

Advanced Circuit Breakers Operations and Maintenance Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Structural Engineering	Duration	5 Days
Base Fee	\$1,500 USD	Delivery Mode	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

Advanced Circuit Breakers Operations and Maintenance Training Course is meticulously designed to equip electrical professionals with the **knowledge and practical skills** required for the modern operation and maintenance of **high and medium voltage circuit breakers**. With the increasing complexity of power systems and the paramount need for **grid reliability and safety**, this program focuses on advanced techniques, digital solutions, and **preventive and predictive maintenance strategies**. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of diverse circuit breaker technologies, including **SF6, vacuum, and air-blast** types, ensuring they are prepared to tackle the challenges of a rapidly evolving electrical infrastructure.

The curriculum balances foundational theory with **hands-on application**, emphasizing real-world scenarios and **troubleshooting best practices**. It delves into the latest **industry standards and safety protocols**, such as **Arc Flash safety**, to mitigate risks and ensure compliance. By focusing on **advanced diagnostics and condition-based maintenance**, this course goes beyond basic upkeep, empowering professionals to enhance asset longevity, optimize performance, and contribute to the overall **operational efficiency** and **sustainability** of electrical networks.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

- Master modern circuit breaker technologies and their advanced operating principles.
- Implement effective preventive and predictive maintenance programs to maximize asset lifespan.
- Perform advanced diagnostics and troubleshooting on various circuit breaker types.
- Interpret complex electrical test data (e.g., insulation resistance, contact timing) to assess equipment health.
- Develop and execute risk-based maintenance strategies to improve system reliability.
- Apply latest electrical safety standards and protocols, including Arc Flash mitigation.
- Analyze circuit breaker failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA) to prevent future issues.
- Utilize digital monitoring and smart grid solutions for real-time condition monitoring.
- Ensure compliance with international standards such as IEC and ANSI.
- Optimize circuit breaker coordination for enhanced power system protection.
- Manage and document comprehensive maintenance and testing records.
- Reduce unscheduled downtime and operational costs through proactive maintenance.
- Contribute to sustainable energy management by maintaining efficient and reliable equipment.

Organizational Benefits

- Proactive maintenance and troubleshooting skills reduce the frequency of unplanned outages and system failures.
- Staff proficiency in **Arc Flash safety** and other protocols significantly lowers the risk of accidents and ensures adherence to regulatory standards.
- Effective **preventive and condition-based maintenance** practices extend the operational life of expensive circuit breakers, deferring replacement costs.
- A well-maintained electrical system operates more efficiently, leading to reduced energy waste and lower operational costs.
- Quick and accurate diagnostics minimize **unscheduled downtime**, preventing production losses and costly repairs.
- The training ensures the workforce remains updated with the latest technologies and best practices, building internal expertise.
- Understanding **failure modes** and applying **predictive maintenance** techniques helps organizations foresee and mitigate potential risks before they lead to catastrophic failures.

Target Audience

- Electrical Engineers and Technicians
- Substation Operators and Maintenance Staff
- Maintenance Supervisors and Managers
- Power System Engineers
- Safety and Reliability Professionals
- Utility and Industrial Electricians
- Commissioning Engineers
- Project Engineers involved in electrical infrastructure

Course Modules

Module 1: Fundamentals of Advanced Circuit Breakers

- Evolution of circuit breaker technology: From oil to SF6 and vacuum.
- Principles of arc interruption and dielectric strength.
- Types and construction of **high and medium voltage circuit breakers**.
- Circuit breaker ratings: Interrupting capacity, continuous current, and voltage.
- Integration within power systems: Substation layout and protection schemes.
- **Case Study:** Analysis of a historical circuit breaker failure due to outdated design and lack of modern protective measures.

Module 2: Preventive and Predictive Maintenance Strategies

- Developing a **preventive maintenance** schedule based on equipment age and duty cycle.
- Introduction to **predictive maintenance** technologies: Thermography, vibration analysis, and acoustic emissions.
- **Condition-based maintenance (CBM)** principles and implementation.
- Lubrication, cleaning, and mechanical adjustments of operating mechanisms.
- Developing **risk-based maintenance plans** to prioritize critical assets.
- **Case Study:** A company transitions from time-based to condition-based maintenance, resulting in a 30% reduction in maintenance costs and a 25% decrease in unscheduled downtime.

