

Continuous Improvement From ABB

ABB announces an improvement to the aluminum flange, which is used on many ABB condenser bushings. Several years ago, when ABB created the Type AB, condenser bushing, the flange geometry was changed from a single large casting to a two-piece flange (flange casting + CT tube). This change in geometry created the opportunity to make further improvements to the flange by adopting more modern aluminum casting techniques.

The new flange casting method creates an aluminum flange, which is a denser and more uniform casting.

The advantages of this new flange are:

- Elimination of potential aluminum casting leaks due to voids, porosity or other casting defects.
- Significant improvement in the surface finish of the entire flange assembly.
- Creates the ability to manufacture replacement bushings with unique CT pocket requirements without the long lead times associated with special castings.

The new flange will first be offered on the Type AB bushings at 69 kV (style family 1ZUA 069012 ... and 1ZUA069020 ...).

In the coming months, this new flange technique will be expanded into the 34 kV and 138 kV, Type AB condenser bushing families.



Figure 1: Current Design



Figure 2: Improved Design