

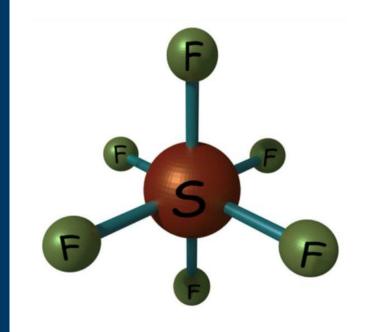






### What is $SF_6$ ?

- First reported in 1900 by French Chemist Henri Moissan
- SF<sub>6</sub> or sulfur hexafluoride is a human made, colourless, and odourless gas.
- Chemically stable, Non-toxic\*, Non-flammable
- F-gases are a range of chemicals involving fluorine which have been used for a variety of things including the manufacture of shoes, tennis balls, and windows, and as a coolant in refrigerators.
- Good properties as a dielectric insulating medium, prevents voltage electrical breakdown and explosion hazards.





### SF6 (fluorinated gas)

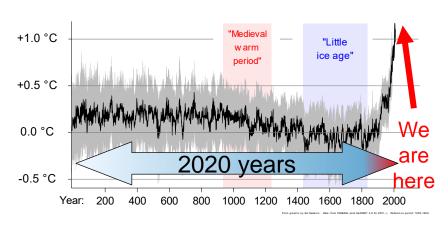
- Dielectric strength:
  - 2.5 times higher than that of air
- Arc quenching:
  - SF6 is 100x more effective at quenching an arc than air
  - Creates resistance across the arcing contacts and eventually extinguishing the arc. Once the arc is extinguished, sulfur hexafluoride begins to regenerate almost immediately.
- Thermal properties:
  - More effective at dissipating heat then air, nitrogen, or other dielectrics.
  - The volumetric specific heat of SF<sub>6</sub> is 3.7 times that of air, meaning it is more effective at removing heat from the electric equipment





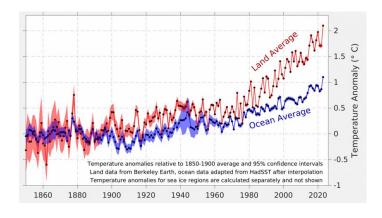
# Global view on climate and energy Motivation: global temperature rise

#### Global Average Temperature Change



Source:Global temp. Change: By RCraig09 - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=87832845

#### Land and Ocean Temperatures 1850-2023

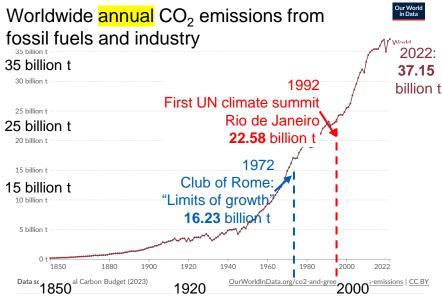


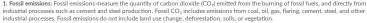
Source: https://berkeleyearth.org/global-temperature-report-for-2023/

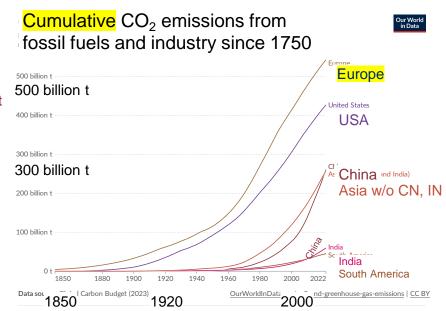


### Global view on climate and energy

Motivation: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions







1. Fossil emissions: Fossil emissions measure the quantity of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emitted from the burning of fossil fuels, and directly from industrial processes such as cement and steel production. Fossil CO<sub>2</sub> includes emissions from coal, oil, gas, flaring, cement, steel, and other industrial processes. Fossil emissions do not include land use change, deforestation, soils, or vegetation.

https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/annual-co2-emissions-per-country

https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/cumulative-co-emissions



### Motivation: Energy efficiency Invest in clean energy and efficiency

- IPCC report 2023
  - Power generation, buildings, industry, and transport are responsible for close to 80% of global emissions
  - One necessary measure is investment in clean energy & efficiency (2.)

