

Coordination of Surge Protective Devices



> Design guide

Surge arresters for commercial and industrial buildings



Protection

Load protection

Surge protective device coordination

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Surge protective device coordination

> Coordination between the surge protective device and its associated disconnecter

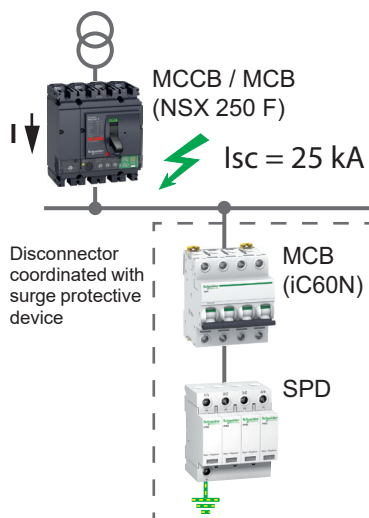
IEC 61643-11:2011

EN 61643-11:2012+A11:2018

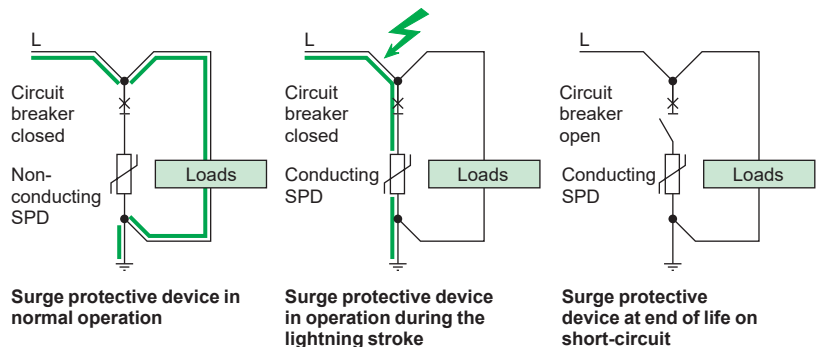
As per the above standards:

An external disconnecter has to be coordinated with a surge protective device in order to achieve:

- continuity of service:
 - to not trip due to surge current,
 - to not increase (Up) voltage protection level.
- effective protection against all types of overcurrents:
 - overload due to SPD aging,
 - short-circuit of low intensity (impedant) due to temporary overvoltages,
 - short-circuit of high intensity due to SPD degradation.



MCCB = Molded-case circuit breaker.
MCB = Modular circuit breaker.
SPD = Surge protective device.



The disconnecter has to be coordinated with the surge protective device. It is designed to meet the following two constraints:

Withstand lightning current

Withstand lightning current is one of the main characteristics of the surge protective device's external disconnecter.

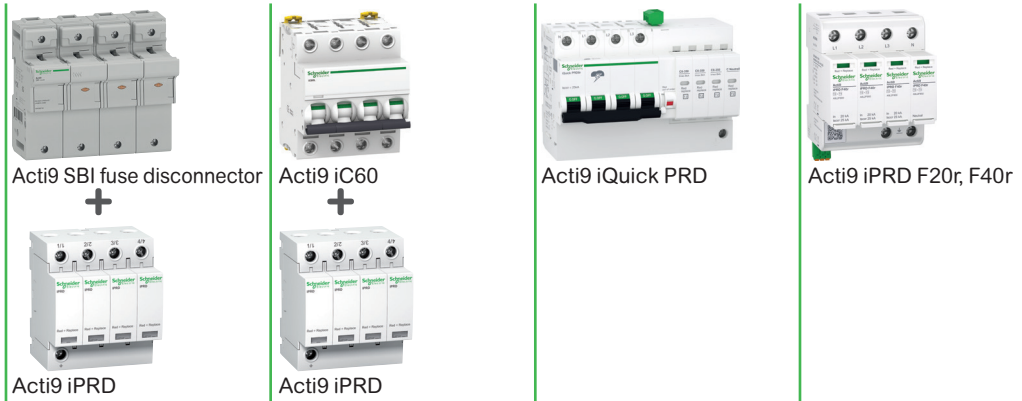
The device has to be capable of passing the following standardized tests: not trip upon 15 successive impulse currents at I_n .

Withstand short-circuit current

The breaking capacity is determined by the installation rules (IEC 60364 standard):

- the external disconnecter has to have a breaking capacity equal to or greater than the presumed short-circuit current I_{sc} at the point of installation.
- when this device is integrated into the surge protective device, conformity with product standard IEC 61643-11 provides protection.

