

### **Power Factor Correction**

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### Learning Objectives

- Define power factor (PF)
- Explore other benefits of power factor correction (PFC)
- Identify potential PF charges on your electric utility bill
- Identify solutions available to correct PF
- Summarize how harmonics effect the application of PFC capacitors
- Calculate the financial ROI for PFC
- Determine real savings versus overstated savings



## What am I paying for on my bill?





### What is Power Factor?

 PF is a measure of the efficient use of power or the ratio of Working Power (kW) to Apparent (or Total) Power (kVA)

### PF = kW / kVA

- Poor PF is costly for the utility and for the end user power system capacity is used, kW losses are increased and voltage at the load is low.
- Utilities often penalize customers for low PF as an incentive to compensate for this inefficiency.



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## What is a VAR?

- Active power, also called real power, is measured in Watts or kW and performs Useful Work
- Electrical equipment like motors and transformers require reactive power create a Magnetic Field and allow work to be performed.
- This reactive power is called volt-amperesreactive or VAR's
- Reactive power is measured in vars or kvars
- Total apparent power is called volt-amperes and is measured in VA or kVA







### **Example: Power Factor**



#### Real power used



### **Power Factor Analogy**

- Consider a horse pulling a boat on a canal.
- The boat turns it's rudder to stop from running onto the bank.
- The turned rudder creates drag so less of the horse's power is going toward moving the boat forward.

#### Source: Con Ed





### Somebody has to pay for capacity and losses





### **Cost savings due to increased capacity**

- Correcting poor power factor can significantly reduce the load on transformers and conductors and allow for facility expansion
  - Transformers are rated by kVA and must be sized accordingly







## **Example: Improving PF Cont.**



## Loads with Low PF

- Air Handling/HVAC
- Pumps
- Elevators
- Compressors
- Computers
- Process Machinery





## **Typical Uncorrected Power Factor**

Industry	Percent Uncorrected PF			
Brewery	76-80			
Cement	80-85			
Chemical	65-75			
Coal Mine	65-80			
Clothing	35-60			
Electroplating	65-70			
Foundry	75-80			
Forge	70-80			
Hospital	75-80			
Machine manufacturing	60-65			
Metal working	65-70			
Office building	80-90			
Oil-field pumping	40-60			
Paint manufacturing	55-65			
Plastic	75-80			
Stamping	60-70			
Steelworks	65-80			
Textile	65-75			

**Source:** *IEEE Std* 141-1993 (*IEEE Red Book*)

### Low PF typically results from unloaded or lightly loaded motors

Unloaded motor – PF = .1 to .20 Loaded motor – "rated PF" = .85



### **Demonstration**

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### **Break**

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## Why Consider PFC?

PF correction provides many benefits:

- Primary Benefit:
  - Reduced electric utility bill if there is a penalty (a typical payback 1-5 years)
- Other Benefits:
  - Increased system capacity (generators, cables, transformers)
  - Improved voltage regulation
  - Reduced losses in transformers and cables
  - May reduce harmonics on the power system (with harmonic filters)
  - Greening the power system



## How Can I Justify PFC Equipment?

- If you know the penalty and you know the cost of the corrective equipment, you can calculate the (ROI)
- So...let's just calculate the penalty all you have to do is go to the utility company's website and read the tariff for your rate structure...
- Then we'll just calculate the size and cost of equipment...

Sounds easy, doesn't it?



## **How do Utility Companies Bill?**

- Always measure energy usage in Watt-hours (kWh) – typical charges are 5¢ -15¢ per kWh
- For larger customers like hospitals and universities kW or kVA demand (i.e. - 15 minute demand) typical charges are \$5-\$15 per kW or kVA
- PF penalties may be part of demand charges, separate charges and sometimes kWh charges are affected
- Many times, if a penalty is imposed, a minimum PF is required (i.e. 85%, 95%, etc.)



## **Con Ed Tariff**

- \$1.10/kvar
- @ peak kW demand to maintain 0.95 lagging PF
- Step 1 determine peak kW demand per month
- Step 2 determine kvar demand at same interval
- Step 3 determine kvar at 0.95 PF
- Step 4 determine excessive kvar (i.e. compare step 2 to step 3)
- Step 5 multiply step 4 by \$1.10 to determine penalty per month



## **Con Ed Tariff: Example (estimated)**

Billed kvar = measured kvar -(1/3) kw [at peak]

@ 0.95 p.f. , kvar ≈ 0.33 \*kW

1,800kW @ 0.85 p.f. => 1,115.5 kvar measured

515.5 kvar billed (1,115.5 - 600)



343.6 kvar billed (743.6 - 400)

Source: Con Ed



### **Con Ed Tariff: Example**

Assuming a 1,800kW peak load for 4 months and 1200kW for 8 months at 0.85 p.f.

