
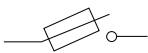


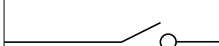
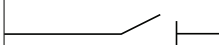
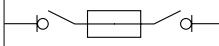



Fuse - Combination Units - BS EN 60947-3

Many people are attracted to fuse-combination units by their simplicity in application and their reliability in operation. They are particularly useful for use on very high prospective fault level systems where the high energy limiting characteristic of the HRC fuse can be effectively utilised. In the past fuse-combination units came in two forms:

Switch Fuse  A switch in which one or more poles have a fuse in series.

Fuse Switch  A switch in which one or more poles have a fuse carrier/link which forms the moving contact.

The definitions of these two basic types of fuse combination units have now been extended to include units suitable for making, breaking and isolation and units which are only suitable for providing isolation for maintenance work.

Definition	Symbol	Function
Switch Fuse		Making and breaking current
Disconnecter Fuse		Isolating
Switch Disconnecter Fuse		Making, breaking and isolating
Fuse Switch		Making and breaking current
Fuse Disconnecter		Isolating
Fuse Switch Disconnecter		Making, breaking and isolating

However, in order to keep the selection of fuse-combination units as simple as possible, Hager offer a range of high performance double break switch-fuses, which also satisfy the isolating requirement of the British standard. These are correctly shown as and defined as a Fuse Combination Switch.

Switch disconnectors - BS EN 60947-3. A range of switch disconnectors (isolators) are available for use on lower current ratings from 20A to 125A. These switches are rated at AC-22 and provide a cost effective alternative to the fuse combination switch, especially where the utilisation category AC-23 is not required. ie; mixed resistive and inductive loads.

Utilisation categories

Utilisation categories are not new but they are important because they help the designer or specifier identify the correct unit for a particular application.

The designation of the utilisation category is made up of three parts:

1. The prefix AC or DC, which indicates the nature of the current.
2. The two digit number, which indicates the type of application the unit is suitable for:
 - 20 Connecting and disconnecting under no-load.
 - 21 Switching of resistive loads.
 - 22 Switching of mixed resistive and inductive loads.
 - 23 Switching of highly inductive loads.
3. The suffix A or B, which indicates whether the unit is suitable for frequent or infrequent operation.
 - A Frequent operation
 - B Infrequent operation.

For example a fuse-combination unit feeding a 400V AC circuit of mixed resistive and inductive loads which would need to be operated frequently would require a minimum utilisation category of AC-22A.

If the load was highly inductive, i.e. motor loads, then the minimum utilisation category would be AC-23A.

Generally, category AC-23 does not cover the switching of capacitors. Usually this is the subject of agreement between manufacturer and user.

Motor Power Circuit Protection

Fuse-combination units can be used very effectively for motor power circuit protection, the energy limiting HRC fuse offering very good protection to its associated starter. Category AC-23A should be specified for this duty. Special motor circuit protection fuse links are available which eliminate the need to fit a larger bodied fuse just to take care of the starting current of the motor.

The protection of motor power circuits should not be confused with the direct switching of a single motor. If a fuse-combination unit is required to perform this function then it must comply with the requirements of Appendix A of BS EN 60947-3 which makes provision for different utilisation categories for this application.