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DISTRIBUTION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
SYSTEM DESIGN

EO-2080
REVISION 8

Design Of 120/208 Volt Network Installations

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1.0 Purpose

This specification gives the general requirements for all 120/208 Volt Network installations supplying: Secondary network grids, Isolated networks, spot networks, modified secondary grids.

2.0 Application

This specification applies to all regions.

3.0 Definitions

- 3.1 Transformer Manhole:** Structure housing a transformer with an attached submersible network protector (NWP), generally located on the roadway. Exception: the TM-11 manhole was adapted for sidewalk installation and is used for 500 kVA suspension type transformer installation.
- 3.2 Transformer Vault:** Facility or structure to house/contain a transformer with or without network protector (Often installed under sidewalks or within buildings).
- 3.3 Bus Vault:** Facility or structure to house/contain a paralleling bus and its associated cable connections.
- 3.4 Diving Bell Bus Vault:** Vault intended for submersible operation. The diving bell vault is a monolithically poured concrete structure having a closed top and sides and with the bottom open. Its purpose is to effectively act as a water tight chamber in which the bus is mounted.
- 3.5 Network Protector Compartment:** Structure housing/containing a network protector or a network protector supporting the paralleling bus assembly, as well as any associated cable connections . A service take off may also be included.
- 3.6 Paralleling Bus:** Bus bars used for the interconnection of transformer secondaries.
- 3.7 Bus Compartment:** The bus compartment is the structure housing the paralleling bus.
- 3.8 Bus to Bus Tie:** Cables connecting two parallel buses or crab vaults.
- 3.9 Inter-vault Tie:** Cables connecting a network protector and a

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paralleling bus or crab vault.

- 3.10 Crab Joint:** A multiple cable connector.
- 3.11 Crab Vault:** Structure to house crab joints for the interconnection of transformers. Can also sometimes see the crab vault referred to as the Bus Compartment.
- 3.12 Set of Cables:** One cable of each phase and the neutral cable (All cables are of the same size).
- 3.13 Phase Grouping:** Cables of all three phases installed in the same duct with or without neutral cable. (All cables are of the same size).
- 3.14 Phase Isolated:** Cables of the same phase only are installed in the same duct. (All cables are of the same size).
- 3.15 Unscramble:** Rearrangement of phase grouped cables to phase isolated.
- 3.16 Gap Cable:** Cables between transformer and a separately mounted network protector.
- 3.17 Street Ties:** Cables between a network installation and the secondary network grid.
- 3.18 Service Take-Off:** Bus or cable extension to Company's point of service termination.
- 3.19 Point-of-Service Termination:** Point where the customer's cables or bus are connected to the Company's cables or bus.
- 3.20 Submersible:** Generally, the complete equipment "package" to be installed in the vault including the transformer, network protector, and associated cable (including submersible bushing adapters as found in [EO-10704](#)) would need to be installed as submersible individual components in order for the whole package to be recognized as "submersible".
- 3.21 Equipment "Mount Types":** As found in the DE Equipment utility approved "Line Items" catalog, this key characteristic is how the network protector would be identified with the transformer bank:

3.21.1 Separately Mounted (SEP MTD): Transformers that do not

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submersible

Table 2: Dry Type Network Transformer Equipment

kVA	kV	Equip Mount Type	Submersible Transf
500	13	SEP MTD	Yes**
1000	13	SEP MTD	Yes**
500	13	END MTD	Yes**
1000	13	END MTD	Yes**

****Line Items (LI) with the suffix of “D” denote transformers that can be made submersible while those denoted as “DRY” without the LI suffix are non-submersible ventilated units**

5.1.2 The above transformers are self-cooled and available as dry or liquid filled units. Detailed description of network transformers are given in [EO-5025](#) (Dry Type) and [EO-5031](#) (Liquid filled).

5.2 Autotransformers

5.2.1 An autotransformer may be used to connect a 265/ 460 V spot network to the 120/208 V network grid. If such an application is planned and installed, consultation with the appropriate Distribution Engineering System Design Department would be required.