#### 10 key solutions needed to mitigate climate change





INCREASE public transport.









**RETROFIT** and **DECARBONIZE** buildings









**DECARBONIZE** cement.













EAT more plants &

Source: IPCC AR6

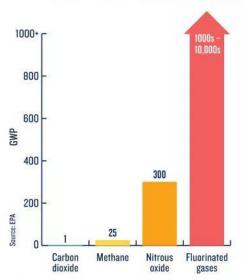


WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

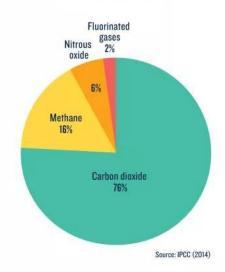


### SF6 aka Fluorinated gas

#### HOW GREENHOUSE GASES WARM OUR PLANET



The global warming potential (GWP) of human-generated greenhouse gases is a measure of how much heat each gas traps in the atmosphere, relative to carbon dioxide.



How much each human-caused greenhouse gas contributes to total emissions around the globe.

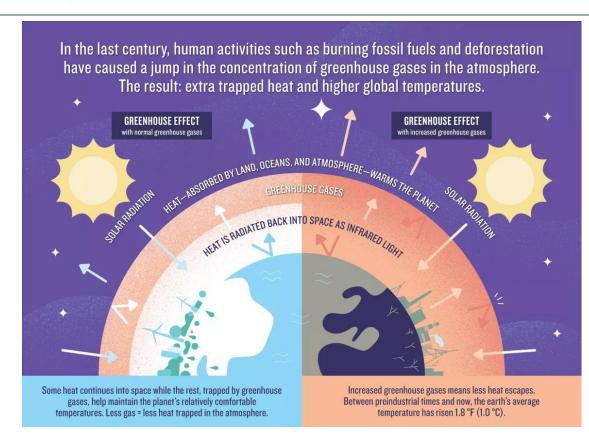
Over a 100-year period, SF<sub>6</sub> is **23,500 times** more effective at trapping infrared radiation than an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). SF<sub>6</sub> is also a very stable chemical, with an **atmospheric lifetime of 3,200 years.** 



### What is a greenhouse gas?

During the day, the sun shines through the atmosphere, warming the earth's surface. At night, the earth's surface cools, releasing heat back into the air. But some of the heat is trapped by the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The gases act like the glass walls of a greenhouse – hence the name, greenhouse gases





### Greenhouse Gases Global Warming Potential (GWP)

Gas	Common Source or Application	Global Warming Potential (GWP)
Carbon Dioxide (CO2)	Fire suppression, carbonated beverages, by-product of fossil fuel consumption	1
Methane (CH4)	Consumed as fuel (also known as Natural Gas)	21
HFC6-152a	Refrigerant, aerosol spray propellant	140
Nitrous Oxide (N2O)	Known as 'Laughing Gases, pain relief in dental procedures, car performance, and preservative.	310
HFC-32	Refrigerant	650
HFC-4310mee	Solvent for cleaning process	1,300
HFC-125	Used as a fire suppression agent	2,800
HFC-143a	Refrigerant, aerosol spray propellant	3,800
HFC-236fa	Used as a fire suppression agent, refrigerant	6,300
CF4	Refrigerant, electronics fabrication	6,500
C2F6	Semiconductor fabrication	9,200
Fluoroform (HFC-23)	Semiconductor fabrication, fire suppressant	11,700
SF <sub>6</sub>	Electrical Switchgear	25,200



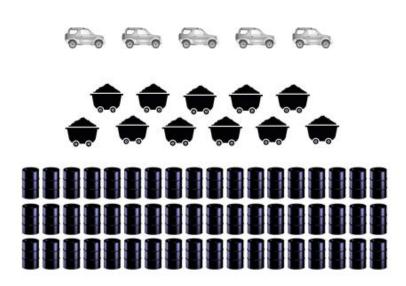
Source: WPD, A Literature Review on SF6 Gas Alternatives for use on the Distribution Network, 2018 [2]

