

Windows in Metal-Clad Switchgear

-- Ad Hoc Meeting on Monday 10/09/18

3 people from “official” ad hoc were present, Terry Woodyard, Don Elliott, and Mike Wactor

18 people total

Objection raised as to the entire activity from a safety standpoint – not in favor of internal windows because it could encourage people to open doors to access windows. It was also clarified that we are talking about barriers across different circuits – within the same compartment it is the same circuit.

Brought up topic of monitoring devices instead of windows but that is if you are focused on IR but there may be some that just want visual



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One suggestion was to limit application by adding words to say that you cannot open doors/cover/etc. to look through the window.

Discussed difference between windows in compartment barriers and isolation barriers within a compartment

The control of electric fields was discussed as one reason the inter-compartment barriers need to be grounded metal



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Proposed text we discussed:

Barriers between compartments may be provided with viewing panes (inspection windows or infrared inspection windows). When provided, a viewing pane shall comply with B.3.6, and shall not exceed 16 square inches in area (exclusive of the mounting frame). Viewing panes in barriers that are accessible from both sides of the barrier shall be subjected to the impact and crushing forces on both sides of the viewing pane. Viewing panes in bus compartment barriers need only be subjected to the testing on the outer side of the barrier.



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General outcome to be presented in SA:

Group does not think windows in internal compartments that separate different circuits are not desirable and the standard needs to be amended to prohibit this.

But we need input from the user's group.

There was also some agreement that we may want to revisit the requirements for windows in the outer surfaces of the enclosure with respect to maximum size of the windows.

