currents do not exceed the ampacity of  
1180 terminations and lugs. Replace terminations and lugs with inadequate ratings.  
1181

1182 Verify correct function of control transfer relaying located in MCCs with multiple sources of control  
1183 power, if so equipped.  
1184

1185 Perform an infrared survey in accordance with Section 9.4.1.

1186  
1187 Reinstall doors and access panels. Re-energize equipment.  
1188

1189

### 1190 **8.3 Operating and Maintenance Manuals**

1191

1192 Deliver all manufacturer packing label warnings, instruction manuals, literature, as-built drawings,  
1193 recorded test values, set values of adjustable trip devices, settings of programmable devices such as  
1194 adjustable speed drives and digital meters, and special tools to the owner or general contractor at the  
1195 completion of the installation.

1196

1197 Record and retain the available short circuit current at the MCC and the date the short circuit current  
1198 calculation was performed along with the operating and maintenance manuals, and make available to  
1199 those authorized to inspect the installation in accordance with NEC Section 430.99.

1200

1201

## 1202 **9. Maintenance**

1203

1204 Periodic MCC maintenance extends service life and increases reliability. Maintenance typically includes  
1205 visual checks, cleaning, inspecting, lubricating, exercising, and testing equipment and components.

1206 Follow manufacturer instructions. Consult the manufacturer for recommendations for cleaning, and for  
1207 repairing or replacing damaged or worn parts and components.

1208

1209 Maintenance should only be performed by qualified personnel trained to energize and de-energize  
1210 electrical equipment in accordance with established safety practices.

1211

1212 Cleaning, servicing, maintenance, repairs, and testing should be performed on MCCs that are de-  
1213 energized and electrically isolated, unless required for testing, so that no accidental contact can be made  
1214 with energized parts. Follow all manufacturer instructions and safety precautions, and established safety  
1215 procedures using appropriate tools, test equipment, safety equipment, and personal protective equipment.  
1216 See Section 3.

1217

1218 Exercise caution when maintaining MCCs to prevent unscheduled outages. Schedule inspections and  
1219 maintenance at times that will least affect operations, and to minimize outages. Do not initiate  
1220 inspections and maintenance until all users have been notified.

1221

1222 Take corrective action for any item found to be deficient. Follow the manufacturer instructions for  
1223 repairing and replacing equipment and components.

1224

1225

### 1226 **9.1 Frequency of Inspections and Maintenance**

1227

1228 Perform routine inspections periodically for MCCs that are energized and in service. Use the rate of  
1229 accumulation of dust and moisture on visible surfaces as a guide for scheduling cleaning, inspections,  
1230 maintenance, and testing.

1231

1232 Inspect MCCs within 6 months of the original installation under normal operating conditions.

1233

1234 Perform cleaning, inspections, maintenance, and testing at least annually, but as often as the operating  
1235 environment requires.

1236  
1237 Perform cleaning, inspections, maintenance, and testing following any unusual operating condition in  
1238 accordance with Section 10.

1239  
1240 Recommended intervals for cleaning, inspections, maintenance, and testing should be adjusted  
1241 accordingly for the operating environment, such as duty cycle, ambient temperature, exposure to  
1242 contaminants, age and condition of the equipment, manufacturer recommendations, and trending  
1243 established through testing.

1244  
1245

### 1246 **9.1.1 Record Keeping**

1247  
1248 Keep complete maintenance and testing records for each MCC to track changes in electrical  
1249 characteristics over time. Records should include nameplate data, ratings, installation date, reference  
1250 drawings, manufacturer instructions, and spare part data.

1251  
1252 Record the date, time, and environmental conditions, such as temperature and humidity, during testing.  
1253 Note whether equipment is housed in conditioned space. Note weather conditions for outdoor equipment.

1254  
1255 Update records to reflect dates of inspections, testing, maintenance, a summary of work performed with  
1256 complete log notations, test results, meter readings, details of any unsatisfactory conditions, corrective  
1257 actions taken, parts replaced, identification of servicing personnel, and documentation of satisfactory tests  
1258 immediately following any repair.

1259  
1260 Review maintenance records periodically to identify performance trends and changes in electrical  
1261 characteristics over time.

1262  
1263

## 1264 **9.2 Routine Inspections**

1265  
1266 Inspect areas and spaces around MCCs for any accumulation of dirt, dust, or debris. Remove any  
1267 accumulations of dirt or dust. Remove trash, combustible material, and other debris from areas around  
1268 MCCs.

1269  
1270 Measure and record the ambient temperature around MCCs. Check the operating temperature of MCCs  
1271 that have been operating under normal loading and at normal ambient temperature for a minimum of 3  
1272 hours by measuring the surface temperature of enclosures, access covers, doors, circuit breakers and  
1273 switches. If temperatures exceed manufacturer recommendations, de-energize the MCC and investigate  
1274 sources of overheating.

