# The Need for Speed - Why Fast Track Digital Substation Deployment?

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#### **EVN** Vietnam



- Electricity Vietnam (EVN)
  - Transmission and Distribution
    Service Operator (TSO & DSO)
  - Deploy 6 (5 EVN, 1 IPP) full
    digital substations (IEC 61850
    station bus + process bus)
    despite Covid restriction

# **Typical EVN substation**



- Separate process bus and station bus
- IEC 62439 Parallel Redundancy Protocol (PRP) Ethernet

# PACS performance



#### • EVN requirement

- Digital substation should provide equivalent or better performance
  - PACS Performance

#### Conventional substation scheme



	Total clearance time including primary breaker trip time (EVN requirement <100ms)	
	Conventional substation	Digital substation
	(copper wires + protection relay)	(merging unit + protection relay)
Transformer protection	<100ms	<100ms
Distance protection	<100ms	<100ms

Table 1: commissioning testing test result

# PACS reliability (Conventional substation)



- EVN requirement
- PACS reliability study
  - Reliability is that it is the probability of a device performing its function properly, for a certain period of time, under given operating conditions

$$R_{conventional} = [1 - (1 - R_{CC1} R_{RL1})^* (1 - R_{CC2} R_{RL2})]$$

 $R_{component} = e^{(-t/MTBF)}$ 

# PACS reliability (Digital substation)



- Digital substation reliability
  - Merging unit
  - Fiber optic
  - Ethernet switch
  - Protection relay

# Digital substation offers flexibility



- Digital substation has redundant communication scheme
- Digital architecture allows automatically switch over on the event of failure and increases system availability

# PACS reliability (Digital substation)



- Digital substation reliability
  - Redundant scheme for every equipment

 $\begin{aligned} & \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{digitalsubstation}} = [1 - [1 - [[1 - ((1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO1}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO3}}))]^*[1 - ((1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO5}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO7}}))]^*\mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{SW1}}]]^* \\ & [1 - [[1 - ((1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO2}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO4}}))]^*[1 - ((1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO6}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO8}}))]^*\mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{SW2}}]]]^* \\ & [1 - [(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{MU1}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{MU2}})]]^* [1 - [(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{RL1}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{RL2}})]]^* \\ & [1 - [(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO1}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO2}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{MU2}})]]^*[1 - [(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO3}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{FO4}})^*(1 - \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{MU1}})]] \end{aligned}$ 

### PACS reliability outcome



R<sub>Conventional Substation</sub> = 0.9998

• R<sub>Digital Substation</sub> = 0.9999

#### Digital substation standardization



Digital substation: Standard wiring at merging unit



Digital substation: Interlocking by configuration

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- Bay design standardization
- Less drawing
- Interlocking by configuration
- 67% reduction in Engineering time
- Less trip to the substation because monitoring status remotely



Conventional substation (interlocking by hardwiring)

# Additional Benefits

- Less wiring
- Less termination
- Easier for bay extension
- Less cost for operational cost
- Less footprint





Figure 9: Protection panel at a typical conventional substation vs protection panel at 110KV Nghi Son Digital substation

Figure 8: Outdoor cable at a typical conventional substation vs Outdoor cable at 110KV Nghi Son Digital substation

# Lesson learned from 6 digital substations

- Engineers need to specialist in networking & time synch
  - IEEE 1588v2 PTP + IEC 62439-3 Parallel Redundancy Protocol (PRP)
  - 100ns accuracy or better
  - Setup up demo with actual equipment and scheme testing in the lab
- Busbar protection and transformer protection need higher bandwidth communication (e.g. 1Gbps Ethernet network)
- < CAPEX
  - Cooper wiring reduction
  - Time = \$\$\$ money
  - Standardized design, less engineering drawings
  - Faster installation, less human mistakes
  - 67% reduction in engineering time
- < OPEX
  - Monitor live status and metering remotely
  - Interlocking by configuration
  - Less trip to substation
  - Achieve "Un-manned substation" goal

#### Conclusions

- Majority of utilities focus on lab testing and deploy pilot projects for proof of concept and monitor the performance
- EVN is steps ahead and successfully deployed and commissioned 6 digital substations in 2 years, especially during the challenging covid time
- Return on experience
  - PACS offers equivalent performance
  - PACS has slightly higher reliability and offers flexibility
  - Standardization design can expedite deployment
  - Massive copper wiring reduction, cable termination reduction
  - Space footprint reduction

# Questions