



## **Product: Circuit Breaker Arc Chute Contractor Covers**

**Product** Circuit Breaker Arc Chute Contractor Covers **Name** 

**Product type** Electrical Insulation

**Sub-Product** type

> **Trading** South Wales name(s) Westinghouse

Other name(s)

Arc Chute Covers, Closing Coil Contactor Covers

**Product** description

Medium density asbestos cement sheet on a metal backing to protect protection relays against heat and electrical arcs from the contractors arc chute when operating.

These have been found in 11kV Westinghouse J18/B18 family of circuit breakers, in South Wales DX4 11kV breakers and in 33kV GCN breakers.33kV GCN approx. Pre 1965 breakers which have contractor covers that have a square box that is the same colour as the rest of the breakers. Ex-Electricity Commission breakers tend to have silver coloured boxes which do not contain asbestos.

Westinghouse Friable Risk - HIGH

Westinghouse Arc Chute Contactor covers are friable and can pose an immediate risk to employees if touched or disturbed.

South Wales Non Friable Risk LOW

South Wales Arc Chute Contactor covers are considered to be bonded and work can occur in the vicinity of the contactor cover.

**Build** element

**Product** identification

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**Known uses** 

**Asbestos** fibre type

Friable or **Non-Friable** 

Friable

Known Supplier(s)

**Known place** of manufacture

Date / period Pre 1987

of manufacture

Building construction

period

1961-1970,1970-1980

## Location

## **Commercial**

• Electrical

## **Industrial**

• Electrical

Product images



Low Voltage Air Circuit Breaker Arc Chutes.jpg

Name Low Voltage Air Circuit Breaker Arc Chutes

Caption Asbestos is suspected in the arc chutes of certain low voltage air circuit breakers. These include Nilsen

type air circuit breakers (AB1, AB3, AB7 & NAB1) as well as GE OLD, GE NEW, GE MG14, MH CM22,

WH CM2, SW LA50.

**Location** Industrial

Source Essential Energy

Image 236

Id



Oil Circuit Breaker Closing Contactors 2.jpg

Name Oil Circuit Breaker Closing Contactors

**Caption** Cover of an F250 closing contactor. The black backing board is also a suspected asbestos related

material.

**Location** Commercial

**Source** Essential Energy

**Image** 237

Id



Oil Circuit Breaker Closing Contactors 3.jpg

Name Oil Circuit Breaker Closing Contactors

**Caption** The second type of closing contactor that is present on F250, as well as J18/J22, is a similar type

contactor with a variation in the arc shield only.

**Location** Industrial

**Source** Essential Energy

Image

238

Id



Oil Circuit Breaker Closing Contactors.jpg

Name Oil Circuit Breaker Closing Contactors

Caption While not confirmed, asbestos is suspected in closing contactor enclosures of particular High Voltage Oil

Circuit Breakers (HV OCB). These include Westinghouse GCN, J18, J22 and F250 type units. Closing

contactors may be insulated by use of asbestos material in a cast iron enclosure.

**Location** Industrial

Source Essential Energy

Image 239

Id



Westinghouse B18 type switchgear\_.jpg

Caption Westinghouse J18/b18 type 11kv circuit breakers - the flexible conduits (snakes) may contain asbestos that has the potential to migrate through the metal exterior.

Location Plant

Source Essential Energy

Image Id

Name

Westinghouse B18 type switchgear