WHY PROSPECTIVE FAULT CURRENT MATTERS: ICN

IPF IS 7 KA AND THE BREAKERS SAY 6000. PROBLEM?

I_{pf} is the most current that could flow in a fault at that point. Every protective device has a limit to what it can safely interrupt, printed on it: the number in the small rectangle — **6000** means an I_{cn} of 6 kA.

RATING	WHAT IT MEANS
I_{cn}	The most fault current it can interrupt safely — though it may not be fit to use afterwards
I_{cs}	The most it can interrupt and still work as before. Equal to or lower than I_{cn}

✋ **Compare I_{pf} with every device's I_{cn}.** A device's breaking capacity must be at least the prospective fault current where it is installed. If it isn't, the device is not suitable: the installer chooses devices with a higher breaking capacity; they're made well beyond 6 kA.

Guidance Note 3 · 2.6.16 · I_{cn} and I_{cs} of protective devices

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