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)



	External disconnecter	Fuse protection combined with the SPD	Circuit breaker protection combined with the SPD	Circuit breaker protection integrated into the SPD	Fuse protection integrated into the SPD
Lightning protection of equipment	=	=	=	=	=
	All types of disconnectors protect the equipment satisfactorily				
Protection of installation (at end of the surge protective device's life)	=	+	++	++	++
	Achieved if compliance with the MCB/SPD coordination table		Achieved during product design		
	Protection from (impedant) short-circuits of low intensity not well ensured		Protection against (impedant) short-circuits of low intensity		
Continuity of service (at end of the surge protective device's life)	+	+	+	+	+
	Only the surge protective device circuit is shut down				
Maintenance (at end of the surge protective device's life)	=	+	+	+	+
	Change of fuse(s)	Immediate resetting			

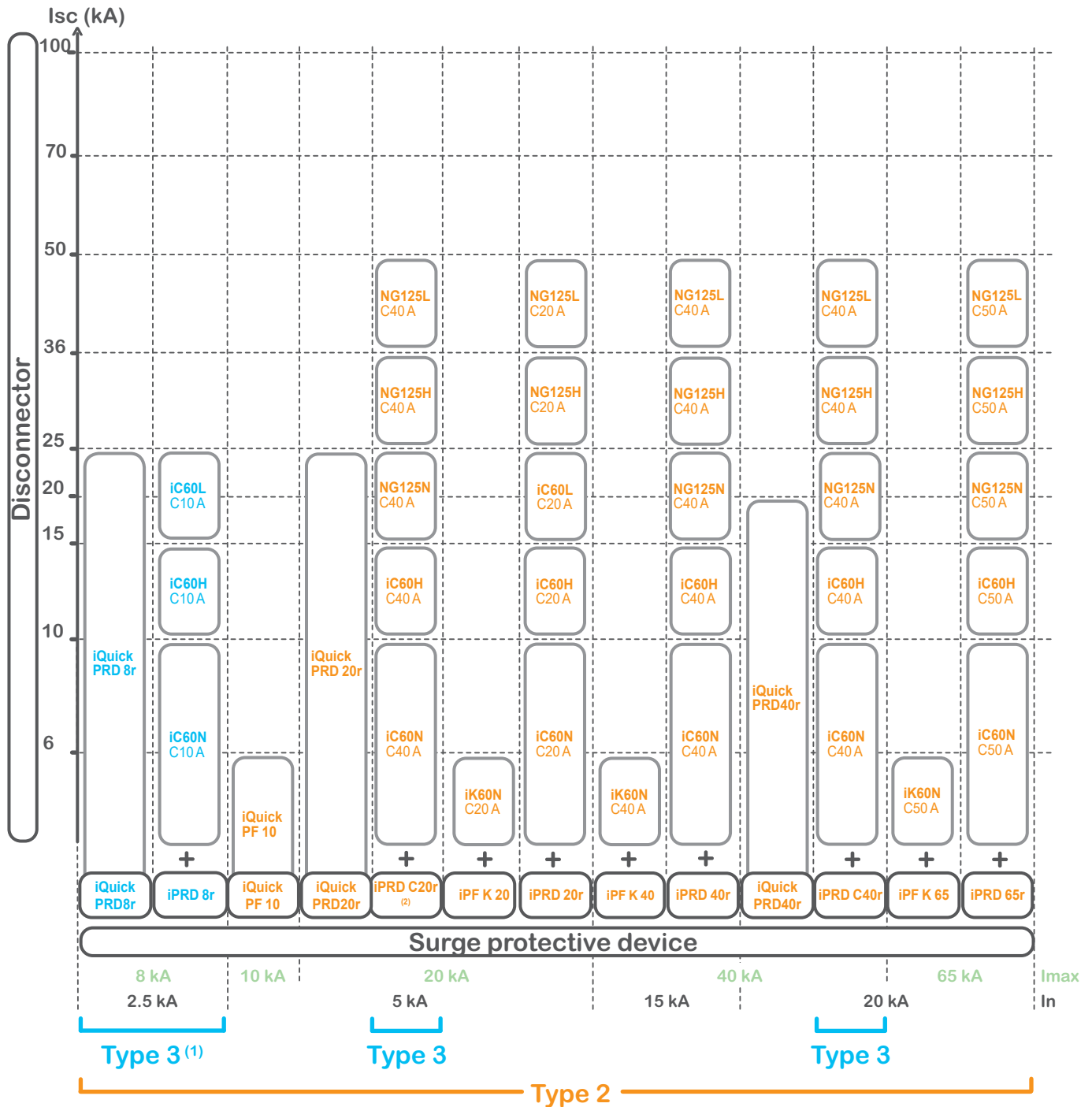
Main reasons why the disconnecter recommended by the manufacturer has to be used:

- if the disconnecter's rating is lower than the recommended rating: risk of the disconnecter opening in normal operation.
- if the disconnecter's rating is higher than the recommended rating: there is a risk of short-circuit at the end of life of the SPD. The high-rated disconnecter is letting through too much energy.

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

> Coordination between the surge protective device Type 2 and Type 3 and its associated circuit breaker type disconnector in the event of a short-circuit

This table shows: the rating, curve and short-circuit current level of the disconnector coordinated with the surge protective device.



