

ARMATURE TESTS USING METER

<p>TROUBLE - OPEN COIL TO PREVENT INJURY TO THE METER, THIS TEST MUST PRECEDE ALL OTHERS WHEN THE MILLIVOLT METHOD OF TESTING IS USED. SET METER ON THE 15 VOLT RANGE AND, WITH CURRENT FLOWING THROUGH THE ARMATURE, TAKE READINGS BETWEEN BARS 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, ETC., UNTIL ALL PAIRS OF SEGMENTS HAVE BEEN COVERED. A HIGH READING BETWEEN ANY PAIR OF BARS INDICATES AN OPEN COIL. NOTE THAT IN THIS METHOD OF TESTING THE METER IS USED TO MEASURE THE VOLTAGE DROP IN EACH ARMATURE COIL, AND THAT THIS IS DONE BY TAKING READINGS BETWEEN COMMUTATOR SEGMENTS.</p>	<p>TROUBLE - SHORTED COIL FOR THIS TEST SET METER ON THE M.V. RANGE THAT GIVES THE BEST DEFLECTION, STARTING WITH THE 300 SETTING AND WORK DOWN TO THE 50 M.V. RANGE IF NECESSARY. ADJUST CURRENT THROUGH ARMATURE UNTIL APPROXIMATELY MIDSCALE DEFLECTION IS OBTAINED ON A NORMAL COIL AND MAKE A BAR-TO-BAR TEST ON ALL SEGMENTS. THE DEFECTIVE COIL WILL GIVE A LOW OR ZERO READING DEPENDING UPON HOW MANY TURNS ARE SHORTED. IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS METHOD OF TESTING IS MERELY A COMPARATIVE ONE, FOR IT IS HOW THE READINGS COMPARE THAT IS IMPORTANT.</p>	<p>TROUBLE - GROUNDED COIL TO MAKE THIS TEST, SEND A CURRENT OF SUITABLE VALUE THRU THE ARMATURE AND MEASURE THE VOLTAGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EACH SEGMENT AND THE ARMATURE SHAFT. IF THE WINDING IS GROUNDED, A READING WILL BE OBTAINED THAT BECOMES GRADUALLY LESS AS THE BARS TO WHICH THE GROUNDED COIL IS CONNECTED ARE APPROACHED. THE READING WILL BE LOWEST ON THE BARS TO WHICH THE GROUNDED COIL IS CONNECTED. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT AS THE GROUNDED COIL IS PASSED THE METER READING WILL REVERSE. TO DETERMINE IF THE BAR IS GROUNDED, DISCONNECT THE COIL LEADS AND REPEAT.</p>
<p>TROUBLE - REVERSED COIL LEADS USUALLY ENCOUNTERED ON ARMATURES THAT HAVE JUST BEEN REWOUND, THIS FAULT REQUIRES A DIFFERENT TESTING METHOD. SET METER ON 50 M.V. RANGE, SELECT THE FIRST COIL TO BE TESTED, AND FIND THE SEGMENTS TO WHICH THE ENDS OF THIS COIL ARE CONNECTED. WITH THE METER LEADS ON THESE BARS DRAW A MAGNET SHIFTLY ACROSS THE SLOT IN WHICH ONE SIDE OF THE COIL LIES AND NOTE DEFLECTION ON THE METER. REPEAT THIS TEST ON ALL OTHER COILS, ALWAYS MOVING THE MAGNET IN THE SAME DIRECTION. WHEN DRAWN ACROSS A REVERSED COIL, THE METER WILL READ BACKWARDS.</p>	<p>TROUBLE - REVERSED COIL LOOPS THIS FAULT IS USUALLY FOUND ONLY IN REWOUND MACHINES, THIS FAULT IS CHECKED BY THE REGULAR BAR-TO-BAR TEST. PROCEED IN EXACTLY THE SAME MANNER AS USED FOR LOCATING SHORTED COILS SINCE THE CURRENT IN PASSING FROM SEGMENT 10 TO SEGMENT 11 MUST FLOW THROUGH TWO COILS, IT FOLLOWS THAT THE VOLTAGE DROP BETWEEN BARS 10 AND 11 WILL BE DOUBLE THE VALUE OBTAINED ON A NORMAL COIL; THE SAME IS TRUE FOR BARS 12 AND 13. BARS 11 AND 12 WILL GIVE A NORMAL INDICATION; THUS REVERSED COIL LOOPS ARE INDICATED BY A DOUBLE READING, A NORMAL READING, AND A DOUBLE READING.