1275  
1276 Inspect MCCs and enclosures for external signs of overheating, such as discoloration, flaking paint or  
1277 flaking labels. Check equipment installed near MCCs as possible external sources of heat. Eliminate  
1278 external sources of heat to MCCs.

1279  
1280 Measure and record voltages and load currents, if possible, noting the date and time of day. Provide  
1281 comments regarding known causes of variations in loading, such as load additions or equipment  
1282 maintenance outages. Inspect all indicating devices for correct operation.

1283  
1284 Check all accessible exterior MCC and cabinet hardware for tightness. Visually inspect cabinets for  
1285 physical damage. Repair physical damage, if practical and approved by the manufacturer. Consult the  
1286 owner and MCC manufacturer for recommendations for suitable protective barriers to prevent future

1287 damage.

1288

1289 Inspect areas and spaces around MCCs for evidence of water or moisture. Look for any recent changes in  
1290 sprinklers or other plumbing that might expose indoor MCCs to a source of liquids. Eliminate sources of  
1291 or provide suitable protection from water, moisture, or liquids to MCCs.

1292

1293 Verify operation of MCC heaters, if so equipped.

1294

1295

### 1296 **9.3 Cleaning**

1297

1298 Maintain adequate ventilation during cleaning.

1299

1300 Prior to cleaning, visually inspect MCC for evidence of discoloration, dust accumulation, metal shards, or  
1301 any other indication of overheating, wear, or other abnormal conditions.

1302

1303 Note any unusual conditions such as signs of insects or rodents. If possible, take corrective action to  
1304 prevent the condition from recurring.

1305

1306 Clean the MCC interior with a vacuum cleaner, soft-bristled brushes, or clean, dry, lint-free cloths to  
1307 remove any accumulation of dust, dirt, or other foreign matter. Do not use liquids, solvents, or detergents  
1308 when cleaning MCCs or components. Avoid blowing dust into MCCs. Do not use a blower or  
1309 compressed air.

1310

1311 Clean bus bars, conductors, supports, insulators, terminals, and other major insulating surfaces and other  
1312 parts with clean, dry, lint-free cloths or soft-bristled brushes. Do not use chemicals or petroleum-based  
1313 solvents on plastics or insulating materials, since these may degrade plastics or insulating materials.

1314 Clean ventilation openings of enclosures and internal components.

1315

1316 Thoroughly clean fusible switches inside and outside.

1317

1318 Remove dust, soot, grease, moisture, and foreign material from surface of circuit breakers, adjustable  
1319 speed drives, and other internal MCC components.

1320

1321

### 1322 **9.4 Inspection, Maintenance, and Testing**

1323

1324 The following inspection, maintenance, and testing procedures are intended to identify operational and  
1325 aging issues associated with MCCs. MCCs are subject to vibration from magnetic contactor operation  
1326 and movement from motor starting currents and thermal cycling. As a result, hot spots develop,  
1327 insulating gaps reduce, and insulation ages prematurely.

1328

1329

#### 1330 **9.4.1 Infrared Scan**

1331

1332 Provide supplemental barriers and use safety precautions during infrared scans to prevent accidental  
1333 contact with exposed energized components. Comply with NFPA 70E, *Standard for Electrical Safety in*  
1334 *the Workplace*. Use appropriate personal protective equipment.