### Greenhouse gas equivalents

Preventing emission of 1kg of SF6
 has the equivalent environmental impact as:

- Removing 5 vehicles from the road for an entire year
- Preventing the burning of
   11 metric tons of coal

Eliminating the combustion of 54 barrels of oil





## SF<sub>6</sub> Toxic By-products

- Reactive decomposition by-products form when SF<sub>6</sub> is exposed to:
  - spark discharges
  - partial discharges
  - switching arcs
  - · failure arcing
- Decomposition by-products can take the form of gas or powders
- If by-products are ingested or inhaled this can cause: eye, nose and throat irritation, pulmonary oedema, and other lung damage, skin and eye burns, nasal congestion, Bronchitis, rashes







### Timeline to SF6 free

#### Late 1970s

SF6 alternatives studied due to SF6 cost, sensitivity of insulation strength to particles and liquification of pressurized SF6

#### 1992 Kyoto Protocol

SF6 gas is listed as one of the six greenhouse gases subject to monitoring

#### 2016 Paris Agreement

Reduce the use of climatedamaging greenhouse gases

#### 2022

**3M** announced to exit PFAS Manufacturing by the end of 2025

#### 2018

**EATON** Leads the toxicity evaluation sub-group of *IEEE WG P37.100.7* on SF6 alternatives

#### 2023

**DE, NL, DK, SE, NO** have submitted a proposal for a complete ban or "restriction" of PFAS, except for essential uses.

#### 2024 EU F-Gas Regulation

New F-gas regulation and its legal framework was adopted and started to apply on **11 Mar. 2024** 

#### 2028 CARB regulation

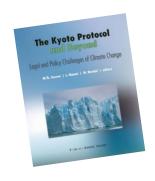
Full ban of F-gas in new above ground switchgear (38kV)

#### 2030 EU F-gas regulation

Full ban of F-gas in new switchgear (24~52kV)



### Kyoto protocol sets path for F-Gas regulation



The Kyoto protocol stimulated the European Union to enforce the 2007 F-gas regulation.

Today SF<sub>6</sub> is banned for most industries. Exception is the switchgear industry because in 2014 SF<sub>6</sub> was deemed to have no reliable alternative.

The switchgear industry and its users are responsible for 80% of total annual SF6 gas emissions.



#### **European Union:**

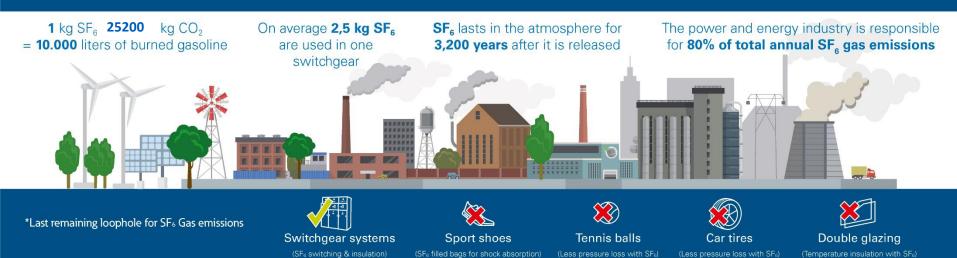
"No later than 1 July 2023, the Commission shall publish a report assessing whether cost-effective, technically feasible, energy-efficient and reliable alternatives exist, which make the replacement of fluorinated greenhouse gases possible in new medium-voltage secondary switchgear and new small single split air-conditioning systems and shall submit, if appropriate, a legislative proposal to the European Parliament and to the Council to amend the list set out in Annex III."