1800kW @ 0.85 p.f. => 1115.5 kvar for 4 months, the customer is charged for 515.5kvar

1200kW @ 0.85 p.f. => 743.6 kvar for 8 months, the customer is charged for 343.6kvar.

#### Assume the installation of 300kvar at a cost of \$50/kvar.

- capital cost = \$15,000
- avoided kvar charges = \$4,724.8 per year
- \$3,027 in energy savings annually
- simple payback: \$15,000/(\$4,724.8+\$3,027) = **1.9 years.**

Assuming \$30/kvar: simple payback = \$9,000/\$7,751.8 = **1.2years**  Assuming \$70/kvar: simple payback = \$21,000/(\$7,751.8) = 2.7 years



Assuming \$50/kvar, ignoring loss savings: simple payback = \$15,000/\$4,724.8= 3.2 years

Source: Con Ed



### How Can I Justify PFC Equipment?





### **PF Calculator**

- Eaton Power
  Factor Correction
  Tool<sup>™</sup> PF
  Penalty Page
- Calculator to identify potential PF savings
- Customer Name Eaton Location NYC Maximum kvar MONTHLY MONTHLY **Required kvar** Potential PF to avoid Demand (kvar) PF 2003 Demand (kW) compensation penalty Savings JAN 1.200 750 0.848 394 356 \$ 391 FEB 1.200 \$ 750 0.848 394 356 391 MAR 750 \$ 1.200 0.848 394 356 391 750 APR 1,200 0.848 394 356 \$ 391 MAY 1,100 \$ 1,800 0.853 592 508 559 JUN 1,100 0.853 592 \$ 559 1,800 508 JUL 1,100 0.853 592 \$ 559 1,800 508 AUG 1,100 \$ 1,800 0.853 592 508 559 \$ SEP 1.200 750 0.848 394 356 391 OCT 1.200 750 0.848 394 356 \$ 391 750 \$ NOV 1.200 0.848 394 356 391 DEC 1.200 750 0.848 394 356 \$ 391 Average PF 0.850 otal PF Penalty \$ 5,366



Example:
 \$5366/year

# Next step – select the proper size and type of PFC...

## How do you select the correct PFC?



## What size of PFC?

What type of PFC?

## Where do you install them?



## **Sizing PFC Equipment**

- 1. Determine the target PF ( > 0.95 for Con Ed)
- 2. Determine (tables or software) the size of PFC required
- 3. Select PFC size to avoid penalty, minimize negative effects (overvoltage, harmonic resonance, losses)
- Consider installation location to determine low voltage or medium voltage installation, fixed or switched



## **Capacitor Sizing**

### "kvar needed" calculation

- Gather past utility bills, if possible
- Do multiple monthly calculations
  - Easy to do many calculations quickly with a spreadsheet
  - Examples shown in the capacitor application paper
  - kvar demand on Con Ed bill will be at peak kW
    demand (i.e. don't average kvar levels) will likely be
    higher in summer than winter (HVAC loads)



## **Capacitor Selection**

Consideration (after kvar size is chosen)

- Utility penalties (take care of whole penalty?)
- Installed cost and payback of equipment
- Load variability (fixed or switched)
- kW losses (location)



## **Capacitor Selection**

What can cause major problems

- Harmonic resonance
- Switching transients and voltage magnification
- Voltage regulation (especially high voltage)
- Leading PF on generators
- Self excitation of motors
- Load requirements (flicker requirements) speed of switching device



### **Harmonic Resonance**



On November 7, 1940, at approximately 11:00 AM, the Tacoma Narrows suspension bridge collapsed due to **wind-induced vibrations**...the bridge had only been open for traffic **a few months**.