1335

1336 Infrared surveys are recommended for equipment that cannot be de-energized and taken out of service or

1337 where an outage is problematic.  
1338  
1339 Infrared surveys should be performed during periods of maximum possible loading, but not less than 40%  
1340 of the capacity of the electrical equipment, as infrared surveys may not accurately depict the resistance of  
1341 high-capacity connections and terminations when loaded below 40% of capacity.  
1342  
1343 Do not test equipment when exposed to direct sunlight. Perform infrared inspections of outdoor  
1344 equipment at night or when equipment is not exposed to direct sunlight.  
1345  
1346 Shiny surfaces do not emit radiation energy efficiently, and can be hot while appearing cool in an infrared  
1347 image. Additionally, plastic and glass covers in electrical enclosures are not transparent to infrared  
1348 radiation.  
1349  
1350 Perform an infrared scan in accordance with MCC and test equipment manufacturer recommendations.  
1351  
1352 Use infrared test equipment that detects emitted radiation and converts detected radiation to a visual  
1353 signal. Imaging equipment should be capable of detecting a minimum difference of 1°C at 30°C. Provide  
1354 documentation of equipment calibration.  
1355  
1356 Render equipment electrically safe in accordance with Section 3. Remove all accessible covers, plates,  
1357 weathershields, and doors necessary to reveal bus, conductors, connections, terminations, and other  
1358 current-carrying components. Energize equipment in accordance with Section 8.2, turn on all normal  
1359 loads, and perform scan.  
1360  
1361 Perform infrared testing of all accessible current-carrying devices, such as bus, circuit breakers, switches,  
1362 instrument transformers, meters, motor starters, contactors, adjustable speed drives, and protective and  
1363 control relays while energized and operating under the maximum load conditions possible.  
1364  
1365 Investigate differences in temperature gradient in accordance with MCC, component, and test instrument  
1366 manufacturer recommendations. Typically, temperature differences of 1°C to 3°C between similar  
1367 components under similar components under similar loading are normal. Temperature differences of 4°C  
1368 to 15°C indicate possible deficiencies that warrant investigation. Temperature differences of greater than  
1369 15°C indicate probable deficiencies and warrant investigation. Repair or replace suspect electrical  
1370 equipment, terminations, and connections in accordance with manufacturer recommendations.  
1371  
1372 Repeat infrared testing of deficient areas after repairs have been made. Prepare a report identifying the  
1373 equipment and components tested and describing the results of the infrared scan. Include notations of  
1374 deficiencies detected, temperature differences between the areas of concern and reference areas, probable  
1375 causes of temperature differences, load conditions at the time of inspections, and recommended actions.  
1376 Provide thermal photographs of each deficient area. Identify areas that were not inspected or observed  
1377 due to inaccessibility.  
1378  
1379 Upon completion of infrared testing, render equipment electrically safe in accordance with Section 3.  
1380 Reinstall all accessible covers, plates, weathershields, and doors that were removed prior to scanning.  
1381 Energize equipment in accordance with Section 8.2 and turn on all normal loads.  
1382  
1383

#### 1384 **9.4.2 General**

1385  
1386 Compare equipment nameplate data with the latest facility one-line diagram, if available. Check MCC  
1387 circuit labeling for accuracy.

- 1388  
1389 Verify appropriate anchorage, required area clearances, and correct alignment. Verify that components  
1390 are properly installed and supported.  
1391  
1392 Inspect overall general condition for physical damage, broken studs, and loose or damaged wires,  
1393 connectors, and terminations. Carefully inspect all MCC devices for any worn-out, cracked, or missing  
1394 parts. Check all bolts, nuts, washers, and pins for tightness. Tighten or use manufacturer replacement  
1395 parts as required.  
1396  
1397 Inspect all doors, panels, and sections for corrosion, dents, scratches, fit, and missing hardware, and for  
1398 signs of rust, corrosion, or deteriorating paint. Check for evidence of localized heat damage to paint.  
1399 Investigate sources of heat. Correct internal sources of heat. Remove external sources of heat. Repair  
1400 damaged painted surfaces. Check that covers and doors are in place and fastened.  
1401  
1402 Inspect the inside of the MCC for moisture, condensation build-up, or signs of previous wetness.  
1403 Moisture causes insulation failure and rapid oxidation of current-carrying components. Pay particular  
1404 attention to conduit entrances and leaks at the top of the MCC between sections. Remove any moisture  
1405 present inside the MCC. Seal off all leaks, cracks, or openings that have allowed moisture to enter  
1406 equipment. Replace any components that show evidence of damage from moisture.  
1407  
1408 Inspect MCCs and internal components for evidence of overheating, such as discoloration and flaking of  
1409 insulation or metal parts, arc spatter, sooty deposits, and tracking. Investigate and correct sources of  
1410 arcing or overheating and replace damaged parts.  
1411  
1412 Verify that fuse and/or circuit breaker ampere ratings, interrupt ratings, and types correspond to record  
1413 drawings, if available, and are properly sized for the motors served based on the motor nameplate  
1414 information. Ensure that conductors are protected within their ampacity.  
1415  
1416 Record settings of adjustable circuit breakers and compare with the engineering coordination study  
1417 supplied by the owner, if available. Notify the owner of discrepancies between actual circuit breaker  
1418 settings and the coordination study, if available.  
1419  
1420 Verify that all key interlocks and door interlocking provisions are working properly. Examine the  
1421 operation of all electrical and mechanical interlocks and padlocking means. Adjust in accordance with  
1422 manufacturer instructions when necessary for proper operation.  
1423  
1424 Verify appropriate contact lubricant on moving current-carrying parts. Verify appropriate lubrication on  
1425 moving and sliding surfaces. Ensure that oil or grease, where used, is applied only to surfaces  
1426 recommended by the manufacturer. Wipe off excess lubrication to avoid contamination.  
1427  
1428 Verify that air filter media is in place and/or vents are clear.  
1429  
1430