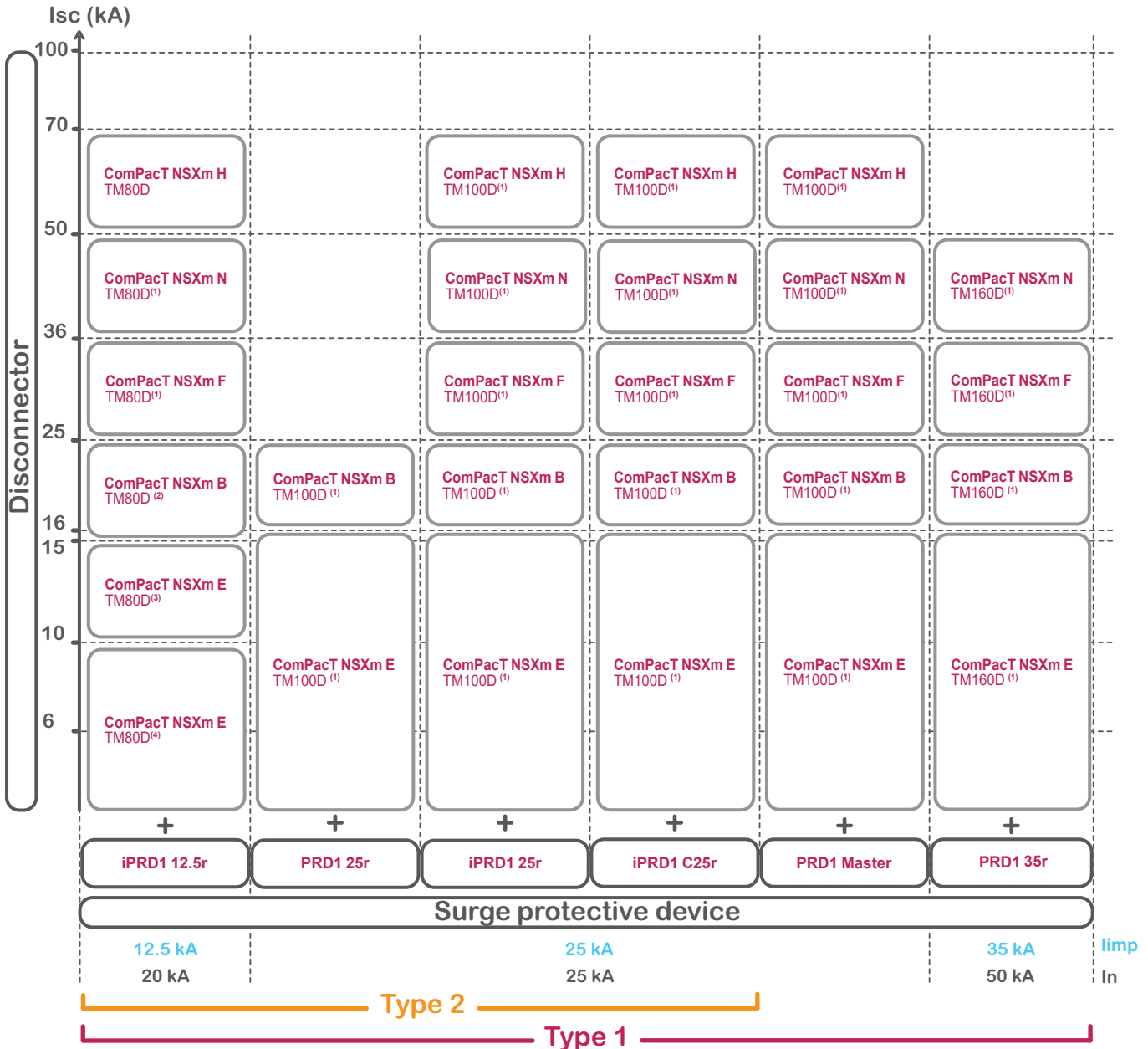
(1): Tested and validated by Schneider Electric for performance Type 3

(2): Certified up to $I_{sc} = 25$ kA

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

> Coordination between the surge protective device Type 1 and its associated circuit breaker type disconnector in the event of a short-circuit

This table shows: the rating, curve and short-circuit current level of the disconnector coordinated with the surge protective device.

