DISCONNECTION TIMES OUTSIDE TABLE 41.1: 5 S AND 1 S

WHY ARE 5 SECONDS ALLOWED?

After Table 41.1 come two regulations, one for each earthing system. They cover **distribution circuits** and any circuit **not covered by 411.3.2.2**:

TN system · Reg 411.3.2.3

A disconnection time

not exceeding 5 s

is permitted.

TT system · Reg 411.3.2.4

A disconnection time

not exceeding 1 s

is permitted.

BS 7671 · Reg 411.3.2.3 TN: up to **5 s** · Reg 411.3.2.4 TT: up to **1 s** · **p.72**

"Why would it take 5 whole seconds?"

It doesn't have to. That's the wrong way to look at it. 5 s is the **maximum allowed**, not how long it *will* take. As a designer, you need to know the required time so that you can **design the circuit to disconnect within it**. For the yellow distribution circuit, you know you're allowed up to 5 s, so that's the limit you work to in your calculations.

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