Module 3: Advanced Testing and Diagnostics

- **Primary injection testing** vs. **secondary injection testing**.
- **Insulation resistance and power factor testing** to assess insulation health.
- **Contact resistance and timing tests** to verify mechanical integrity and coordination.
- **Circuit breaker control circuit testing** and troubleshooting.
- Using modern diagnostic equipment and software for data analysis.
- **Case Study:** Diagnosing a latent fault in a circuit breaker using a combination of timing and contact resistance tests, preventing a major power outage.

Module 4: SF6 Circuit Breakers: Operation and Handling

- Properties of **Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6)** gas and its environmental impact.
- Safe handling, storage, and **gas management** procedures.
- **Gas leak detection** and mitigation techniques.
- SF6 gas purification and recycling processes.
- Maintenance procedures for SF6 gas handling systems and monitoring devices.
- **Case Study:** Implementation of a new gas leak detection system and a gas management plan, leading to compliance with environmental regulations and cost savings.

Module 5: Vacuum and Air-Blast Circuit Breakers

- Principles of vacuum arc interruption and vacuum interrupter technology.
- Testing and maintenance of vacuum interrupters.
- **Air-blast circuit breakers** mechanics and operational challenges.
- Maintenance of pneumatic systems and compressed air supply.
- **Troubleshooting common failures** specific to vacuum and air-blast breakers.
- **Case Study:** Repair and re-commissioning of an air-blast breaker following a catastrophic failure due to a worn-out component identified through detailed inspection.

Module 6: Electrical Safety and Regulations

- **Arc Flash analysis and mitigation:** Understanding incident energy and PPE requirements.
- Developing and implementing **lockout/tagout (LOTO)** procedures for circuit breakers.
- Review of international standards and regulations (e.g., **IEC 62271**, **ANSI C37**).
- Risk assessment and safe work practices in substations.
- Emergency response and first aid procedures for electrical incidents.
- **Case Study:** An organization improves its safety record by implementing a new LOTO training program and conducting a full **Arc Flash** study of its electrical infrastructure.

Module 7: Digitalization and Smart Maintenance

- Integration of circuit breakers into **SCADA** and **smart grid** systems.
- Using **IoT sensors** and **remote monitoring** for real-time condition assessment.
- Data analytics and machine learning for **predictive failure analysis**.
- **Cybersecurity** in substation automation and maintenance systems.
- Future trends in circuit breaker technology and maintenance.
- **Case Study:** A utility company deploys IoT sensors on critical circuit breakers, using data analytics to predict a major mechanical failure 3 months in advance.

Module 8: Practical Application and Capstone Project

- Hands-on workshop: Dismantling, inspecting, and re-assembling different circuit breaker types.
- Practical sessions on using diagnostic equipment.
- **Capstone Project:** A team-based exercise to create a comprehensive maintenance plan for a simulated substation, incorporating all concepts from the course.
- Final assessment and certification.
- Discussion on career development and ongoing professional education.
- **Case Study:** A capstone project where participants successfully troubleshoot and fix a simulated ground fault issue, demonstrating mastery of the course material.

Training Methodology

This program employs a **blended learning approach** to ensure a comprehensive and engaging experience. It combines theoretical classroom sessions with **interactive hands-on practical exercises** and **real-world case studies**. The methodology includes:

- Instructor-led presentations and discussions.
- Practical demonstrations using specialized equipment.
- Hands-on workshops for testing and maintenance procedures.
- Simulations and virtual labs to practice troubleshooting in a safe environment.

- Group exercises and case study analysis to apply concepts to real-world scenarios.
- Pre- and post-course assessments to measure knowledge acquisition.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call +254769199797

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

- The participant must be conversant with English.
- Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate
- Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.
- The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.
- One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.
- Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Online	\$1,000
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$1,500
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0

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