5.2.2 Autotransformers are self-cooled, liquid-filled, vault type units purchased on the following standard sizes

- 500 kVA, 3-phase 480/277 to 216/125 V
- 1000 kVA, 3-phase 480/277 to 216/125 V

5.2.3 Autotransformers are described in [EO-5011](#) with complementing operation instructions in [EO-11206](#).

5.3 Network Protectors

5.3.1 The following network protectors are used on the 120/208 V installations:

Table 3: NWP Amp Rating & Transformer Size

Network Protector Maximum Continuous Rating (Amp)	Associated Transformer (kVA)*
2250	500
3400	750
4500	1000

(*) Post 1991 vintage transformers

5.3.2 These units are available in open ventilated frames (dust proof) or submersible housings. Submersible housings shall be used for all new 120/208 V secondary network equipment installations with a priority targeted with storm hardening installations, replacements of 120/208 V equipment, or detailed criteria discussed in [EO-2168](#). Submersible equipment shall be used when required for [Climate Change](#) impact (Section 3.24) with submersible criteria and how non-submersible units can be made submersible described in Section 3.20 and Section 7 of this specification. Refer to [EO-5103](#) for detailed description for network protectors and to [EO-117000](#) for specific roll-out and enclosure information.

5.4 Fuses

5.4.1 The fuses used with 120/208 V installations are found in various specifications including [EO-117000](#) for network protectors and in [EO-5317](#) for service take offs. Network protector fuses and bus stab service take-off fuses are applied on the system according to Specification [EO-5400](#) and [EO-5402](#).

5.5 Limiters

5.5.1 Limiters employed on 120/208 V installations are listed in [EO-5414](#) and applied on the system according to [EO-5400](#).

5.6 Bus Bars

5.6.1 Rectangular ventilated copper tube is used as the standard for paralleling bus bar of phase conductors and service take-offs, with dimensions of 5" x 6" x 1/4". Copper tubes are purchased according to [EO-100049](#) and their standard ratings are given in [EO-5415](#).

5.6.2 Rubber-insulated rectangular copper bus bar is to be used in Flood Zone locations. For paralleling bus bar of phase conductors, use dimension 8" x 3/4".

5.7 Cables

5.7.1 The following Ethylene Propylene Rubber (EPR) 600 V rated cables are listed in [EO-18](#) and used on 120/208 V installations.

- a) 500 kcmil, EPR (EAM), Copper, Cable [EO-7654](#)
- b) 750 kcmil, EPR (EAM), Copper, Cable [EO-7655](#)

5.7.2 No aluminum cables shall be used on such installations.

5.8 Crab Joints

5.8.1 Crab joints used on 120/208 V installations are listed in the various specifications associated to the Purchase & Test Manual No. 6.

5.9 Low-Voltage Switch

5.9.1 The Low-Voltage Switch (LVS) is a 125 V single-phase underground switch. The main purpose of the switch is to provide for a less intrusive means of isolation and ease of restoration of the low voltage distribution grid.

5.9.2 The switch is installed in conjunction with 500 kcmil cable limiters in accordance with [506487](#), on either side of the switch. Cable limiter installation is not necessary if secondary crabs are located in the next closest structure and are in series with the switch.

5.9.3 For details on the operation and installation of the Low-Voltage Switch (LVS) refer to specification [EO-4380](#).

6.0 Structural Equipment Housings

6.1 Construction requirements for transformer vaults, bus vaults and network protector or paralleling bus compartments, on 120/208 V installations, are described in [EO-5024](#) and [EO-5230](#).

6.2 [EO-2107](#) lists all types of manholes and vaults and describes their application in forming various arrangements of single or multibank

installations on the 120/208 V System.

7.0 Design Considerations

7.1 “Suitable Space” Requirements:

7.1.1 As per the tariff posted as [CECONY’s Schedule For Electricity Service](#) as stated in the Section titled “Installation and Maintenance of Overhead and Underground Facilities > Transformers and Associated Equipment > Space for Transforming Apparatus”, the utility is seeking from customers and internal planning specific criteria related to an environmentally effective and safe design for vault and compartment location and construction.

7.1.2 When determining the transformer location’s “suitable space”, the area of work shall be free from any obstructions that may impede the process of installation. When Survey encounters any obstructions in the proposed area of work, it is to remove or relocate any street furniture and utility associated equipment. It will be deemed unsuitable space if the obstructions cannot be removed or relocated.