Current F-gas regulation



# How damaging is SF<sub>6</sub> to the environment?

# The Power and Energy Industry is the Largest Emitter of SF<sub>6</sub> Gas.



### It is Time to End the Use of SF<sub>6</sub> in Switchgear!



### **Applications**

- Utilities
- Industry
- Infrastructure
- Datacenter
- Commercial & Institutional
- Power generation





### עדכון 3-2024





EN L series

2024/573

20.2.2024

#### REGULATION (EU) 2024/573 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 7 February 2024

on fluorinated greenhouse gases, amending Directive (EU) 2019/1937 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 517/2014

(Text with EEA relevance)





## 3-2024 עדכון

### מתי יחלו ההגבלות?

תקנות הגז נכנסו לתוקף **באירופה** 20 יום מהפרסום הרשמי – כלומר הם נכנסו כבר לתוקף **ב-** 11/3/2024.

החל מ-	מתח	
1/1/2026	≥ 24kV	איסור על התקנת ציוד או לוחות מתח גבוה
		SF6 / F-gases המכילים גז
1/1/2030	52kV מ <b>-</b> 24kV	איסור על התקנת ציוד או לוחות מתח גבוה
		SF6 / F-gases המכילים
1/1/2028	145kV מ 52kV מ	איסור על התקנת ציוד או לוחות מתח עליון
		עם F-gases בהם F-gases
1/1/2032	מ 145kV	איסור על התקנת ציוד או לוחות מתח עליון
		עם F-gases בהם F ≥ 4



\*GWP - global warming potential

## עדכון 3-2024



# REGULATION (EU) 2024/573 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL Leak checks (Article 5)

Electrical switchgear shall not be checked for leaks provided that it complies with one of the following conditions:

- (a) it has a tested leakage rate of less than 0,1 % per year as set out in the technical specification of the manufacturer and is labelled accordingly;
- (b) it is equipped with a pressure or density monitoring device with an automatic alert system while in operation;
- (c) it contains less than 6 kilograms of fluorinated greenhouse gases listed in Annex I.





# High-voltage switchgear and controlgear - Part 4: Handling procedures for gases for insulation and/or switching (IEC 62271-4:2022)

#### 3.1.21

#### sealed pressure system

volume for which no further liquid, gas or vacuum processing is required during its expected operating duration

Note 1 to entry: Examples of sealed pressure systems are vacuum circuit-breakers or some MV circuit-breakers or MV switchgear with leakage rates < 0,1 %/a.

Note 2 to entry: Sealed pressure systems are typically assembled and tested in the factory.

Note 3 to entry: Expected operating duration starts when the device is sealed.

[SOURCE: IEC 62271-1:2017, 3.6.6.3, modified – Note 1 to entry and Note 2 to entry modified.]





#### IEC 62271-4:2022

#### 5 Gas handling during normal service life

#### 5.1 Topping-up of gas to the filling pressure/density for insulation and/or switching

This subclause applies to gas compartments of closed pressure systems to assure continuity of service. Usually, the pressure/density monitor generates an alarm/indication due to too low pressure/density. The alarm value shall be proposed by the electric power equipment manufacturer.

#### A.6.14 Gas concentration alarm systems

Gas concentration alarm systems might be installed to  $\frac{1}{1}$  monitor the SF $_6$  concentration in a room. Such alarm systems require detectors with very high long-term stability. The infrared absorption characteristic of SF $_6$  is used as the basis for most detectors of this type. An infrared source is used to heat a gas sample in a differential pressure-measuring device using a sensitive capacitance transducer. The pressure rise is measured.



Sancitivities down to 10 ul/l (nnmv) can be achieved. Automatic functional check facilities can



#### IEC 62271-4:2022

#### Table A.1 – Measures when working with SF6 electric power equipment

A notice stating that open fire, naked flames (for example matches), smoking, use of heat engines, heating to more than 180 °C and welding without special precautions are prohibited because SF<sub>6</sub> decomposes in the presence of certain metals above the temperature of 200 °C, and will decompose on its own at temperatures above 500 °C, should be displayed. Electric arcing (through normal operations or interruption of fault currents) causes decomposition. Naked flames can also cause decomposition. Instructions for giving first-aid (see A.2.8) should be displayed while SF<sub>6</sub> is being handled in any location.