### 1431 *9.4.3 Terminations, Connections, and Lugs*

- 1432  
1433 Verify the tightness of accessible bolted electrical connections using a calibrated torque-wrench. Comply  
1434 with the manufacturer-recommended torque values. In the absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten  
1435 terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70.  
1436  
1437 Inspect bus bars and bus bar assemblies for evidence of pitting, corrosion, discoloration, and annealing  
1438 due to heat. Replace damaged components using manufacturer recommended components. Use

1439 hardware and washers of a grade identical to or better than the hardware being replaced. Retighten  
1440 conical spring-steel or Belleville washers according to manufacturer instructions, or retighten until  
1441 washers are flat, if no instructions are available.  
1442  
1443 Consult manufacturer instructions concerning bus bar joints and retorque where required, keeping in mind  
1444 that some manufacturers indicate that their joints are maintenance-free and that additional tightening after  
1445 installation may degrade connections.  
1446  
1447 Inspect insulators for evidence of physical damage or contaminated surfaces. Inspect terminations,  
1448 connections, and lugs for alignment, physical damage, burns, corrosion, discoloration, flaking, thermal  
1449 damage, arcing, pitting, melting, deterioration, carbonization, cracks, chips, breaks, partial discharge, or  
1450 moisture. Check terminations and lugs for proper ampacity and temperature ratings. Verify that load  
1451 currents do not exceed the ampacity of terminations and lugs. Replace terminations and lugs with  
1452 inadequate ratings. Investigate and eliminate sources of damage. Replace overheated connections.  
1453 Repair or replace damaged components.  
1454  
1455 Check all terminations, connections, and lugs for tightness using a calibrated torque wrench or  
1456 screwdriver. Do not overtighten or strip threads.  
1457  
1458 Plated parts may become dark over time from oxidation. Do not remove the discoloration or abrade the  
1459 plating, as it will reduce the thickness of the plating.  
1460

#### 1461 **9.4.4 Conductors and Raceways**

1462  
1463  
1464 Verify that the insulation rating of all power, control, communication, and data conductors in raceways  
1465 entering the MCC are either rated 600V, or that separation is provided as required by NEC Articles 300,  
1466 725, 727, and Chapter 8. Replace lower-rated conductors with 600V rated conductors, or provide  
1467 separation in accordance with the NEC.  
1468  
1469 Inspect supply conductors and terminations for overheating, discoloration, and oxidation. Investigate and  
1470 correct any deficiencies.  
1471  
1472 Inspect conductors for frayed, broken, or missing strands, rust, corrosion, discoloration, arcing, pitting,  
1473 melting, and flaking of insulation and/or metal parts. Repair, replace, or rework damaged components.  
1474  
1475 Visually check the MCC, cables, and raceways for proper grounding and bonding. Correct improper  
1476 grounding and bonding.  
1477  
1478 Inspect conduits for moisture. Seal conduits that are a source of moisture and provide a means to drain  
1479 moisture away from the MCC, if possible.  
1480  
1481 Check set-screws in all raceway connectors for tightness and for stripped threads. Replace or repair  
1482 raceway connectors as necessary using manufacturer-recommended parts.  
1483  
1484 Inspect aluminum conductors for extrusion and rework terminations, if required, keeping in mind that  
1485 repeated tightening of loose connections will extrude aluminum conductors and may cause adverse  
1486 operating conditions.  
1487

#### 1488 **9.4.5 Switches**

1489

1490  
1491 Check switches for damage, broken or missing parts, corrosion, rust, and dirt. Exercise each switch  
1492 several times, checking for free movement, proper spring tension, and excessive wear. Verify proper  
1493 blade penetration, travel stops, and mechanical operation. Adjust, repair, or replace defective devices in  
1494 accordance with manufacturer instructions.  
1495  
1496 Inspect contact surfaces, blades, and jaws for discoloration, overheating, pitting, arcing, and corona.  
1497 Clean and dress readily-accessible copper electrical contacts, blades, and jaws in accordance with  
1498 manufacturer instructions. Many contact surfaces, such as arcing contacts, are silver tungsten or other  
1499 types of materials that must never be dressed. When contacts of these materials require maintenance, they  
1500 must be replaced.  
1501  
1502 Examine all readily-accessible arc chutes and insulating parts for cracks or breakage and for arc splatter,  
1503 sooty deposits, oil, or arc tracking. Clean off arc splatter, oil, and sooty deposits, and inspect for burning,  
1504 charring, or carbon tracking. To determine whether such wear requires replacement, consult  
1505 manufacturer instructions. Replace insulating parts and arc chutes that are cracked or broken.  
1506  
1507 Measure the contact-resistance across each switch blade and fuse holder of each switch. Investigate any  
1508 contact resistance values that deviate from adjacent poles or similar switches by more than 25 percent.  
1509 Microhm or millivolt drop values must not exceed the high levels of the normal range as indicated in the  
1510 manufacturer published data. If the manufacturer data is not available, investigate any values that deviate  
1511 from similar connections by more than 50 percent of the lowest value.  
1512  
1513 Tighten fuseholder connections in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Inspect each fuse holder to  
1514 determine whether it seems to be adequately supporting the fuse and that the fuseholder is securely  
1515 attached to the mounting base.  
1516  
1517 Examine fuse clips for discoloration, overheating, corrosion, or physical damage. If there is any sign of  
1518 overheating or looseness, check the spring pressure, and the tightness of clamps. Check fuse clip spring  
1519 pressure with that of similar fuse clips in the MCC. Replace weak or burned clips with new fuse clips and  
1520 suitable clamps using manufacturer-recommended replacement parts.  
1521  
1522 Lubricate the operating mechanism and sliding contact surfaces, if required, according to the  
1523 manufacturer instructions. If no instructions are given on the devices, sliding copper contacts, operating  
1524 mechanisms, and interlocks may be lubricated with clean, light grease. Wipe off excess lubrication to  
1525 avoid contamination.