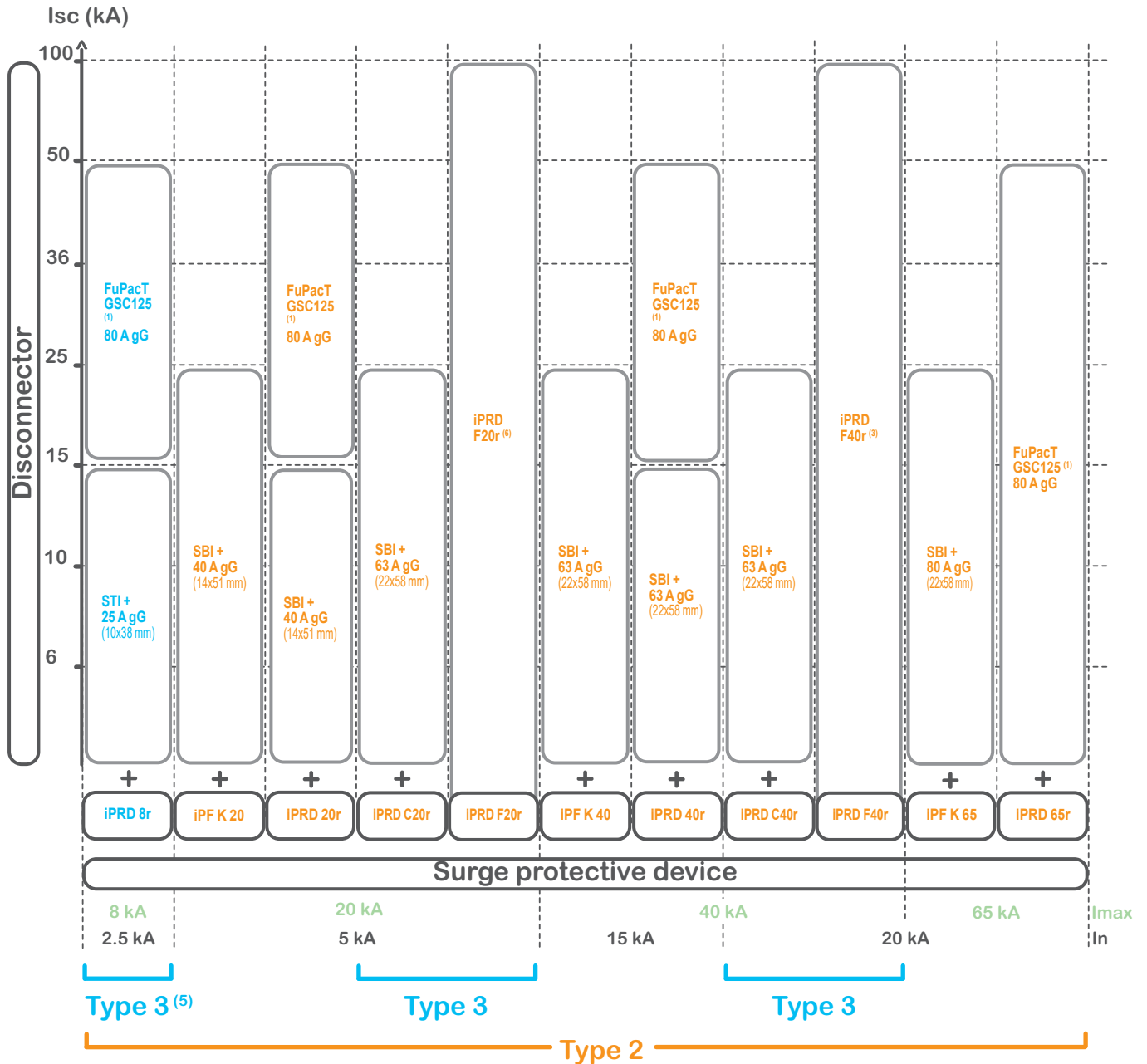


- (1): Equivalence table ComPacT NSXm - ComPacT NSX100 / NSX160
- (2): For all applications where the Type 1 current wave (10/350 μs) ≤ 10 kA [I_{imp} ≤ 10 kA], the Acti9 NG125N C80 A can be used
- (3): For all applications where the Type 1 current wave (10/350 μs) ≤ 10 kA [I_{imp} ≤ 10 kA], the Acti9 C120H C80 A can be used
- (4): For all applications where the Type 1 current wave (10/350 μs) ≤ 10 kA [I_{imp} ≤ 10 kA], the Acti9 C120N C80 A can be used

NSXm	NSX	NSXm	NSX	NSXm	NSX
NSXm F TM80D	NSX100 F TM100D	NSXm B TM100D	NSX100 B TM100D	NSXm B TM160D	NSX160
NSXm N TM80D	NSX100 N TM100D	NSXm E TM100D	NSX100 B TM100D	NSXm E TM160D	NSX160
		NSXm F TM100D	NSX100 F TM100D	NSXm F TM160D	NSX160
		NSXm N TM100D	NSX100 N TM100D	NSXm N TM160D	NSX160
		NSXm H TM100D	-		

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

➤ Coordination between the surge protective device Type 2 and Type 3 and its associated fuse type disconnector in the event of a short-circuit



(1): GSC and GSD are fuse switch disconnectors for DIN and NFC fuse. You can use BS fuse inside GSB fuse switch disconnector (cf catalog LVPED216031EN)

