

Preparing Activity: NASA

Superseding
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UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMRL dated October 2023

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NATIONAL AERONAUTICS UFGS-26 28 21.00 40 (August 2023)
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SECTION 26 28 21.00 40

AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCHES

08/23

NOTE: This guide specification covers the requirements for automatic transfer switches for use with engine-generator sets for standby power.

Adhere to [UFC 1-300-02](#) Unified Facilities Guide Specifications (UFGS) Format Standard when editing this guide specification or preparing new project specification sections. Edit this guide specification for project specific requirements by adding, deleting, or revising text. For bracketed items, choose applicable item(s) or insert appropriate information.

Remove information and requirements not required in respective project, whether or not brackets are present.

Comments, suggestions and recommended changes for this guide specification are welcome and should be submitted as a [Criteria Change Request \(CCR\)](#).

PART 1 GENERAL

Section 26 20 00 INTERIOR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM applies to work specified in this section.

1.1 REFERENCES

NOTE: This paragraph is used to list the publications cited in the text of the guide specification. The publications are referred to in the text by basic designation only and listed in this paragraph by organization, designation, date, and title.

Use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature

when you add a Reference Identifier (RID) outside of the Section's Reference Article to automatically place the reference in the Reference Article. Also use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature to update the issue dates.

References not used in the text are automatically deleted from this section of the project specification when you choose to reconcile references in the publish print process.

The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referred to within the text by the basic designation only.

NATIONAL ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (NEMA)

NEMA 250 (2020) Enclosures for Electrical Equipment (1000 Volts Maximum)

NEMA ICS 10 Part 2 (2020) Industrial Control and Systems, Part 2: Static AC Transfer Equipment

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA)

NFPA 70 (2023; ERTA 4 2023) National Electrical Code

UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES (UL)

UL 508 (2018; Reprint Jul 2021) UL Standard for Safety Industrial Control Equipment

UL 1008 (2022) UL Standard for Safety Transfer Switch Equipment

1.2 SUBMITTALS

NOTE: Review Submittal Description (SD) definitions in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES and edit the following list, and corresponding submittal items in the text, to reflect only the submittals required for the project. The Guide Specification technical editors have classified those items that require Government approval, due to their complexity or criticality, with a "G." Generally, other submittal items can be reviewed by the Contractor's Quality Control System. Only add a "G" to an item if the submittal is sufficiently important or complex in context of the project.

A "G" following a submittal item indicates that the submittal requires Government approval. Some submittals are already marked with a "G". Only delete an existing "G" if the submittal item is not complex and can be reviewed through the Contractor's Quality Control system. Only add a "G" if the

submittal is sufficiently important or complex in context of the project.

For Army projects, fill in the empty brackets following the "G" classification, with a code of up to three characters to indicate the approving authority. Codes for Army projects using the Resident Management System (RMS) are: "AE" for Architect-Engineer; "DO" for District Office (Engineering Division or other organization in the District Office); "AO" for Area Office; "RO" for Resident Office; and "PO" for Project Office. Codes following the "G" typically are not used for Navy, Air Force, and NASA projects.

The "S" classification indicates submittals required as proof of compliance for sustainability Guiding Principles Validation or Third Party Certification and as described in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES.

Choose the first bracketed item for Navy, Air Force and NASA projects, or choose the second bracketed item for Army projects.

Government approval is required for submittals with a "G" or "S" classification. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are [for Contractor Quality Control approval.][for information only. When used, a code following the "G" classification identifies the office that will review the submittal for the Government.] Submit the following in accordance with Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES:

SD-02 Shop Drawings

Connection Diagrams; G[, [____]]

Fabrication Drawings; G[, [____]]

Installation Drawings; G[, [____]]

SD-03 Product Data

Equipment and Performance Data; G[, [____]]

Contacts; G[, [____]]

Indicating Lights; G[, [____]]

Terminal Board; G[, [____]]

Enclosures; G[, [____]]

Data Connectivity; G[, [____]]

SD-06 Test Reports

Qualification Testing; G[, [____]]

Operation Tests; G[, [____]]

SD-08 Manufacturer's Instructions

Manufacturer's Instructions

1.3 QUALITY CONTROL

1.3.1 Product Installations

Submit listing of product installations for automatic transfer switches showing the manufacturer has successfully manufactured automatic transfer switches of the size specified for a minimum period of 10 years. List must include end user name, city, and date.

a. The manufacturer of the assembly shall be the manufacturer of the major components within. All transfer switches and controllers shall be the products of the same manufacturer.

