GE Consumer & Industrial
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PRESS RELEASE

GE Multilin unveils the next evolution in digital fault recording.

The new DDFR provides a complete fault recording system that collects and manages the fault and disturbance records found in digital protective relays distributed across substations and industrial facilities at a fraction of the cost associated with a traditional, stand-alone, centralized digital fault recorder.

For release 2007-06-28

MARKHAM, Ontario, Canada, -- GE Multilin today unveiled the DDFR – Distributed Digital Fault Recorder -- the next evolution in digital fault and disturbance recoding that is a requirement for new digitally protected substations and allows power utilities to comply with international fault recording standards.

The substation-hardened DDFR offers many cost savings over conventional, centralized fault recording systems. Typically, conventional digital fault recorders (DFRs) involve acquiring and installing a refrigerator-sized, costly recording device and directly wiring this device to hundreds of digital outputs, status points and analog signals. In contrast, the compact DDFR taps into the advanced fault recording data already being captured by existing protective relays distributed throughout a substation.

Today's protective relays have the ability to record fault and disturbance information in the same manner and with the same resolution as centralized digital fault recorders. However, unlike conventional digital fault recorders the DDFR is able to capture other critical information such as, IEC61850 GOOSE messages and protection calculated parameters, which is vital information for analyzing substation faults.

The DDFR automatically detects when a distributed device records fault and disturbance records and then collects and archives them into a central storage location within seconds of the original event occurring.

Records collected in the DDFR are managed and organized in a structure that makes it easy for users to identify the relevant records when analyzing power system faults by naming the fault and disturbance records based on the time the disturbances occurred. To better manage and analyze sequence of event records collected by multiple relays, the DDFR merges records into one substation-wide sequence of event record.

The DDFR contains up to 8 GB of solid-state storage, capable of locally storing many months worth of disturbance information for the purpose of fault troubleshooting by engineers located at the substation. As well, the DDFR delivers an enterprise-wide system for archiving information from multiple DDFRs, located in separate substations, into one centralized location. This centrally archived information enables engineers to analyze fault and disturbance information from any location on their corporate network.

The DDFR is ideally suited for utility substations containing microprocessor-based protection relays and are required by NERC and other regulatory bodies to perform Fault and Disturbance recording of power system events.

About GE Multilin:
GE Multilin designs, manufactures, markets and supports a complete line of protection, metering, control and automation systems, as well as power sensing and industrial communications equipment for utility and industrial applications.
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