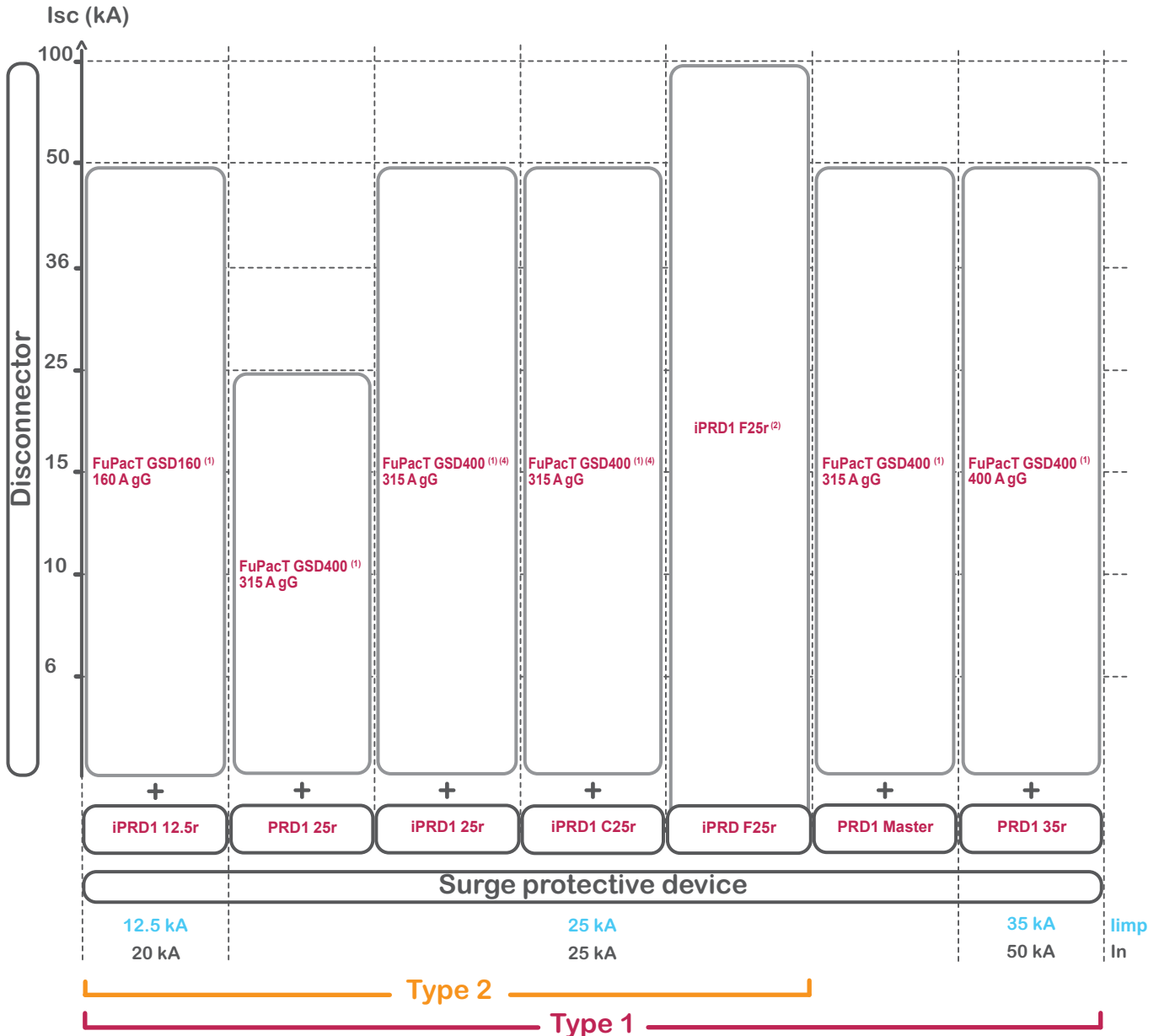
(3): Total Selectivity if the upstream fuse ≥ 63 A ; tested and validated up to $I_{sc} = 100$ kA

(5): Tested and validated by Schneider Electric for performance Type 3

(6): Total Selectivity if the upstream fuse ≥ 63 A ; tested and validated up to $I_{sc} = 100$ kA ; certified up to $I_{sc} = 25$ kA

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

> Coordination between the surge protective device Type 1 and its associated fuse type disconnecter in the event of a short-circuit



(1): GSC and GSD are fuse switch disconnecters for DIN and NFC fuse. You can use BS fuse inside GSB fuse switch disconnecter (cf catalog LVPED216031EN)