When a gas compartment is opened after the electric power equipment has been in service, personnel should wear suitable protective clothing in order to avoid contact with the fine solid by-products, which can be present. Particular attention should be given to protecting the eyes and the respiratory tract. Personnel working in or near to opened gas compartments, which have contained normally arced or heavily arced SF<sub>6</sub> should:

- · use suitable tools and handling equipment;
- wear suitable protective clothing (see A.2.5);
- observe high standards of personal hygiene;
- clean themselves and their handling equipment using disposable materials, before leaving the work area;
- remove protective clothing and wash them thoroughly as soon as possible after having left the work area;
- ensure that clothing, tools and components which have been in contact with by-products are securely packed in sealed bags or other sealed containers and are subsequently treated to neutralise any residues.







#### IEC 61936-1

Edition 2.1 2014-02

### Power installations exceeding 1 kV a.c.

#### Part 1: Common rules

	o.4.o Storage of personal protection equipment	00
8.5	Protection from danger resulting from arc fault	68
8.6	Protection against direct lightning strokes	68
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	8.7.1 General	69
	8.7.2 Transformers, reactors	69
	8.7.3 Cables	73
	8.7.4 Other equipment with flammable liquid	73
8.8	Protection against leakage of insulating liquid and SF <sub>6</sub>	73
	8.8.1 Insulating liquid leakage and subsoil water protection	73
	8.8.2 SF <sub>6</sub> leakage	75
	8.8.3 Failure with loss of SF <sub>6</sub> and its decomposition products	
89	Identification and marking ZUZA Laton. All rights reserved.	74





#### IEC 61936-1 2014

#### 8.8.2 SF<sub>6</sub> leakage

Recommendations for use and handling of SF<sub>6</sub> gas are given in IEC/TR 62271-303.

To cover the unlikely event of an abnormal leakage, ventilation shall be provided in the switchgear room and in other accessible locations where the accumulation of gas may present a hazard. In case of outdoor installation, no special precautions are needed.

In rooms with SF<sub>6</sub> installations, which are above ground, natural venting is sufficient, if the gas volume of the largest compartment at atmospheric pressure does not exceed 10 % of the volume of the accessible switchgear room. If this demand cannot be fulfilled, mechanical ventilation shall be installed.

In rooms with SF<sub>6</sub> installations which are below ground on all sides, mechanical ventilation shall be provided if gas quantities which pose an intolerable risk to the health and safety of personnel (see note below) are capable of collecting in terms of gas quantity versus size of the room.

Chambers, ducts, pits, shafts, etc., situated below SF<sub>6</sub> installation rooms and connected to them, shall have the possibility of being ventilated.



To quarantee that no thermal decomposition of SF, present in the atmosphere can occur the

### Why SF<sub>6</sub> is used in switchgear?

- SF<sub>6</sub> has been widely used in the electrical industry to prevent short circuits and accidents
- When used as an interrupting medium, SF<sub>6</sub> is able to quench the arc
- It is non-flammable, non-explosive, colourless, odourless, and non-toxic\*
- It is effective as an insulating material for medium and high-voltage electrical installations
- SF<sub>6</sub> switchgear falls under three categories:
  - Closed pressure systems
  - Controlled pressure systems
  - Hermetically sealed systems

<sup>\*</sup>Whilst SF<sub>c</sub> is non-toxic, it does not support life and can cause suffocation. Heavy duty switching operations can generate harmful by-products from decomposition.



# SF<sub>6</sub> switchgears & GIS/AIS Switchgears



URING Series
SF gas insulated switchgear





### The Energy Transition is on full speed

- Rise of electrification due to economic growth and ongoing sector coupling
- Move from coal-powered generators to mixed green sources of power including wind, solar and gas
- Increased grid connections and rise in switchgear and circuit breakers

