



ANSI/IEEE Standard Device Numbers

In North America protective relays are generally referred to by standard device numbers. Letters are sometimes added to specify the application (IEEE Standard C37.2-2008).

Most commonly used Device Numbers, Suffixes, & Acronyms in Advanced Power Technologies (APT) Power Distribution Protection Engineering & Switchgear/Switchboard relaying applications are in **bold**.

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| 1 – Master Element | 52 – AC Circuit Breaker |
| 2 – Time Delay Starting or Closing Relay | 53 – Field Excitation Relay |
| 3 – Checking or Interlocking Relay | 54 – Reserved for future application |
| 4 – Master Contactor | 55 – Power Factor Relay |
| 5 – Stopping Device | 56 – Field Application Relay |
| 6 – Starting Circuit Breaker | 57 – Short–Circuiting or Grounding Device |
| 7 – Rate of Change Relay | 58 – Rectification Failure Relay |
| 8 – Control Power Disconnecting Device | 59 – Overvoltage Relay |
| 9 – Reversing Device | 60 – Voltage or Current Balance Relay |
| 10 – Unit Sequence Switch | 61 – Reserved for future application |
| 11 – Multifunction Device | 62 – Time–Delay Stopping or Opening Relay |
| 12 – Overspeed Device | 63 – Pressure Switch |
| 13 – Synchronous–speed Device | 64 – Ground Detector Relay |
| 14 – Underspeed Device | 65 – Governor |
| 15 – Speed or Frequency–Matching Device | 66 – Notching or jogging device |
| 16 – Data Communications Device | 67 – AC Directional Overcurrent Relay |
| 17 – Shunting or Discharge Switch | 68 – Blocking or “out of step” Relay |
| 18 – Accelerating or Decelerating Device | 69 – Permissive Control Device |
| 19 – Start–to–Run Transition Contractor | 70 – Rheostat |
| 20 – Elect. operated valve (solenoid valve) | 71 – Level Switch |
| 21 – Distance Relay | 72 – DC Circuit Breaker |
| 22 – Equalizer Circuit Breaker | 73 – Load–Resistor Contractor |
| 23 – Temperature Control Device | 74 – Alarm Relay |
| 24 – Volts per Hertz Relay | 75 – Position Changing Mechanism |
| 25 – Synchronizing or Synchronism–Check Device | 76 – DC Overcurrent Relay |
| 26 – Apparatus Thermal Device | 77 – Pulse Transmitter |
| 27 – Undervoltage Relay | 78 – Phase–Angle Measuring Relay |
| 28 – Flame Detector | 79 – AC–Reclosing Relay |
| 29 – Isolating Contractor | 80 – Flow Switch |
| 30 – Annunciator Relay | 81 – Frequency Relay |
| 31 – Separate Excitation Device | 82 – DC Reclosing Relay |
| 32 – Directional (Reverse) Power Relay | 83 – Automatic Selective Control or Transfer Relay |
| 33 – Position Switch/Cell Switch | 84 – Operating Mechanism |
| 34 – Master Sequence Device | 85 – Pilot Communications, Carrier or Pilot–Wire Relay |
| 35 – Slip–Ring Short–Circuiting | 86 – Lockout Relay |
| 36 – Polarity or Polarizing Voltage Devices | 87 – Differential Protective Relay |
| 37 – Undercurrent or Underpower Relay | 88 – Auxiliary Motor or Motor Generator |
| 38 – Bearing Protective Device | 89 – Line Switch |
| 39 – Mechanical Condition Monitor | 90 – Regulating Device |
| 40 – Field (over/under excitation) Relay | 91 – Voltage Directional Relay |
| 41 – Field Circuit Breaker | 92 – Voltage and Power Directional Relay |
| 42 – Running Circuit Breaker | 93 – Field Changing Contractor |
| 43 – Manual Transfer or Selector Device | 94 – Tripping or Trip–Free Relay |
| 44 – Unit Sequence Starting Relay | 95 – 99 Used only for specific applications |
| 45 – Atmospheric Condition Monitor | |
| 46 – Rev. Phase or Phase–Bal. Current Relay | |
| 47 – Phase–Seq. or Phase–Bal. Voltage Relay | |
| 48 – Incomplete–Sequence Relay | |
| 49 – Machine or Transformer Thermal Relay | |
| 50 – Instantaneous Overcurrent | |
| 51 – AC Inverse Time Overcurrent Relay | |
- Suffixes Indicating Zone of Protection:
- B – Bus
 - G – Ground or generator
 - L – Line
 - N – Neutral
 - T – Transformer
 - U – Unit

Common Suffix Descriptions

- _1 – Positive–Sequence
- _2 – Negative–Sequence
- A – Alarm, Auxiliary Power
- AC – Alternating Current
- AN – Anode
- B – Bus, Battery
- BF – Breaker Failure
- BP – Bypass
- BT – Bus Tie
- BU – Backup
- C – Capacitor, Condenser, Compensator, Carrier Current, Case or Compressor
- CA – Cathode
- CH – Check (Valve)
- D – Discharge (Valve)
- DC – Direct Current
- DCB – Directional Comparison Blocking
- DCUB – Directional Comparison Unblocking
- DD – Disturbance Detector
- DUTT – Direct Underreaching Transfer Trip
- E – Exciter
- F – Feeder, Field, Filament, Filter, or Fan
- G – Ground or Generator
- GC – Ground Check
- H – Heater or Housing
- L – Line or Logic
- M – Motor or Metering
- MOC – Mechanism Operated Contact
- N – Neutral
- O – Over
- P – Phase or Pump
- PC – Phase Comparison
- POTT – Pott: Permissive Overreaching Transfer Trip
- PUTT – Putt: Permissive Underreaching Transfer Trip
- S – Synchronizing, Secondary, Strainer, Sump, or Suction (Valve)
- SOTF – Switch On To Fault

- T – Transformer
- TD – Time Delay
- TDC – Time–Delay Closing Contact
- TDDO – Time Delayed Relay Coil Drop–Out
- TDO – Time–Delay Opening Contact
- TDPU – Time Delayed Relay Coil Pickup
- THD – Total Harmonic Distortion
- TH – Transformer (High–Voltage Side)
- TL – Transformer (Low–Voltage Side)
- TM – Telemeter
- TOC – Truck Operated Contact
- TT – Transformer (Tertiary–Voltage Side)
- U – Under or Unit
- X – Auxiliary
- Z – Impedance

Acronym Descriptions

- AFD – Arc Flash Detector
- CLK – Clock/Timing Source
- CLP – Cold Load Pickup
- DDR – Dynamic Disturbance Recorder
- DFR – Digital Fault Recorder
- DME – Disturbance Monitor Equipment
- ENV – Environmental data
- HIZ – High Impedance Fault Detector
- HMI – Human Machine Interface
- HST – Historian
- LGC – Scheme Logic
- MET – Substation Metering
- PDC – Phasor Data Concentrator
- PMU – Phasor Measurement Unit
- PQM – Power Quality Monitor
- RIO – Remote Input/Output Device
- RTD – Resistance Temperature Detector
- RTU – Remote Terminal Unit/Data Concentrator
- SER – Sequence of Events Recorder
- TCM – Trip Circuit Monitor
- LRSS – Local/Remote selector switch
- VTFF – VT Fuse Fail