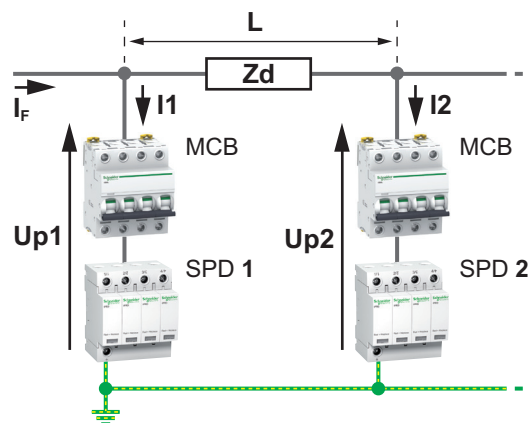
(2): Total Selectivity if the upstream fuse ≥ 315 A; declared for $I_{sc} = 75$ kA, tested and validated up to $I_{sc} = 100$ kA (declaration of conformity on request)

(4): Total Selectivity if the upstream fuse ≤ 315 A. If upstream fuse > 315 A, use 315 A gG fuse for disconnecter

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

> Coordination between two surge protective devices, upstream/downstream

When two surge protective devices are installed in an electrical installation, coordination is needed according to IEC 61643-12 to obtain an acceptable stress distribution between the two surge protective devices according to their permissible energy "E".



L and Z_d represent the cable length and impedance respectively between the 2 surge protective devices.

Up2: level of protection of surge protective device SPD2.

Uw: impulse withstand voltage of the equipment to be protected.

I_{max}: maximum discharge current.

I_F: lightning current:
 $\leq I_{max} \text{ of SPD1}$
 $= I_1 + I_2$

E: permissible energy.

MCB: modular circuit breaker.

SPD: surge protective device.

For coordination between two surge protective devices, a minimum cable length between these 2 surge protective devices is needed to ensure that:

- $I_2 < I_{max} \text{ SPD2}$.
- $Up2 < Uw$.
- $E2 < E_{max} \text{ SPD2}$.

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

Minimum distance between two surge protective devices, upstream/downstream

For a cable section of 16 mm² and an impulse current equal to the maximum discharge current (I_{max}) of the upstream surge protective device.

Example

If iPRD65r is installed in the incoming panelboard, the second SPD iPRD8r has to be installed at a cable length of 8 meters from the first one.

In		Upstream surge protective device																														
		Type 3				Type 3				Type 2				Type 1																		
		5 kA		15 kA		20 kA		20 kA		20 kA		25 kA																				
		20 kA		40 kA		65 kA		50 kA		40 kA		65 kA																				
I _{max}	I _{imp}	iQuick PRD 20r		iPRD 20r		iPRD C20r		iPRD F20r		iPRD 40r		iQuick PRD 40r		iPRD C40r		iPRD F40r		iPRD 65r		iPRD1 12.5r		PRD1 25r		iPRD1 25r		iPRD1 C25r		iPRD1 F25r		PRD1 Master		
		20 kA	65 kA	iPRD 65r																	0 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	0.5 m	10 m					
20 kA	40 kA	iPRD F40r								0 m	0 m	0 m																				
		iPRD C40r								0 m	0 m	0 m																				
		iQuick PRD 40r								0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m	2 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	1 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	0.5 m	10 m							
15 kA		iPRD 40r							0 m	0 m	5 m	3 m	2 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	0.5 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	0.5 m	10 m								
5 kA	20 kA	iPRD F20r	0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m				0 m	0 m	0 m																				
		iPRD C20r	0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m				0 m	0 m	0 m																				
		iPRD 20r	0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m	3 m	2 m	5 m	3 m	2 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	0.5 m																
		iQuick PRD 20r	0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m	2 m	1 m	5 m	3 m	2 m	10 m	10 m	2.5 m	1 m	1 m																
2.5 kA	8 kA	iPRD 8r	3 m	4 m	5 m	2 m	9 m	7 m	5 m	2 m	8 m	10 m	10 m	1 m	1 m	0.5 m																
		iQuick PRD 8r	2 m	4 m	5 m	2 m	7 m	6 m	5 m	2 m	7 m	10 m	10 m	5 m	5 m	5 m																

Note:
 Not valid configuration
 (1): Tested and validated by Schneider Electric for performance Type 3

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)

> Cascading in the event of a short-circuit between the SPD disconnect and the upstream circuit breaker

What is cascading?

Cascading is a coordination method that uses the breaking and limiting capability of an upstream circuit breaker to allow the installation of downstream devices with lower short-circuit performance ratings.

This allows that downstream breakers operate under normal breaking conditions, even in the event of a high short-circuit current.

Benefits:

- Reduces installation costs,
- Optimizes protection without oversizing all devices.

Cascading calculations are based on manufacturer-tested combinations and can involve two or three devices in series, depending on the configuration.

What is selectivity?

Selectivity is the ability of protective devices to isolate only the part of the installation affected by a fault.

In practice, this means that only the circuit breaker immediately upstream of the fault trips, while other breakers remain closed, allowing continuity of service for the rest of the installation.