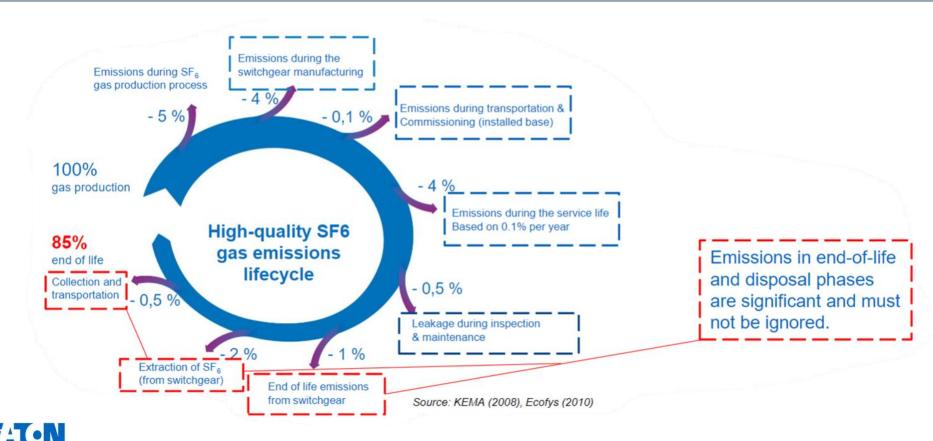
 Global installed base of SF<sub>6</sub> was expected to grow by 75% by 2030





### Leakage during Life Cycle

Powering Business Worldwide





2024/573

20.2.2024

- תאריך החלת האיסור -ינואר 2026, נוגע לתאריך הפעלת הציוד (ולא לתאריך הזמנת הציוד או להעמדת תאריך החלת האיסור -ינואר 2026, נוגע לתאריך בפרסום הרשמי המצורף, ולכן האיסור יחול גם על Article 13 סעיף 9 ע"מ 29 בפרסום הרשמי המצורף, ולכן האיסור יחול גם על שימוש בלוחות שהוזמנו או אף הועמדו באתר (ולא הופעלו) לפני ה 1/1/2026.
  - . האיסור אינו נוגע לציוד מותקן ומופעל
  - תתאפשר מכירה של ציוד לצורך הרחבת לוחות קיימים או לצורכי תחזוקה, עם זאת סביר שמאחר
     והרגולציה תשפיע באופן ניכר על יצרני הציוד בחו"ל זמינות הציוד והמחיר יהיו בהתאם.
  - התקנות החדשות מכילות הגבלות ופיקוח הדוק גם על ייצור גזי ה "F", לרבות אופן השימוש בגזים, החדשות מכילות הגבלות ופיקוח הדוק גם על ייצור גזי ה "end of live", כך שסביר שיהיו לכך ההובלה, האחסון, ועד להנחיות ורגולציה בנושא הגריטה בשלב ה"end of live", כך שסביר שיהיו לכך השלכות משמעותיות על זמינותו ומחירו של גז ה- SF6.

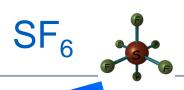


2024/573

20.2.2024

The import from and export to a State that is not party to the Protocol of HFCs as well as of products and equipment containing HFCs or whose functioning relies upon those gases should be prohibited as from 2028. The Protocol envisages that prohibition from 2033, and the purpose of its earlier application under this Regulation is to ensure that the global HFC reduction measures of the Kigali Amendment provide the envisaged benefit to the climate as soon as possible.







כדי לצמצם את ההשלכות של שינויי האקלים ולהתייעל בשימוש במשאבים, נוקטים בעולם פעולות ותוכניות להפחתת פליטות גזי חממה, בעיקר על ידי צמצום שרפת דלקים פוסיליים, סוגי דלק שמקורם במחצבים (נפט ותזקיקיו, גז) והטמעת תהליכי התייעלות בכל מגזרי הפעילות האנושית. ממשלת ישראל התחייבה ב-2021 להפחית פליטות גזי חממה עד 2030 בשיעור 27% בהשוואה ל-2015 ולעמוד באפס פליטות עד 2050 בהשוואה ל-2015. המאמצים הבין-לאומיים להפחתת גזי החממה מתקיימים במסגרת אמנת המסגרת של האו"ם להתמודדות עם שינויי האקלים

נושא: אקלים, יחסים בין-לאומיים • נושא משני: הפחתת פליטות (מיטיגציה) • תאריך פרסום: 27.10.2019 • תאריך עדכון: 09.05.2024