#### 1526 1527 1528 **9.4.6 Fuses** 1529

1530 Turn off power before replacing fuses. See Section 3. Check both the line and load ends of fuses for the  
1531 presence of voltage before replacing fuses. Turn fusible switches to the “OFF” position before opening  
1532 doors. Do not defeat cover interlocks to gain access to fuses. Visually check the position of the switch  
1533 blades to confirm that all switch blades have disconnected from their line connection. If all switch blades  
1534 are not in the correct position, consult the manufacturer for recommendations.  
1535  
1536 Clean contact areas of fuses and fuse holders. Clean the insulating area of fuses.  
1537  
1538 Check all fuses to ensure that the correct rating and type are installed. Replace renewable fuses with  
1539 modern current-limiting fuses that fit into the same fuse clips. Ensure that non-current-limiting devices  
1540 are not used as replacements for current-limiting devices. Do not defeat rejection mechanisms that are

1541 provided to prevent the installation of the wrong types of fuses.  
1542  
1543 Look for fuses that have been bridged with wire, metal strips, or disks, or that appear to have been forced  
1544 or hammered into place. Replace with the correct fuses and consult the manufacturer for  
1545 recommendations for preventing a recurrence.  
1546  
1547 Look for evidence of overheating of cartridge fuses. Replace fuses having discolored or weakened  
1548 casings. Investigate and correct the cause of overheating.  
1549  
1550 Inspect ferrules or knife blades of cartridge fuses for corrosion or oxidation. Clean and polish contact  
1551 surfaces using a noncorrosive cleaning agent.  
1552  
1553 Plated parts may become dark over a period of time due to oxidation. Do not remove this discoloration,  
1554 as it will reduce the thickness of the plating.  
1555  
1556 Measure fuse resistance. Investigate fuse resistance values that deviate from each other by more than 15  
1557 percent. Replace defective or partially-burned fuses. Retighten plug fuses.  
1558  
1559 Ensure that fuses are completely inserted in fuseholders when installing fuses.  
1560

#### 1561 **9.4.7 Circuit Breakers**

1562  
1563 Operate circuit breakers several times to exercise mechanisms and contacts, and to ensure smooth  
1564 operation. Preferably, use the circuit breaker test feature that trips, exercises, and lubricates the  
1565 mechanism, if so equipped. Run self-diagnostics on circuit breakers equipped with solid-state circuitry or  
1566 a microprocessor. Otherwise, operate circuit breakers manually. Make sure each operator mechanism  
1567 quickly and positively throws contacts to the fully “ON” and fully “OFF” positions. Do not oil or grease  
1568 parts of molded case circuit breakers.  
1569  
1570 For electronic-trip circuit breakers, use the test set to run trip unit tests automatically with user prompts.  
1571  
1572 Inspect circuit breakers for visual defects, chipping, cracks, breaks, burns, deterioration, and correct  
1573 mounting. Visually check circuit breakers for evidence of overheating and thermal damage. Investigate  
1574 and eliminate sources of overheating. Inspect contacts and arc chutes in unsealed circuit breakers.  
1575 Replace damaged circuit breakers.  
1576  
1577 Inspect interchangeable trip units of circuit breakers for tightness.  
1578  
1579 Check circuit breaker terminals and connections for tightness using a calibrated torque wrench or  
1580 screwdriver. Refer to the manufacturer instructions and markings for proper torque values. In the  
1581 absence of manufacturer torque tables, tighten terminals in accordance with Annex I of NFPA 70.  
1582  
1583 Inspect aluminum conductors for extrusion and rework terminations, if required, keeping in mind that  
1584 repeated tightening of loose connections will extrude aluminum conductors and may cause adverse  
1585 operating conditions.  
1586  
1587 Adjust the settings of circuit breakers in accordance with the coordination study supplied by owner, if  
1588 applicable.  
1589  
1590  
1591

#### 1592           **9.4.8   Ground-Fault Protection Systems**

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Test ground-fault protection systems in accordance with manufacturer recommendations and the requirements of the authority having jurisdiction. See Section 7.5.