Objective: Limit the impact of electrical faults and maintain power supply to unaffected circuits.

Why is this important for SPD installations?

Proper coordination with the upstream circuit breaker is essential to:

- Avoid nuisance tripping of the main breaker,
- Allow disconnection of the SPD without compromising the rest of the installation,
- Maintain continuity of service wherever possible.

What is selectivity enhanced by cascading?

At Schneider Electric, solutions are designed to combine selectivity and cascading for optimal protection and continuity of supply.

This approach, called selectivity enhanced by cascading, provides:

- Better coordination between protective devices,
- Continuity of service even in case of surge arrester end of life,
- Cost optimization through correct device sizing.

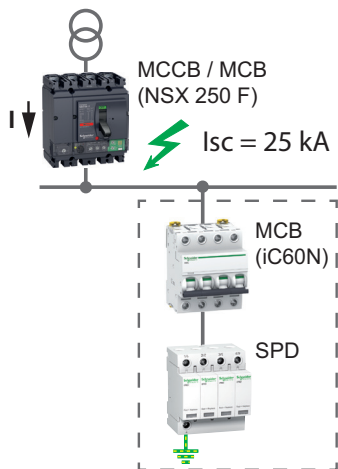
Reference for coordination values

To identify cascading and selectivity values between circuit breakers (including SPD coordination), refer to:

Selectivity, Cascading and Coordination Guide ([LVPED318033EN](#))

Protection
Load protection

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)



Case 1

Disconnecter not integrated into the surge protective device.

For this type of study:

- refer to Selectivity, Cascading and Coordination Guide ([LVPED318033EN](#))
- or contact Schneider Electric Customer Care Center.

MCCB = Molded-case circuit breaker.
MCB = Modular circuit breaker.
SPD = Surge protective device.

Cascading

Upstream	NG125			NSXm160				NSX100					NSX160					NSX250								
	N	H	L	E	B	F	N	H	B	F	N	H	S	L	B	F	N	H	S	L	B	F	N	H	S	L
Breaking capacity Icu (kA)	25	36	50	16	25	36	50	70	25	36	50	70	100	150	25	36	50	70	100	150	25	36	50	70	100	150

Downstream SPD	Icu (kA)	Reinforced breaking capacity (kA) according to IEC/EN 60947-2 Annex A																									
		25	36	50	16	20	25	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30
iC60N C10A	10	25	25	25	16	20	25	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	
iC60H C10A	15	25	36	36	16	20	36	36	36	25	36	40	40	40	25	36	40	40	40	40	25	30	30	30	30	40	
iC60L C10A	25		36	50			36	36	36		36	40	40	40	40		36	40	40	40	40		30	30	30	40	
iC60N C20A	10	25	25	25	16	20	25	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	
iC60H C20A	15	25	36	36	16	20	36	36	36	25	36	40	40	40	25	36	40	40	40	40	25	30	30	30	30	40	
iC60L C20A	25		36	50			36	36	36		36	40	40	40	40		36	40	40	40	40		30	30	30	40	
iC60N C40A	10	25	25	25	16	20	25	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	
iC60H C40A	15	25	36	36	16	20	36	36	36	25	36	40	40	40	25	36	40	40	40	40	25	30	30	30	30	40	
iC60N C50A	10	25	25	25	16	20	25	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	20	25	30	30	30	30	20	25	25	25	25	30	
iC60H C50A	15	25	36	36	16	20	36	36	36	25	36	40	40	40	25	36	36	36	36	36	25	25	25	25	36		
NG125H C20A	36			50				40	50			40	50	70	100			40	50	70	100			40	50	70	100
NG125L C20A	50								70				70	100	150				70	100	150				70	100	150
NG125N C40A	25		36	50			36	36	36		36	36	36	50	70		36	36	36	50	70		36	36	36	50	70
NG125H C40A	36			50				40	50			40	50	70	100			40	50	70	100			40	50	70	100
NG125L C40A	50								70				70	100	150				70	100	150				70	100	150
NG125N C50A	25		36	50			36	36	36		36	36	36	50	70		36	36	36	50	70		36	36	36	50	70
NG125H C50A	36			50				40	50			40	50	70	100			40	50	70	100			40	50	70	100
NG125L C50A	50								70				70	100	150				70	100	150				70	100	150

Selectivity

Upstream	NSXm							NSX F/N/H/L									
Trip unit	TMD							TMD									
Rating In (A)	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	200	250	> 250

Downstream SPD																	
	Selectivity limit (kA)																
iC60N/H/L C10A	0.5	0.6	0.8	T	T	T	T	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	2	T	T	T	T	T
iC60N/H/L C20A	0.5	0.6	0.8	T	T	T	T	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.63	1.5	T	T	T	T	T
iC60N/H C40A				2	T	T	T			0.5	0.63	1	T	T	T	T	T
iC60N/H C50A					6	8	8				0.63	0.8	T	T	T	T	T
NG125H/L C20A	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	1	1.25	1.25	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.63	0.8	T	T	T	T	T
NG125N/H/L C40A				0.8	1	1.25	1.25				0.63	0.8	2.4	2.4	2.4	T	T
NG125N/H/L C50A				0.8	1	1.25	1.25				0.63	0.8	2.5	2.5	2.5	T	T

