

# VIDAR

## Vacuum Interrupter Tester



- Tests the integrity of vacuum interrupters quickly, safely and easily
- User defined voltage selection
- Extensive voltage range
- Easy to operate. Follows ANSI/IEEE standardized DC test methods
- Lightweight and portable

### Description

When a vacuum circuit breaker is commissioned or undergoes routine tests, it is very important to be able to ascertain whether or not the Vacuum Interrupter (VI) is intact before putting it back into operation.

VIDAR enables you to check the integrity of the vacuum interrupter quickly and conveniently by means of the known relationship between the flashover voltage and the vacuum interrupter. A suitable test voltage (DC) is applied to the breaker, and the result is known immediately.

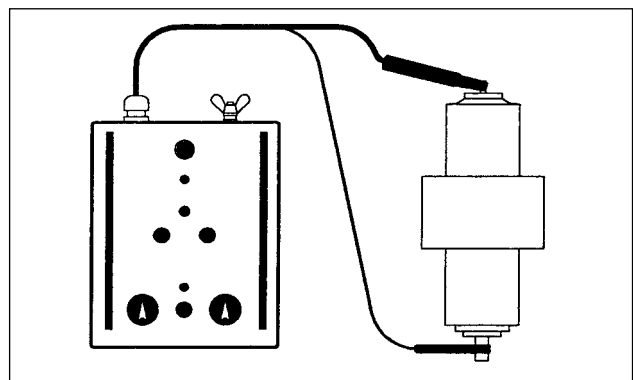
VIDAR permits you to select among test voltages from 10 to 60 kV DC. One of these voltages is customized and specified by the customer when ordering. A green lamp indicates approval of the VI. A red lamp indicates that it is defective. Two-hand control and a high-voltage warning lamp enhances safety.

VIDAR has been developed in close collaboration with leading manufacturers of vacuum circuit breakers. It weighs only about 6 kg (15 lbs), and it is easy to use since interrupters do not have to be dismantled for testing. VIDAR is therefore ideal for use in the field or shop floor applications.

### Applications

The VIDAR vacuum tester is used to test the ability of the VI in a vacuum circuit to inhibit flashover. The rugged, lightweight, compact and portable VIDAR is ideal for field work and shop floor applications.

The VI in vacuum breakers do not last forever. Leakage starts after years or decades and the interrupters fill with air making the breaker unreliable. In most cases, the leakage process is rapid once it has started. In addition to leakage, dirt on the poles and on the exterior surface of the interrupter can make it unsafe during operation. The mechanics of the breaker can become misaligned so that the distance between the poles no longer is adequate. VIDAR, introduced in 1985, uses high voltage DC to test the integrity of vacuum breakers.



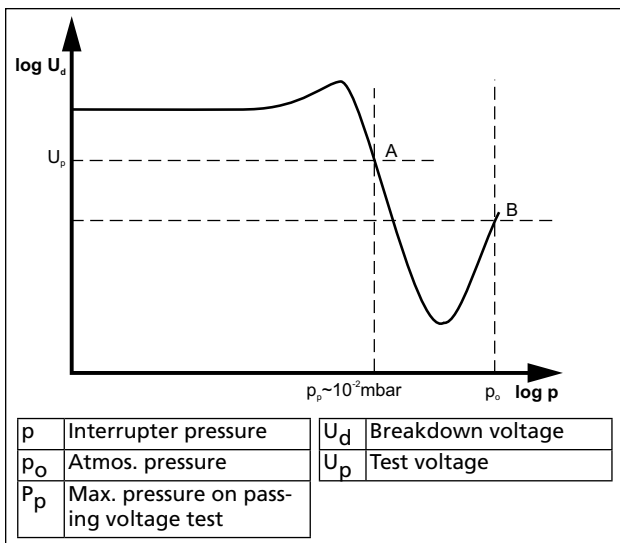
Connection diagram for the VIDAR

**Flashover Threshold Voltage**

The curve shown in figure below illustrates the relationship between the VI's internal pressure and its ability to inhibit flashover. This relationship permits the vacuum to be checked indirectly by measuring the voltage threshold. One special advantage of this method is that you do not need to disassemble the circuit breaker in order to test it.

The voltage shall be selected so that test point A is sufficiently far from point B (when the chamber is filled with air). However, the electric stress in the chamber must not be too high. In normal situations, the pressure is less than  $10^{-2}$  mbar.