Prior to testing, ensure that all grounding conductors and connections, including the grounding electrode, neutral disconnect link, neutral system conductor, and main bonding jumper, if applicable, are installed. Check that the grounded conductor, or neutral, is solidly grounded ahead of the neutral disconnect link and on the line side of the ground fault sensor.

Check the polarity of both the primary and the secondary circuits of current transformers. Exercise extreme caution around current transformer circuits. A current transformer carrying primary current can develop high secondary terminal voltages if the secondary terminals are open-circuited.

Check ground-fault protection system terminations and connections for tightness, corrosion, and damage. Replace any damaged components.

Check that the ground-fault sensor is properly installed. Ensure that the ground fault sensor location is on the load side of the main bonding jumper termination. For ground-strap systems, the ground fault sensor should be installed on the main bonding jumper. For residual-ground fault systems, the ground fault sensor should be installed around all current-carrying conductors, including the neutral (grounded conductor) of three-phase, four-wire systems. Ensure that all conductors are routed in the same direction through the ground fault sensor, and that no grounding conductors are routed through the ground-fault sensor.

Using the manufacturer wiring diagrams, check that all control wiring is complete, including the current sensor, ground-fault relay, control power transformer, if applicable, and the main overcurrent device. Check that all lockouts are removed, including the main overcurrent device and any access panels. Check that all adjustments, such as ground-fault current pick-up and time delay settings have been made. Check that 120-volt AC power is available for testing.

Verify that the ground system is in compliance with drawings and specifications. Perform fall-of-potential testing or alternative in accordance with IEEE standard 81, *Guide for Measuring Earth Resistivity, Ground Impedance, and Earth Surface Potentials of a Ground System*, on the main grounding electrode or system. Perform point-to-point tests to determine the resistance between the main grounding system and all major electrical equipment frames, system neutral, and/or derived neutral points. The resistance between the main grounding electrode and ground system should be no greater than 5 ohms for commercial or industrial systems and one ohm or less for generating or transmission station grounds unless otherwise specified by the owner. Investigate point-to-point resistance values that exceed 0.5 ohm.

Remove the neutral disconnect link and measure neutral-to-ground insulation resistance. Insulation resistance should be a minimum of one megohm. Reinstall the neutral disconnect link.

Test the ground-fault protection system. Check all functions of the self-test panel, if so equipped. Additional testing may be conducted with or without tripping main or branch overcurrent protective devices. Preferably, test by actually tripping devices to ensure proper system operation.

Verify that the ground-fault relay operates above 90 percent of the setting, and below 125 percent of the setting, or 1200 amperes, whichever is less, by primary injection testing.

Verify the blocking capability of zone-interlock systems.

1643  
1644 If the ground-fault protection system does not operate properly, and additional equipment has been  
1645 connected to the installation since the last maintenance check, de-energize the entire system, disconnect  
1646 the main bonding jumper, and check for continuity between the neutral and ground on the load side of the  
1647 main bonding jumper. If grounds are found, remove them and test again. If no grounds are detected and  
1648 the ground-fault protection system is still not functioning properly, contact the MCC manufacturer for  
1649 recommendations.

1650  
1651 If the ground-fault protection system does not operate properly, and no additional equipment has been  
1652 connected to the installation since the last maintenance test or check, check devices for physical or  
1653 electrical damage or loose connections. Correct any problems found.

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#### 1656 ***9.4.9 Motor Starters, Contactors, and Controllers***

1657  
1658 Inspect, maintain, test, and repair or replace motor starters, contactors, and controllers in accordance with  
1659 manufacturer instructions.

1660  
1661 Check and adjust motor starter contact gap, wipe, alignment, and pressure in accordance with the  
1662 manufacturer published data. Check contactor contacts for excessive wear, burning, or unusual pitting.  
1663 *NOTE: Contacts will be pitted from normal operation. Do not file or otherwise dress normally pitted*  
1664 *contacts.* Replace damaged or splattered contacts.

1665  
1666 Operate mechanical devices. Check for smooth and precise operation.

1667  
1668 Test starters, contactors, and controllers by initiating control devices.