b. For the equipment specified herein, the manufacturer shall be ISO 9001 or 9002 certified.

c. The manufacturer of this equipment shall have produced similar electrical equipment for a minimum period of ten (10) years.

d. When requested by the Engineer, an acceptable list of installations with similar equipment shall be provided demonstrating compliance with this requirement.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.1 SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Provide an automatic transfer switch (ATS) with a time-delay feature that is field-adjustable from 2 to 30 minutes. The switch delays the automatic transfer back to normal power until the normal source voltage and frequency reach at least 95 percent of the rated voltage. However, if the emergency power fails and the normal source is again available at 90 percent of the rated voltage, bypass the time-delay circuitry, and transfer the load immediately back to the normal source. Provide the capability for manual transfer in either direction. Operate sensing relays without contact chatter or false response during voltage variations between dropout and pickup.

Submit [connection diagrams](#) showing the relations and connections of contacts, indicating lights, and terminal board by showing the general physical layout of all controls and the interconnection of one system (or portion of system) with another.

Submit [fabrication drawings](#) for contacts, indicating lights, terminal board enclosures, and accessories, consisting of fabrication and assembly details to be performed in the factory.

Submit [installation drawings](#) for automatic transfer equipment in accordance with paragraph INSTALLATION.

Submit [equipment and performance data](#) for automatic transfer equipment including useful life, test, system functional flows, safety features, and

mechanical automated details.

2.1.1 Performance Requirements

2.1.1.1 Application

Provide an automatic transfer switch capable of transferring the load from the normal power source to emergency power source, and from an emergency source to the normal power source. Locate the switch where indicated. Provide a switch that is solenoid-operated, mechanically held, double-throw, rated for continuous duty, capable of transferring in 100 milliseconds or less, and conforming to the applicable requirements of UL 1008 and NFPA 70, Article 700, except as herein modified. Provide units with control and protective devices associated with automatic transfer switches that are in accordance with [Section 26 05 70.00 40 HIGH VOLTAGE OVERCURRENT PROTECTIVE DEVICES][and][Section 26 05 71.00 40 LOW VOLTAGE OVERCURRENT PROTECTIVE DEVICES].

NOTE: Show required automatic transfer switch amperage, voltage, and frequency ratings on the drawings.

Provide an automatic transfer switch of the two-pole type for single-phase application, and three-pole type for three-phase application. [Provide a solid neutral conductor connection for neutral transfer from the normal source to the emergency source.][Provide an additional switched neutral pole.]

Provide an automatic transfer switch with load contacts rated at [_____] amps at [_____] VAC

Provide ATS units that can be placed in either "Normal" or "Emergency" state from control switches or buttons on the front panel.

NOTE: Add to this specification or to the drawings the short-circuit withstand current rating of the switch based on the calculated short-circuit current available at the switch location. Sample: have the switch withstand symmetrical three-phased short circuits of [_____] amperes for a period of [_____] seconds without damage.

2.1.1.2 Operation

Provide an STS that monitors the normal source voltage across phase lines. If the normal source voltage in phase drops to 90 percent or less for a timed period, the automatic transfer switch starts the emergency source and transfers the load to the emergency source when voltage and frequency reach rated values; or, if the emergency source is on, verify the voltage and frequency of the alternate source and transfer the load to the alternate source. Field-adjust this time period from 1 to 30 seconds. Provide a voltage and frequency sensor relay to monitor the rated values on the emergency side to prohibit transfer until the emergency source voltage and frequency reach at least 95 percent of the required rating. Provide phase failure protection, with a 65- to

70-percent drop and a 92- to 95-percent voltage pickup rating.

2.1.1.3 Self-Test Capability

Provide an automatic transfer switch with a control-circuit self-test feature capable of verifying the proper operation of the switch control circuit without moving the main contactor or causing discontinuity of service to the load. Include the following characteristics in the self-test circuit:

- a. [A key-operated test switch that includes an auto, off, no-load engine test and a load test position. Include a white light to indicate that the switch is in the off position.][Provide a transfer switch controller that includes a programmable engine exerciser with the following selections: Disabled; 7-, 14- and 28-day intervals; and 15 minutes fixed time, load or no load with Failsafe.] Design the key-operated switch to prevent removal of the key while the switch is in the self-test mode.

OR

- b. A power-failure simulator switch that removes voltage from the voltage-sensing devices so that emergency power activates the test light.

