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Proposed Standard
for
LOW-VOLTAGE AIR CIRCUIT BREAKERS

(Published for one year trial use)

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Development of the Standards of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers

Recognizing the importance in the development of electrical engineering, of standardization in the electrical field, the AIEE in 1898 appointed a Committee on Standardization, consisting of seven members having qualifications and experience from designing, manufacturing and operating standpoints. The report of this Committee was accepted at a meeting of the Institute in June 1899.

Experience gained in applications of the standards and further developments in electric apparatus and methods showed the necessity of revision, and a committee was appointed which after consultation with manufacturing and operating engineers presented the first revised report on Standardization Rules of the AIEE in June 1902.

The next revision was undertaken by a committee of ten, which presented its report in May 1906.

In September 1906, a Standards Committee of eleven members was appointed for further revision, and its report was presented in June 1907.

The appreciation of the importance and value of standardization resulted in the formation of a Standing Committee, with the title of Standards Committee of the AIEE. This became effective in the Constitution of June 1907. The scope and amount of work necessitated increasing the number of members from time to time until in 1922 there were 37 members divided into a number of subcommittees specializing on various subjects.

AIEE Standards published in a single volume as each revision was adopted were generally accepted as standards of the electrical industry of the United States since the adoption of the first report in 1899. Subsequent reports on standards were made and published, in some cases in several editions. The dates of adoption by the Board of Directors of such reports are as follows: June 20, 1902; June 21, 1907; June 27, 1912; July 10, 1914; June 30, 1915; June 28, 1916; November 8, 1918; October 8, 1920, and June 29, 1922.

On June 29, 1922, in view of the increasing complexity of the work, a reorganization of the Standards Committee was effected, and a working organization established which provided for an increase in standardization work and for the appointment on Working Committees of the Standards Committee of non-Institute members.

The present plan under which the Institute Standards are being issued involves the separation of the complete body of standards into more than forty sections, each published as a separate pamphlet and dealing with a specific subject. Each section of the standards has been formulated either by a subcommittee of the Standards Committee which was made as representative as possible for the work in hand, by an AIEE Technical Committee or subcommittee, or by a Sectional Committee organized according to the procedure of the American Standards Association. The division of the standards into a number of separate publications simplifies the process of keeping the standards revised to conform with the latest development and enables those interested in a particular field to obtain in concise form the material relating to that field. In framing the Institute Standards the chief purpose has been to define terms and conditions which characterize the rating and behavior of electric machinery and apparatus, with special reference to the conditions of acceptance tests.

The AIEE Standards Committee takes this occasion to draw attention to the value of suggestions based upon experience gained in the application of the standards to general practice. Any suggestions looking toward improvement in the standards will be welcomed for the guidance of the Committee in preparation of future editions, and should be communicated to the Secretary of the AIEE Standards Committee, 33 West 39th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

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This proposed standard was prepared by a Working Group of the Circuit Breakers and Assembled Switchgear Subcommittee of the AIEE Committee on Protective Devices. The personnel of this Working Group is as follows:

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