Upstream	NSXm							NSX F/N/H/L									
Trip unit	Micrologic ⁽¹⁾							Micrologic ⁽²⁾									
Rating In (A)	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	200	250	> 250

Downstream SPD																	
	Selectivity limit (kA)																
iC60N/H/L C10A	1.5	1.5	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
iC60N/H/L C20A	0.75	0.75	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
iC60N/H C40A				T	T	T	T			T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
iC60N/H C50A					8	8	8				6 ⁽³⁾	6 ⁽³⁾	T	T	T	T	T
NG125H/L C20A	0.75	0.75	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.4	2.4	0.6	1.5	1.5	1.5 ⁽³⁾	1.5 ⁽³⁾	T	T	T	T	T
NG125N/H/L C40A				1.5	1.5	2.4	2.4				1.5 ⁽⁴⁾	1.5 ⁽⁴⁾	2.4	2.4	T	T	T
NG125N/H/L C50A				1.5	1.5	2.4	2.4				1.5 ⁽⁴⁾	2.4	2.4	T	T	T	T

(1): Micrologic 4.1

(2): Micrologic and Micrologic AB

(3): Total selectivity if ComPacT NSX160

(4): 2.4 kA if ComPacT NSX160

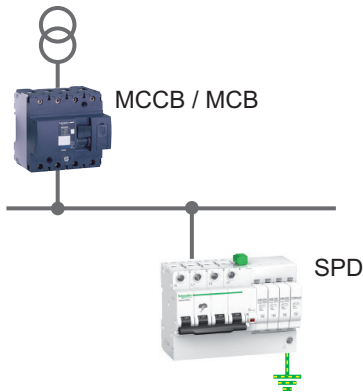
0.8 Selectivity limit = 0.8 kA.

T Total selectivity.

No selectivity.

Protection
Load protection

Surge protective device coordination (cont.)



Case 2
Disconnector integrated into the surge protective device.

MCCB = Molded-case circuit breaker.
MCB = Modular circuit breaker.
SPD = Surge protective device with integrated disconnector (fuse or MCB)

Cascading

Upstream	NG125		NSXm160					NSX100					NSX160					NSX250							
	H	L	E	B	F	N	H	B	F	N	H	S	L	B	F	N	H	S	L	B	F	N	H	S	L
Breaking capacity Icu (kA)	36	50	16	25	36	50	70	25	36	50	70	100	150	25	36	50	70	100	150	25	36	50	70	100	150

Downstream SPD																									
	Icu (kA)	Reinforced breaking capacity (kA) according to IEC/EN 60947-2 Annex A																							
iQuick PF10	6	16	16	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
iQuick PRD8r	25	36	50			36	36	36		30	40	40	40	40		30	30	30	30	30		30	30	30	30
iQuick PRD20r	25	36	50			36	36	36		30	40	40	40	40		30	30	30	30	30		30	30	30	30
iQuick PRD40r	20	36	50			36	36	36		30	40	40	40	40		30	30	30	30	30		30	30	30	30

Selectivity

Upstream	NSXm							NSX F/N/H/L									
Trip unit	TMD							TMD									
Rating In (A)	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	200	250	> 250

Downstream SPD																									
	Selectivity limit (kA)																								
iPRD F20r																									
iPRD F40r																									
iQuick PF10	0.5	0.6	0.8	10	T	T	T	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.63	0.8	T	T	T	T	T								
iQuick PRD8r		0.6	0.8	10	T	T	T	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.63	0.8	T	T	T	T	T								
iQuick PRD20r		0.6	0.8	10	T	T	T	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.63	0.8	T	T	T	T	T								
iQuick PRD40r			0.8	10	16	16	16			0.5	0.63	0.8	T	T	T	T	T								

Upstream	NSXm							NSX F/N/H/L									
Trip unit	Micrologic (1)							Micrologic (2)									
Rating In (A)	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	40	50	63	80	100	125	160	200	250	> 250

Downstream SPD																	
	Selectivity limit (kA)																
iPRD F20r																	
iPRD F40r																	
iQuick PF10	0.75	0.75	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
iQuick PRD8r		0.75	T	T	T	T	T		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
iQuick PRD20r		0.75	T	T	T	T	T		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
iQuick PRD40r				T	T	T	T				T	T	T	T	T	T	T

(1): Micrologic 4.1
(2): Micrologic and Micrologic AB

- 0.8 Selectivity limit = 0.8 kA.
- T Total selectivity.
- No selectivity.

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