### דין וחשבון סביבתי לשנת 2022

טבלה 17: פירוט מקדמי ההתחממות הגלובלית של גזי החממה השונים כפי שנקבעו במסגרת מתודולוגיית החישוב של המנגנון הוולונטרי:

	מקדם ההתחממות הגלובלית <mark>GWP</mark>				
	עד שנת 2013	החל משנת 2014	<mark>החל משנת 2020</mark>		
פחמן דו חמצני CO <sub>2</sub>	1	1	1		
חנקן תת חמצני $N_2 O$	310	298	265		
מתאן $CH_4$	21	25	28		
גופרית שש פלואורית SF <sub>6</sub>	23900	22800	23500		

טבלה 15: סיכום דיווחי חברת החשמל למנגנון המקומי הוולונטרי של המשרד להגנת הסביבה הישראלי לשנים 2010 - 2014: פילוח הפליטות הישירות לפי סוג גזי חממה

<

פליטות גזי חממה (טון שווה ערך פחמן דו-חמצני)					
סה"כ פליטות	SF <sub>6</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	
34,312,517	49,998	10,684	128,097	34,123,738	2014
38,762,789	51,922	10,904	145,145	38,554,817	2013
46,363,988	50,519	16,770	188,309	46,108,389	2012
40,661,709	50,283	12,178	158,381	40,440,866	2011
39,467,669	33,149	10,930	150,993	39,272,597	2010



### What between now and 1-1-2026?

### To consider

- SF<sub>6</sub> insulation is seen as environmental unfriendly. The banked amount adds to CO<sub>2</sub> footprint
- The dismantling cost for SF<sub>6</sub> insulated gear will raise and negatively influence TCO
- Green public procurement in public tenders





### Alternatives to SF6 GIS



- Conventional AIS (primary switchgear)
- Fluorketones / Fluornitrilles (GIS) Prohibited PFAS, GWP
- Air (or natural air components) under high pressure (GIS)
- Solid Insulation (SIS)
- Air under Atmospheric pressure (AIR GIS) > Xiria

Switching in Vacuum



### Ahead of our time



### Eaton – Ahead of Its Time Developing SF<sub>6</sub>-free Switchgear





### F-gas free Solution Natural Air GIS







#### Sealed-for-Life Enclosure -GIS-



- The sealed compartment is filled with dry air and by sealing this compartment the primary parts and tripping mechanism are protected from environmental influences such as moist, dust and any kind of animals or insects
- By means of the sealed compartment the primary parts, switches and circuit breakers are maintenance free
- Where SF<sub>6</sub> insulated switchgear relies on a man-made gas to prevent from an internal arc, this solution is 100% F-gas free. With the benefit of maximised safety for people and the planet, personnel and our environment
- See also our Cired paper 0088 from the conference in 2021