7.1.3 As stated in the [Company’s Specifications for Electric Installations aka Electric Blue Book](#) “Specials Services at Cost” section, highlighted environmental hazards of significance with vault construction include:

7.1.4 Environmental remediation work: When a geotechnical engineer discovers contamination in soil during an assessment, it is crucial to remediate the soil. Contamination can occur from a variety of sources, such as industrial waste, chemicals, or pollutants, and can pose a serious risk to human health and the environment. The remediation process may involve excavation and removal of the contaminated soil, treatment of the soil with chemicals, or other methods to isolate or contain the contamination. Failure to remediate contaminated soil within the area of work will be deemed unsuitable space. It is essential to implement the geotechnical engineer’s plan to remediate and to ensure that all applicable regulations and guidelines are followed.

7.1.5 Tidal Wetlands and/or Tidal water Restrictions: If a tidal water and/or tidal wetland has been identified, then utility facilities and/or

equipment shall not be constructed within the affected area and will be considered “unsuitable space” by the utility.

7.1.6 NWP Gap Cables: When locating the transformer vault(s), there shall be a clear path for the secondary cables (gap cables) to connect to the network protector (NWP) Compartment(s). For example, if a column is obstructing the path of the gap cables, then the Company’s design specifications of the cable cannot be met. The customer or building owner shall provide an alternative location that the gap cables can adequately connect the transformer(s) to the NWP(s).

7.1.7 As stated in [EO-2035](#), the distance between transformer vault(s) and the NWP compartment(s) shall not exceed 25 feet. Cables on the 120/208 Volt system may be installed "phase isolated" if their lengths do not exceed 25 feet to avoid voltage regulation problems. Cables shall be "phase grouped" for longer runs. "Phase grouped" distances will be limited to practical voltage drop calculated to ensure safe and reliable power to the customer inclusive of interior distribution plans. For information of cable impedance related to “phase grouped” and “phase isolated” configurations, see [EO-2057](#).

7.1.8 Structural/ Gratings Load Limitation: Vaults shall not be located in front of driveways, parking lots, and high traffic entrances. Utility gratings are not designed for consistent wheel load. If a hardship is present, it is under the discretion of the Engineering and Planning design team to determine if the location is suitable under [EO-5024](#) or [EO-5230](#) guidance.

7.1.9 Additional space requirements, ventilation, access, and draining details are outlined in [EO-2107](#), [EO-5024](#) and [EO-5230](#).

7.2 Equipment Elevation

7.2.1 In accordance with Corporate [Climate Change Planning and Design Guideline](#) and [CI-610-4](#), the planned installation of 120/208 V vaults would require a Flood Risk assessment to identify if the equipment locations is in an effective location whereas the elevation at the bottom of the transformer shall be at least five (5) feet above depending on what is shown on the current New York City or Westchester County FEMA FIRM map for the current 1% annual

fuses and SCADA. [EO-117000](#) can be referenced for specific roll-out and enclosure information.

Table 4: Install of Transformer & NWP Styles in Flood Zone

Transformer Type	Network Protector (NWP) Housing Style	Installation in Flood Zone
End Mounted or Side Mounted	Submersible	Both Transformer and NWP can be installed
End Mounted or Side Mount	Ventilated	Cannot be installed; May be installed at a specified elevation following a design discussion
Separately Mounted	Submersible (Separately mounted)	Transformer shall be installed with submersible boots. NWP can be installed, no elevation requirements.
Separately Mounted	Frame (Separately mounted)	Transformer shall be installed with submersible boots. NWP is required to be at raised elevation.

7.3 Transformers

7.3.1 Detailed criteria for network transformer replacements or new installation and selecting between dry type air cooled or liquid filled and fill type (mineral oil, natural ester, or silicone) are outlined in [EO-2120](#).

7.3.2 In general, liquid filled transformers are used on all outdoor installations, where stock availability of certain types may become the leading criteria. Transformers installed within buildings shall be natural ester (preferred) or dry type units based on the criteria provided in [EO-2120](#) with space availability, structural limitations, ventilation exposure and economics.

7.3.3 For additional details of the application of 750 kVA transformers refer to [EO-2107](#) and [EO-2168](#).

7.3.4 Only one network transformer shall be installed in each vault.

7.4 Autotransformers

7.4.1 Autotransformers that may be used to connect 265/460 V spot networks to 120/208 V network grids are liquid filled units.

