Co-operative partnership

Solution for partial discharge monitoring at SAP AG

SAP not only provides software solutions, but also offers server capacities as a service for its customers. Keeping these servers permanently up and running is a top priority for SAP. To prevent any failures, the company was looking for a solution to monitor its own 20 kV switchgear systems. OMICRON listened carefully to what the company needed and today performs monitoring for a portion of SAP's internal power supply network.

High-frequency current transformers: developed to the requirements of SAP

Lutz Thissen

Electrical Engineering
Facility Support,
Global Facility Management,
SAP AG.

»We believe in reliable partners.«

Need for partial discharge monitoring

SAP first came to OMICRON early in 2010. Following a power supply network malfunction, the company could no longer ensure that the insulation of all components within its in-house 20 kV switchgear systems was still intact. The goal was therefore to localize any issues using partial discharge monitoring. The company was also interested in receiving updates regarding the condition of the insulation at regular intervals. SAP was looking for a reliable and skilled partner for this task.

Customer-oriented approach

OMICRON took up this challenge. In an initial on-site situation analysis and open communication with SAP, it quickly became clear what the business partner in Germany was looking for. System planning revealed that a special high-frequency current transformer had to be developed, adapted to the specific circumstances at SAP. This was no problem for OMICRON, and the company had the MCT095 high-frequency current transformer ready for use in a very short time. With the PDM 600 partial discharge monitoring system, a powerful monitoring system was then set up specifically to SAP's requirements.

Perfect preparatory work at SAP

87 of the specially developed sensors have been installed at SAP to date. The company's internal service has installed 27 stations on the outer walls of the switching areas, which in the future can also be used for a permanent partial discharge monitoring solution. These allow simple and time-efficient testing of the

Pre-installed control cabinets allow simple and fast partial discharge measurement.

»Time saving? Three days.«

87 channels. An initial examination, completed within just two days, was performed in March 2011. Time saving? Three days. "The distributed stations on the transformers offer easy access to the measuring points, making long and complicated switching procedures a thing of the past," explains Lutz Thissen, Electrical Engineering Project Lead in Facility Support at SAP AG, describing the background of the installation.

Reliable partner

Both parties value the collaboration. "The fact that we now know what condition our power distribution systems are in gives us new confidence and security. This is exactly what OMICRON offers with its temporary partial discharge monitoring system. In addition to this, the collaboration is fast, uncomplicated and efficient," is how Lutz Thissen sums up the project.

SAP in Walldorf, Germany

SAP AG

SAP AG is the leading provider of corporate software solutions for firms of all sizes and in all industrial sectors. Founded in 1972 by five former IBM employees, SAP today ranks among the largest software manufacturers in the world.

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A glimpse into the server rooms