1669  
1670 Check control, power, and grounding conductors and connections for compliance with wiring diagrams.

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#### 1673 ***9.4.10 Adjustable Speed Drives***

1674  
1675 Check the overcurrent set-points of drives with motor full-load current ratings to verify correct settings.  
1676 Confirm that the set-points are within the limitations of the motor load. For drives operating multiple  
1677 motors, compare the individual motor overload element ratings with the full-load current ratings at the  
1678 minimum and maximum speed set-points of the drive.

1679  
1680 Ensure vent path openings of adjustable speed drives are free from debris and that heat transfer surfaces  
1681 are not fouled by oil, dust, or dirt.

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#### 1684 ***9.4.11 Power Factor Capacitors***

1685  
1686 Examine capacitor enclosures for evidence of distortion, swelling, and rupture. Check enclosure and  
1687 surrounding area for evidence of leakage. Perform a continuity check on capacitor fuses.

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### 1690 **9.5 Electrical Testing**

1691  
1692 Perform insulation-resistance testing in accordance with Section 7.3.

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## **9.6 Re-energizing Motor Control Centers**

Energize MCCs in accordance with Section 8.2

Measure MCC feeder and branch load currents. Ensure that conductors are properly sized and protected for actual loading.

Measure and record incoming line voltage under load. Operational changes and system modifications frequently affect system voltages.

Verify the proper operation of devices and controls, such as solid-state industrial controllers, adjustable speed drives, and programmable controllers. Adjust devices in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Record final settings of programmable devices, such as adjustable speed drives and digital meters.

## **10. Adverse Circumstances**

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Special procedures are necessary to determine if an MCC can remain safely in service following a short circuit, ground-fault, or exposure to water.

Do not attempt to re-energize an MCC following a short circuit or ground-fault condition within the MCC without performing inspections and checks in accordance with Section 10.1. Do not re-energize a feeder or branch overcurrent device in the MCC that has opened due to a short circuit or ground-fault until the problem downstream has been corrected.

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### **10.1 Inspection Following a Short Circuit or Ground-fault Condition**

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Consult the manufacturer for recommendations before performing any testing or maintenance following a short-circuit or ground-fault.

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De-energize the MCC in accordance with Section 3. Identify and remove the cause of the short-circuit or ground-fault.

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Inspect the MCC for damage. Use manufacturer-recommended replacement parts and components that are of the proper rating and suitable for the application.

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Operate switches and circuit breaker several times manually to check mechanisms for free operation and proper working order. The external operating handles of disconnect switches and circuit breakers should open the respective circuit. Replace damaged devices and devices that fail to open.

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Inspect the MCC for physical damage in structural components, bussing, and conductors. Check for mechanical distortion, thermal damage, metal deposits, and products of combustion.

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Inspect the enclosure, doors, fasteners, and external components for evidence of damage, such as deformation, displacement of parts, or burning. Check that door-mounted equipment and safety interlocks function correctly. Verify that hinge and latch integrity is maintained. Inspect door interlocks

1743 and verify proper functioning prior to restoring to service.  
1744  
1745 Examine bussing, fasteners, supports, and insulators for damage. Replace damaged or deformed bus and  
1746 fasteners, such as bus with melted, worn, or damaged plating. Examine bus supports for cracks or  
1747 breakage. Replace insulators showing damage, deterioration, or deposits. Check air gaps and distances  
1748 over surfaces between live parts and grounded metal parts.  
1749  
1750 Check conductors and insulators for damage, keeping in mind that some organic insulating materials may  
1751 deteriorate during an electrical arc and must be replaced. Inspect and evaluate all connections and  
1752 terminations to prevent loosened connections from pulling out of their terminations on subsequent short  
1753 circuits. Replace all terminals and conductors that show evidence of discoloration, melting, or arcing  
1754 damage.  
1755  
1756 Examine circuit breakers for evidence of damage. Inspect devices that opened for possible arcing damage  
1757 to contacts, arc chutes, and/or insulation. Do not open sealed devices. Replace any sealed units that are  
1758 suspected of sustaining damage. If there is no apparent evidence of damage, reset the circuit breaker and  
1759 turn "ON" using the external operating handle. Replace circuit breakers that have opened several times  
1760 under fault conditions or shows signs of damage or deterioration.  
1761  
1762 Replace disconnect switches if visual inspection indicates deterioration, such as overheating, arc chute  
1763 damage, contact blade or jaw pitting, charring, welding, or insulation breakage. Replace fuse holders if  
1764 the insulating mounts, barriers, or fuse clips show signs of damage, deterioration, heating, distortion, or  
1765 looseness. Replace all fuses in a multiphase circuit, even if only one or two are open-circuited.  
1766  
1767 Replace motor starters, contactor contacts, and contact springs if the contacts are welded or show thermal  
1768 damage, evidence of arcing on the contactor moldings, insulation damage, displacement of metal,  
1769 evidence of binding in the guides, or wear in excess of wear allowances. If deterioration extends beyond  
1770 the contacts, replace the contactor or starter.  
1771  
1772 Visually inspect heater elements and overload relays. Replace burned-out heater elements. Replace  
1773 overload relays with any indication of arcing or burning, and when recommended by the manufacturer.  
1774 Check contact operation by electrically or mechanically tripping and resetting the overload relay.  
1775  
1776 Inspect stab-on clips for evidence of arcing, melting, erosion, deformation, or general heat damage.  
1777 Replace damaged stab-on assemblies.  
1778  
1779 Perform insulation resistance testing as specified in Section 7.3. Compare insulation resistance test  
1780 results with previous test results and with the original factory test data corrected for temperature  
1781 variations using manufacturer-recommended multipliers. Typical factory test results exceed 100  
1782 megohms. Correct deficiencies or replace components in accordance with manufacturer  
1783 recommendations.  
1784  
1785 Clean, inspect, test, and maintain the MCC in accordance with Section 9. Re-energize MCCs in  
1786 accordance with Section 8.2.  
1787  
1788  
1789 **10.2 Replacing or Reconditioning a Motor Control Center Submerged in or Soaked by**  
1790 **Water**

