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Foreword to the tenth edition

More than 50 years after publication of the first edition of the BBC switchgear manual by A. Hoppner, the 10th revised edition is now available as the ABB Calor Emag switchgear manual. As always, it is intended for both experienced switchgear professionals as well as beginners and students.

The 10th edition has been prepared under the direction of the two German ABB companies listed as editors. The products shown as examples to explain the technical statements conform to the practice in the area of switchgear in Germany, and they are products that are manufactured by ABB for the market in this country.

In their efforts to be as up to date as possible, a team of authors comprising experienced engineers from all the relevant areas has described the current and future solutions and technologies. Not only is the technology of switchgear installations and apparatus in the areas of low, medium and high voltage described but related areas such as digital control systems, CAD/CAE methods, project planning, network calculation, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), etc. are also considered.

In the last few years there has been significant progress in standardization in the implementation of international unified standards. DKE, as the organization responsible for standardization in the area of electrical technology in Germany, has taken account of this development with a new system of numbering DIN and VDE standards. Under this system, since 1993 standards that include safety specifications have their original publication number (e.g. IEC ..., EN ...) as the DIN designation and also a VDE classification number. Section 17 of this book describes this. There, the list of standards shows the complete designations in their current version, however, at the moment not all standards have a DIN designation under the above system. The other sections of the book sometimes also use the complete designation, which however is somewhat cumbersome in daily usage, and sometimes the DIN numbering only and sometimes also the VDE classification, which best indicates the connections.

We would like to thank all involved in the preparation of this book, including the authors of earlier editions, for their valuable suggestions and contributions.

Mannheim and Ratingen, November 1999 / June 2001

ABB Calor Emag
Schaltanlagen AG

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