7.4.2 Only one autotransformer shall be installed in each vault.

7.5 Network Protectors

7.5.1 Network protectors (NWP) shall be installed in accordance with design considerations in Sections 7.1 and 7.2.

7.5.2 Network protectors shall be installed in vaults or network protector/bus compartments. Submersible type housings shall be used for all new 120/208 V below-grade secondary network equipment installations. In addition, submersible type housings shall be used for all targeted storm hardening installations or at locations with criteria outlined in Section 7.2, or replacements of ventilated 120/208 V cabinets, where space permits.

7.5.3 Only one protector shall be installed in a vault or NWP/ bus compartment.

7.5.4 Network protector modes of operation are described in [EO-5411](#).

7.6 Fuses

7.6.1 Fuses shall be used on every network protector and on every bus stab service take-off with additional details found in [EO-5317](#) and [EO-10901](#).

7.6.2 Network protectors shall be fused according to [EO-5400](#) by using the low loss fuses listed in [EO-12696-B](#).

7.6.3 Service take-off bus stabs shall be fused according to [EO-5402](#) by using the low loss fuses listed in [EO-9689-D](#).

7.6.4 Service take-offs consisting of cables need not be fused but should be limited.

7.7 Limiters

7.7.1 Limiters should be provided at both ends of every phase cable on street ties connecting a single or multibank 120/208 V installation to the network grid.

7.7.2 Service take offs at multibank installations consisting of cables should have cable limiters at both the company and the customer end of the cable with details concerning the use of limiters and

limiter lugs on service cables supplying Customers from the secondary network systems described in [EO-3019](#).

7.7.3 A service supplied from the network grid should have cable limiters if it consists of 3 or more sets of cables.

7.8 Bus Bars

7.8.1 The rectangular ventilated copper tube that is used for paralleling bus phase conductors on 120/208 V installations, shall be placed at 10" center to center horizontal spacing among the phases. Rubber-insulated rectangular copper bus bar is to be used in Flood Zone location. The rectangular insulated copper bus for paralleling bus phase shall be placed 13" center-to-center horizontal spacing among phases. Exception is V15-6 Drawing [510634](#) which shows 11½" center-to-center spacing.

7.8.2 Buses of 120/208 V multibank installations are designed to withstand a maximum solid 3-phase fault of 200,000 amperes RMS Symmetrical. Standard design of bus bar installations, bus ampere ratings and provision for service take-offs are described in [EO-5415](#).

7.8.3 All buses shall be constructed to provide spare terminations for future cable connections. Each connection shall be equivalent to the full capacity of one 1000 KVA network transformer.

7.8.4 Buses of 120/208 V multibank installations are designed to with Network bus installations and bus support assemblies are detailed in Construction Standards Manual No. 3 (whereas a drawings list of bus installations appears in the References Section of [EO-5102](#)).

7.9 Secondary Cables

7.9.1 The [EO-2035](#) covers all secondary cable vault installations on the 120/208 V network system, such as: secondary cables within or between transformer vaults and bus vaults (bus compartments); and street ties and service cables associated with the vault installation.

7.10 Crab Joints

7.10.1 The Crab joints are used to connect multiple sets of cables together. Typical installations of crab joints are found in [EO-5403](#)

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<p>Revision 8: Updated format; Included 750 kVA transformer; Added “Suitable Space” and “Equipment Elevation” into Design Criteria with Bus & Vault Design and DE Equipment B-361 input; Incorporated Corporate Instruction for Climate Change Adaptation & Resiliency; and strengthened guidance described in Climate Change Planning and Design Guideline; Added details regarding below grade; above grade and defined “submersible” equipment installations; Establish Mount Type transformer details.</p> <p>Revision 7: Added Par. 5.6.2, 7.2.3 and expanded Pars. 7.5.1 and 7.8.6 for implementation of submersible bus on 120/208 Volt Network Installations. Added Sub-Section 5.9 on LV Switch.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Deleted Appendix 1 – NWP Relay Trip & Close Settings moved to an updated spec EO-5411. 	<p>FILE: Engineering Manual No. 4: Application and Design</p>
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