

ungrounded conductor(s), grounded conductor, equipment grounding conductor, or grounding electrode conductor. The grounded conductor and the equipment grounding conductor shall be interconnected only by the normal operation of the SPD during a surge.

242.32 Grounding Electrode Conductor Connections and Enclosures. Except as indicated in this article, SPD grounding connections shall be made as specified in Article 250, Part III. Grounding electrode conductors installed in metal enclosures shall comply with 250.64(E).

Part III. Surge Arresters, Over 1000 Volts

Voltage surges with peaks of several thousand volts, even on 120-volt circuits, are not uncommon. Surges occur because of induced voltages in power and transmission lines resulting from lightning strikes in the vicinity of the line. Surges also occur as a result of switching inductive circuits. The standard on surge arresters is IEEE C62.11, *Standard for Metal-Oxide Surge Arresters for Alternating-Current Power Circuits (> 1 kV)*.

242.40 Uses Not Permitted. A surge arrester shall not be installed where the rating of the surge arrester is less than the maximum continuous phase-to-ground voltage at the power frequency available at the point of application.

242.42 Surge Arrester Rating. The duty cycle rating of a surge arrester shall be not less than 125 percent of the maximum continuous operating voltage available at the point of application.

For solidly grounded systems, the maximum continuous operating voltage shall be the phase-to-ground voltage of the system.

For impedance or ungrounded systems, the maximum continuous operating voltage shall be the phase-to-phase voltage of the system.

Informational Note No. 1: See IEEE C62.11-2020, *Standard for Metal-Oxide Surge Arresters for Alternating-Current Power Circuits (> 1 kV)*, and IEEE C62.22-2009, *Guide for the Application of Metal-Oxide Surge Arresters for Alternating-Current Systems*, for further information on surge arresters.

Informational Note No. 2: The selection of a properly rated metal oxide arrester is based on considerations of maximum continuous operating voltage and the magnitude and duration of over-voltages at the arrester location as affected by phase-to-ground faults, system grounding techniques, switching surges, and other causes. See the manufacturer's application rules for selection of the specific arrester to be used at a particular location.

242.44 Number Required. Where used at a point on a circuit, a surge arrester shall be connected to each ungrounded conductor. A single installation of such surge arresters shall be permitted to protect a number of interconnected circuits if no circuit is exposed to surges while disconnected from the surge arresters.

242.46 Location. Surge arresters shall be permitted to be located indoors or outdoors. Surge arresters shall be made inaccessible to unqualified persons unless listed for installation in accessible locations.

Maximum protection is achieved where the SPD is located as close as practicable to the equipment being protected. When a surge passes through an arrester, a wave is reflected in both directions on the conductors connected to the surge arrester. The magnitude of the reflected wave increases as the distance from the arrester increases. If the length of the conductor between the protected equipment and the surge arrester is short, the magnitude of the wave reflected through the equipment is minimized.

242.48 Routing of Surge Arrester Equipment Grounding Conductors. The conductor used to connect the surge arrester to line, bus, or equipment and to an equipment grounding conductor or grounding electrode connection point as provided in 242.50 shall not be any longer than necessary and shall avoid unnecessary bends.

242.50 Connection. The arrester shall be connected to one of the following:

- (1) Grounded service conductor
- (2) Grounding electrode conductor
- (3) Grounding electrode for the service
- (4) Equipment grounding terminal in the service equipment

242.52 Surge-Arrester Conductors. The conductor between the surge arrester and the line, and the surge arrester and the grounding connection, shall not be smaller than 6 AWG copper or aluminum.

242.54 Interconnections. The surge arrester protecting a transformer that supplies a secondary distribution system shall be interconnected as specified in 242.54(A), (B), or (C).

(A) Metal Interconnections. A metal interconnection shall be made to the secondary grounded circuit conductor or the secondary circuit grounding electrode conductor, if, in addition to the direct grounding connection at the surge arrester, the connection complies with 242.54(A)(1) or (A)(2).

(1) Additional Grounding Connection. The grounded conductor of the secondary has a grounding connection elsewhere to a continuous metal underground water piping system. In urban water-pipe areas where there are at least four water-pipe connections on the neutral conductor and not fewer than four such connections in each mile of neutral conductor, the metal interconnection shall be permitted to be made to the secondary neutral conductor with omission of the direct grounding connection at the surge arrester.