1791  
1792 Do not work on electrical equipment while standing in water. Do not energize an MCC that is wet.  
1793

1794 After being submerged in or soaked by water, MCCs can be replaced or may possibly be reconditioned by  
1795 trained personnel in consultation with the manufacturer.

1796  
1797 MCC components that require complete replacement when submerged in or soaked by water include  
1798 molded case circuit breakers and molded case switches, fuses, overload relays, contacts, wiring and  
1799 conductors, control transformers, and electronic and solid-state components containing printed circuit  
1800 boards, semiconductors, and transistors.

1801  
1802 The ability to recondition or refurbish water-damaged electrical equipment will vary depending upon the  
1803 age of the equipment, the contamination level of the water, the length of time that the equipment was in  
1804 contact with water, and the length of time that the equipment is exposed to the atmosphere after exposure  
1805 to water.

1806  
1807 Reconditioning may include the repair or replacement of internal components, and should only be  
1808 performed by qualified personnel familiar with the operation and construction of such equipment in  
1809 consultation with the original equipment manufacturer.

1810  
1811 Non-trained personnel should not attempt to disassemble and reassemble equipment that was assembled  
1812 at the factory by trained personnel based on strict design guidelines.

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### 1815 **10.3 Inspecting and Re-energizing a Motor Control Center Sprayed or Splashed with** 1816 **Clean Water**

1817  
1818 It may be possible to inspect, recondition, and reenergize an MCC that has been sprayed or splashed with  
1819 clean water, provided that the MCC was not physically damaged or soaked or submerged in water, that  
1820 the water was not contaminated with sewage, chemicals, or other substances, and that the water did not  
1821 contact conductors or any energized components.

1822  
1823 De-energize and electrically isolate the MCC in accordance with Section 3.

1824  
1825 Verify that there is no evidence of water contact with conductors or any energized electrical components  
1826 such as molded case circuit breakers, molded case switches, fuses, overload relays, contacts, wiring and  
1827 conductors, control transformers, and electronic and solid-state components containing printed circuit  
1828 boards, semiconductors, and transistors. If there is evidence of water contacting these components, they  
1829 must be replaced. Consult the manufacturer for recommendations.

1830  
1831 Wipe off all moisture from bus bars, insulators, and insulating materials with a clean, dry, lint-free cloth.  
1832 Do not use cleaning agents or sprays unless specifically recommended by the MCC manufacturer.

1833  
1834 Dry the MCC by applying a minimum of 250 watts of heat per vertical section until no visible signs of  
1835 dampness remain. Remove all combustible materials from MCCs before applying heat.

1836  
1837 Perform insulation resistance testing in accordance with Section 7.3. Disconnect and electrically isolate  
1838 all line-side and load-side conductors. Turn all circuit breakers or fusible switches to the "ON" position.  
1839 Perform phase-to-ground and phase-to-phase insulation tests. Reenergize equipment only with insulation  
1840 resistance measurements greater than 500,000 ohms.

1841  
1842 Re-energize equipment in accordance with Section 8.2.

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*(This Annex is not a part of the Standard)*

## **Annex A: Reference Standards**

NEMA GD 1, *Evaluating Water-Damaged Electrical Equipment*

NETA *Acceptance Testing Specification*

NETA *Maintenance Testing Specification*

NFPA 70-2020, *National Electrical Code*