

Title (en)
DAMAGE-LIMITING SWITCHING DEVICE

Title (de)
SCHADENSBEGRENZENDE SCHALTEINRICHTUNG

Title (fr)
DISPOSITIF DE COMMUTATION DE LIMITATION DES DOMMAGES

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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO2009034081A1] The invention relates to a damage-limiting switching device for surge arresters such as varistors, spark gaps or similar means, comprising a movable switching element, which is conductive or has conductive sections and which is held under mechanical prestress by a fixing device, wherein the fixing device releases the switching element on heating, with the result that said switching element bridges or connects the surge arrester connection contacts or disconnects at least one of the connection contacts. According to the invention, the fixing device is arranged directly at or on the surge arrester at a point with the greatest heating to be expected in the event of overload and has a minimized thermal capacity. In terms of the method, in order to ensure the operation of the damage-limiting switching device, the surge arrester is provided with a separate, erosion-resistant encapsulation in order to collect exhaust heat produced in the event of damage from the resultant arc, wherein the collected thermal energy is supplied in concentrated form to a switching element in the form of a disconnection apparatus or a short-circuiting device for the actuation thereof.

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