</p>	<p>TROUBLE - SHORTED BARS MAKE SAME TEST AS FOR SHORTED COIL. WITH CURRENT FLOWING THROUGH THE ARMATURE, MEASURE THE VOLTAGE DROP BETWEEN SEGMENTS. WHEN THE SHORTED BARS ARE ENCOUNTERED, THE METER WILL READ ZERO. INASMUCH AS THE SAME INDICATION WOULD BE OBTAINED IF THE COIL LEADS WERE SHORTED, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO DISCONNECT THE LEADS FROM THE COMMUTATOR SEGMENTS BEFORE IT CAN BE DETERMINED WHETHER THE LOW READING WAS CAUSED BY SHORTED BARS OR SHORTED COIL LEADS. IF AFTER THE COIL IS DISCONNECTED A ZERO READING IS OBTAINED, THE BARS ARE SHORTED.</p>
<p>TROUBLE - GROUNDED BARS TEST FOR THIS DEFECT IS THE SAME AS FOR A GROUNDED COIL. METER READING FROM BAR TO SHAFT WILL BE ZERO WHEN THE GROUNDED BAR IS CONTACTED. TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE BAR OR THE COIL IS GROUNDED, DISCONNECT THE COIL FROM THE BAR AND TEST AGAIN; IF BAR NOW TESTS CLEAR, COIL IS GROUNDED. WHEN MAKING THIS TEST, THE METER READINGS MAY CHANGE SO RAPIDLY AS THE GROUND IS APPROACHED, THAT A SATISFACTORY DEFLECTION CANNOT BE OBTAINED WITHOUT TURNING TO A DIFFERENT RANGE. THEREFORE, AS THE READING FALLS, THE METER SWITCH SHOULD BE MOVED TO A LOWER RANGE.</p>	<p>TROUBLE - BAD CONNECTIONS TROUBLE FREQUENTLY DEVELOPS IN ARMATURES AS THE RESULT OF POOR ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE COIL LEADS AND THE COMMUTATOR SEGMENTS DUE EITHER TO POOR SOLDERING OR TO OVERHEATING OF THE ARMATURE WHILE IN SERVICE. HIGH RESISTANCE CONNECTIONS OF THIS TYPE ARE INDICATED BY HIGH READINGS ON THE MILLIVOLTMETER. TO POSITIVELY LOCATE WHICH BAR HAS THE POOR CONNECTION, MAKE THE TEST INDICATED ABOVE. A POORLY SOLDERED JOINT WILL PRODUCE A READABLE DEFLECTION ON THE METER, WHEREAS A GOOD JOINT WILL GIVE NO READING.</p>	<p>TESTING PROCEDURE CONNECT THE ARMATURE TO A 6 VOLT, 110 VOLT, OR OTHER D.C. SUPPLY WITH A CONTROLLING RESISTANCE IN SERIES. THIS RESISTANCE MAY CONSIST OF A NUMBER OF PARALLEL-CONNECTED LAMPS ARRANGED TO BE SWITCHED IN OR OUT OF THE CIRCUIT AT WILL. FEED CURRENT INTO ARMATURE THROUGH BARS EXACTLY ONE POLE PITCH APART, AND ADJUST CURRENT UNTIL THE MILLIVOLTMETER GIVES A MIDSCALE READING ON A NORMAL COIL. THE AMOUNT OF D.C. CURRENT REQUIRED WILL VARY WITH THE SIZE OF THE ARMATURE, FRACTIONAL H.P. UNITS REQUIRING ABOUT 2-4 AMPS, MACHINES UP TO 20 H.P. ABOUT 10 AMPS, AND THE LARGEST ARMATURES CURRENTS AS HIGH AS 20 AMPS. AFTER THE CURRENT HAS BEEN ADJUSTED TO A SUITABLE VALUE, TAKE MILLIVOLT READINGS BETWEEN BARS 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, ETC. IF NO FAULTS ARE PRESENT, THE READINGS WILL BE APPROXIMATELY EQUAL. HIGH READINGS INDICATE HIGH RESISTANCE CONNECTIONS, USUALLY CAUSED BY POOR SOLDERING, WHILE LOW READINGS SHOW SHORTED COILS OR COMMUTATOR SEGMENTS.</p>