2.2 COMPONENTS

2.2.1 Contacts

Provide main contacts with a wiping-action silver alloy that, when rated for operation at 50 amperes or greater, are protected against arcing. Provide contacts and control transfer relay contacts that have a minimum continuous-current rating of not less than 10-amperes inductive at 120 volts ac. Provide the following for auxiliary contacts:

- a. Generator-control contacts, normally open, that close on undervoltage or loss of normal power as specified, remaining closed until transfer back to normal power
- b. Emergency-position contacts, normally open when the switch is in the normal position, that close when the switch is in the emergency position
- c. An automatic transfer switch with a switched neutral. Provide switched neutral that has: normal position contacts that are normally closed when the switch is in the normal position and opens when the switch is in the emergency position. The neutral pole is required to be fully rated and part of the main pole assembly, so that it is switched simultaneously with the main bus contacts.

Use two-pole auxiliary contacts.

NOTE: Describe the automatic transfer switch mounting location, such as: on door of enclosure, remote, or mounted externally on switchgear.

Provide a test automatic transfer switch mounted [_____] with contacts

rated for operation at [_____] [10] amperes.

Provide an automatic transfer switch with overlapping neutral transfer contacts in addition to the two- or three-pole main bus contacts. Provide normal and emergency neutral contacts that are connected together only during the transfer and retransfer operation. Contacts are to remain connected only until the power source contacts close/open to transfer from one source to the other. The connection time of the overlapping neutral transfer contacts must not exceed 100 milliseconds.

2.2.2 Indicating Lights

Furnish an automatic transfer switch with two indicating lamps: one light to indicate that the switch is operating on normal power, and the other light to indicate that the switch is operating on emergency power. Fuse each indicating circuit.

2.2.3 Terminal Board

Provide a contactor automatic transfer switch terminal board for internally wired control devices, indicating lights, auxiliary contacts, and internal control devices or auxiliary switches to a common output terminal board. Wire the internal functions to facilitate remote connections or monitoring.

[2.2.4 Microprocessor Control Panel

Provide a control panel to direct the operation of the transfer switch. Connect the panel to the transfer switch with an interconnecting wiring harness. Include with the harness a disconnect plug for transfer switch routine maintenance.

Enclose the control panel with a protective cover and mount separately from the transfer switch. Provide plug-in type interfacing relays.

]2.2.5 Data Connectivity

Provide automatic transfer switch with data connectivity for remote monitor and control. Connectivity is to be [Ethernet][MODBUS RTU][discrete digital I/O][and analog I/O][_____]. The required minimum monitor/control functions are: ATS output indication of Load Connected to Normal/Emergency power, ATS output indication of Normal Power Available, ATS output indication of Emergency Power Available, ATS input command for Remote Transfer between Normal and Emergency Power.

2.2.6 Enclosures

Provide an automatic transfer switch enclosure with solid, code-gage, 14-gage, minimum sheet metal, NEMA 250, type [NEMA 1][NEMA 3R][NEMA 4X][NEMA 12], with the manufacturer's standard finish.

2.3 TESTS, INSPECTIONS, AND VERIFICATIONS

2.3.1 Qualification Testing

Provide test data for the furnished unit or an identical unit. The tests are required to meet the general use requirements of UL 508. Subject the complete automatic transfer switch to a test as outlined in NEMA ICS 10 Part 2. One cycle of operation tests under the UL 508 test

requirements consists of a transfer of load from the normal source to the emergency source and retransfer to the normal source. Test the switch operating time and the sense relay pickup and dropout times.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.1 INSTALLATION

Install automatic transfer switches as indicated, and in accordance with the [manufacturer's instructions](#). Fully align and install wall-mounted enclosures at the indicated mounting height[using a minimum of six **M10 3/8-inch** bolts]. For stanchion mounting, through-bolt the ATS. Provide suitable lag bolts and anchors for mounting to masonry walls. Do not use sheet metal screws or machine screws to mount the ATS.

3.2 FIELD QUALITY CONTROL

Perform the following tests on the installed transfer switch:

Contact Resistance Test - Perform the contact resistance test in accordance with test method (TBD). A contact resistance of greater than (TBD) millohms will require the Contractor to repair or replace the transfer switch and retest.

Insulation Resistane Test - Perform the insulation resistance test in accordance with test method (TBD). An insulation resistance measurement less than (TBD)ohms will require the Contractor to repair or replace the transfer switch and retest.

Automatic Transfer Test - Perform the automatic transfer test in accordance with the requirements specified in the contract documents. The switch is required to transfer within the limits listed in the contract documents. If the switch fails to transfer as required the Contractor is required to adjust, repair, or replace the switch and retest.

Demonstrate the automatic transfer switch operates in accordance with the specification requirements in conjunction with the normal and emergency power sources.

-- End of Section --