



## 1 SCOPE

This document details the application of SOP 193 issued by the Electricity Association.

## 2 ISSUE RECORD

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Issue Date	Issue No	Author	Amendment Details
October 2000	1	Esther Stewart	Initial Issue in New Format: 2 Page Document

## 3 ISSUE AUTHORITY

Author	Owner	Issue Authority
Esther Stewart	Roger Bracey	Roger Bracey Group Head, Standards .....



#### 4 SOP DETAILS

**TYPE:** Whipp & Bourne CV Vacuum Circuit Breaker.

**ORIGINATING REC:** NORWEB

**DATE:** 14/10/97

**NO. INSTALLED IN MANWEB:** 2  
**NO. INSTALLED IN SCOTLAND**

**STATUS:** RESTRICTION (WITHDRAWN 27/10/97)

- (1) No person shall be present in any substation containing switchgear of the above type when it is being energised or re-energised.
- (2) Access to areas where LIVE switchgear of the above type is situated shall be restricted to essential operational activities only.

**REASON:**

A disruptive failure of unit. It is suspected that a long term discharge has occurred under the test access covers between the conductors and the plastic shrouds. This resulted in a flashover at the front of the switchgear.

**UPDATE:** 27/10/97: SOP WITHDRAWN.

There was the possibility that a discharge had occurred in the test access shrouds and in conjunction with the manufacturer shrouds from an adjacent unit were analysed at Capenhurst concluding that there was no evidence of any discharge having taken place. During further investigations on site the remains of vermin were found and it is concluded that this was the cause of the failure.

The test bushings on this unit are situated at the front of the switchgear at low level. The distance between live conductors and the floor of the housing is minimal in this design. Work will carry on with the manufacturer to provide a remedy for this problem. The manufacturer has confirmed that some CV units were made with the test access at the rear of the unit and consider that these will not be affected.

**REMEDIAL ACTION:**