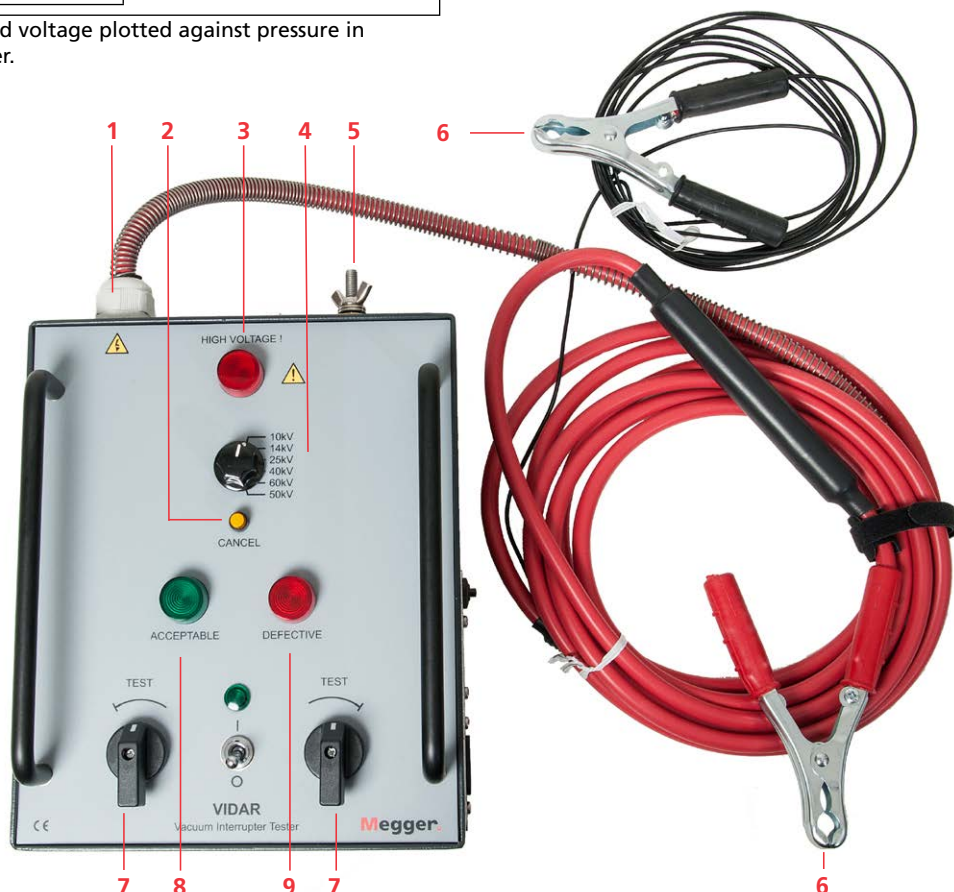
For guidance on test voltage refer to IEC 694 and ANSI C37-06 standards



Flashover threshold voltage plotted against pressure in vacuum interrupter.

**Features and Benefits**

- High voltage cable.** For connection of the test voltage and ground to the vacuum breaking chamber.
- CANCEL lamp.** Lights up when:
  - the test interval has exceeded one minute.
  - you try to conduct a one minute test less than two minutes after the latest test.
  - the HIGH-VOLTAGE indicator malfunctions.
- HIGH-VOLTAGE warning lamp.** Shows that the high voltage is applied.
- Test voltage selector.** 10 to 60 kV DC. One of these voltages is customized and specified by the customer when ordering.
- Protective earth (ground) terminal.**
- Large test clip connectors.** Provides for quicker connection and more efficient testing process
- TEST Safety control knobs.** Both knobs must be turned simultaneously to apply high voltage to the test object.
- ACCEPTABLE green lamp.** Lights up when the breaking chamber test result is positive.
- DEFECTIVE red lamp.** Lights up when the breaking chamber test result is negative, when the flashover threshold voltage is too low.



## Specifications VIDAR

Specifications are valid at nominal input voltage and an ambient temperature of +25°C, (77°F). Specifications are subject to change without notice.

### Environment

*Application field* The instrument is intended for use in medium and high-voltage substations and industrial environments.

#### Temperature

*Operating* -10°C to +50°C (14°F to +122°F)

*Storage & transport* -40°C to +70°C (-40°F to +158°F)

*Humidity* 5% – 95% RH, non-condensing

### CE-marking

*LVD* 2006/95/EC

*EMC* 2004/108/EC

### General

*Mains voltage* 115/230 V AC (switchable), 50/60 Hz

*Power consumption* 69 VA (max)

*Protection* Overload cut-out

#### Dimensions

*Instrument* 250 x 210 x 125 mm  
(9.8" x 8.3" x 4.9")

*Transport case* 460 x 430 x 210 mm  
(18.0" x 17" x 8.3")

*Weight* 6.9 kg (15.5 lbs)  
10.7 kg (23.6 lbs) with accessories and transport case

## Measurement section

### Indicators

*Green lamp* Indicates an approved breaking chamber

*Red lamp* Indicates a defect breaking chamber, lights up if the current exceeds 0.3 mA

*Yellow lamp* Indicate that the test was interrupted

### Output

*Standard voltages, switchable* 10, 14, 25, 40 and 60 kV DC

*Accuracy* 0 to -15%

*Customized voltage* Between 10 and 60 kV DC. Determined at the factory. Default voltage is 50 kV.

*Ripple* Max 3%

## Ordering information

Item	Art. No.
<b>VIDAR</b> Included accessories: Permanently mounted cable set 5 m (16 ft), ground cable and transport case (GD-00030)	BR-29090

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Printed matter:  
Art.No. ZI-BR05E • Doc.BR0159DE • 2015  
VIDAR\_DS\_en\_V04a  
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