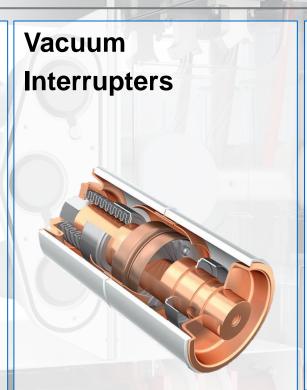




## Core competences

# Safety, Sustainability and Availability

- Arc free design
- Arc proof design
- SF<sub>6</sub> free
- System integration



## Solid Insulation & Electrical Field Control





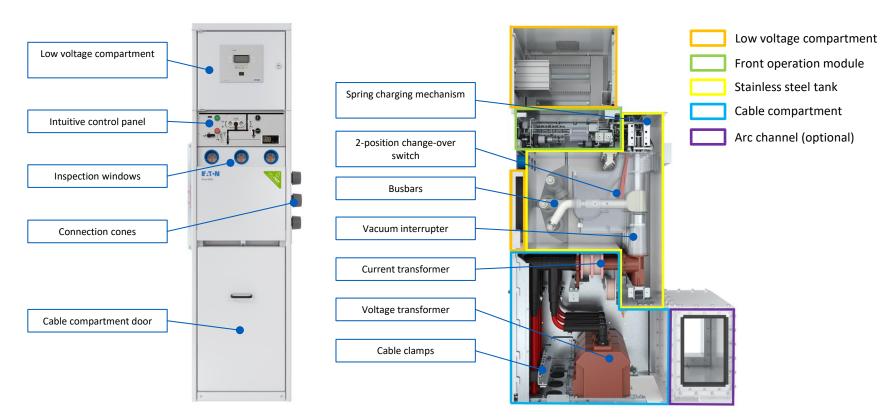
#### Xiria NGX

- Single compact 500 mm wide extendable panels
- Rated voltage 24 kV
- Busbar current 1250 A
- Circuit-breaker rating 630 or 1250 A
- Short circuit rating up to 25 kA 3s
- Internal arc classification AFL(R) 25 kA 1s
- Loss of Service Continuity LSC2
- Partition class PM
- Robust auto-reclose switching mechanism (OCO)
- IEC type tested by STL laboratory KEMA, Netherlands





## Xiria NGX basic design



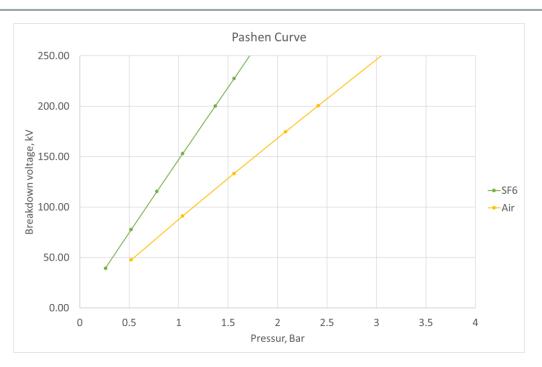


## Insulating mediums comparison

	SF6 (fluorinated gas)		Dry Air	
	<u>PROS</u>	<u>CONS</u>	<u>PROS</u>	<u>CONS</u>
Technology	Strong dielectric and thermal properties	GWP of 23,500	Natural origin gases	High pressure or increase tank size required to achieve similar ratings to SF6
	Can be integrated with SSIS system to avoid gas insulating of main bus	Liquifies at lower temperature		High pressure required for strong thermal or dielectric characteristics
	If arc occurs across phases, inherently extinguish quicker	Toxic byproducts as result of arc event (Value of Vacuum Interrupter)	Can be integrated with SSIS system to avoid gas insulating of main bus	oxygen content reacts with materials and can corrode
	Better transient response (TRV)			
Supply Chain	Readily available in the market		Readily available in the market	



#### Paschen's curve



Paschen's curve describes the breakdown voltage as a function of the electrode spacing or gap (d), operating pressure (p), and gas composition.

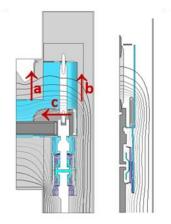
Pressure above 2 bar:
ASME VIII, Pressure vessel
Higher design costs
DOT shipping impacts
Gas filling on-site
Gas under pressure labeling



### The Product Development moves on



- Technologies for higher voltages (38kV)
- Digitalization Protection Control
- 24kV -1250A compact SF6 free introduced
- •







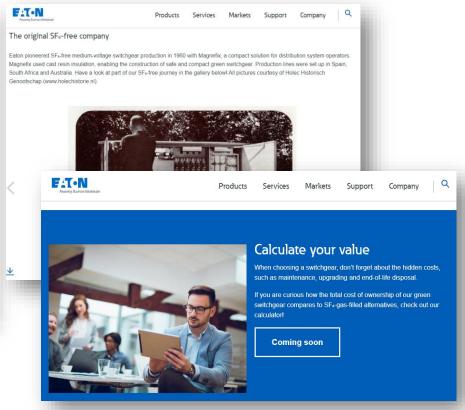


## Further Reading





www.eaton.com/sf6-free



#### תודה!

דב צימרמן

DovZimerman@eaton.com

052-3392121



www.eaton.com