## Harmonic Resonance

### The "Self Correcting" Problem

- Blown Fuses
- Failed Capacitors
- Damaged Transformer



### Harmonics = Wind (Excites Resonance)







### **Harmonic Resonance - Solutions**

- **1. Change the method** of kvar compensation (harmonic filter, active filter, etc.)
- 2. Change the size of the capacitor bank to overcompensate or under-compensate for the required kvar and live with the ramifications (i.e. overvoltage or PF







### Eaton Power Factor Correction Tool<sup>™</sup> - Resonance





## **Capacitor Switching Transients**



FIGURE 8. VOLTAGE MAGNIFICATION CIRCUIT



### **Capacitor Switching Transients**



FIGURE 9. UTILITY CAPACITOR ENERGIZED WITH LV CAPACITOR ENERGIZED: VOLTAGE MAGNIFICATION AT 480 V BUS



FIGURE 10. UTILITY CAPACITOR ENERGIZED WITHOUT LV CAPACITOR ENERGIZED: NO VOLTAGE MAGNIFICATION



## **Applying PF Capacitors**

### Where to apply?

- When applied close to the load (i.e. motor) transformer and cable losses are reduced
- Lower installation cost when applied in a central location
- Commonly applied at the utility metering point
- So, what is the right answer?
- Depends on the application, budget, physical space and preference of the customer



### **Capacitor Placement – Physical Location**

**Utility Penalty** – If needed for PF penalty

• Apply anywhere downstream of the meter

**Capacity Improvement** – if needed to improve the capacity of a transformer or cable, it must be placed downstream of the component

Loss Reduction – If needed for kVA or loss reduction

- Apply at or near the loads for I<sup>2</sup>R loss reduction
- 1-2% of overall kW is possible with distributed capacitor (some may *claim* more)
- Payback is generally 10 years or more (Typically not enough alone to justify cost to add capacitor

### **PF Correction – Loss Reduction**



![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

## **Example – PF Correction Savings**

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

Total Circuit Losses: 81 kW / 8.1%

Source: EPRI

![](_page_36_Picture_4.jpeg)

### **Example, Capacitor at Load**

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_2.jpeg)

### **Computer Simulation – Loss Savings**

PF	kW	kvar	kvar added	% kW Savings
0.58	615	870	0	0.0%
0.62	612.8	771	100	0.4%
0.67	610.9	671	200	0.7%
0.73	609.2	568.8	300	0.9%
0.79	607.7	466	400	1.2%
0.86	606.6	361	500	1.4%
0.92	605.7	255	600	1.5%
0.97	605.1	147	700	1.6%
1.00	604.8	38	800	1.7%
0.99	604.9	-72	900	1.6%
0.96	605.3	-184	1000	1.6%

#### % Loss Improvement

![](_page_38_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_5.jpeg)

## What type of PFC solution?

- Capacitors (standard/harmonically hardened)
- Harmonic Filters (Tuned or De-tuned)
- Active Filters
- LV or MV
- Fixed or Switched (contactor or thyristor)
- Active harmonic filter (PF and harmonic control)

**Capacitors** Hardened Capacitors

Harmonic Filters Active Filters

![](_page_39_Picture_9.jpeg)

### **Estimated Cost of Power Factor Correction**

#### INSTALLED COST COMPARISON OF POWER FACTOR CORRECTION EQUIPMENT

TYPE OF CORRECTION	Installed Cost, \$/kvar	
Fixed (LV – motor applied)	\$15	
Fixed (LV)	\$25	
Fixed (MV)	\$30	
Switched (LV)	\$50	
Switched (MV)	\$50	
Static Switched (LV)	\$75	
Switched Harmonic Filter (LV)	\$75	
Switched Harmonic Filter (MV)	\$60	
Active Harmonic Filter (LV)	\$150	

### What else should be included?

- Breaker/Fused Disconnect
- Installation Costs (labor, cables, shutdown required?, etc)

![](_page_41_Picture_3.jpeg)

These are very important to understand the "total cost" – this *could easily triple the cost* of the project for low voltage applications

![](_page_41_Picture_5.jpeg)

## **Applying PF Capacitors**

### **Special NYC considerations**

- If applied at main service
  - 6 circuit tap rule
  - NYC Advisory Board if modifying incoming service
- Applied on 208 V network system
  - 130-180kA of available fault current!
  - Excessive 3<sup>rd</sup> harmonics on 120/208 V service

![](_page_42_Picture_8.jpeg)

## **Fixed capacitor banks**

### Advantages

- Simplest to install
- Lowest cost per kVAR
- Longest life, least maintenance (no moving parts)

### When to Use

- Facility load is relatively constant – 24/7/365
- Few anticipated changes to plant system and loads

### Considerations

- Possibility of "overcorrecting" (utilities really don't like that) if load fluctuates
- Overvoltage can occur if load drops

![](_page_43_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_12.jpeg)

### **LV Fixed Capacitor Banks**

- Designed for industrial and commercial power systems
- var Range: 1 kvar to 400 kvar
- 208 Volts through 600 Volts AC
- Must be harmonic free environment

![](_page_44_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_6.jpeg)

## Individually mounted capacitors

#### Advantages

- Auto-regulating, comes on and off with load
- Capacitor matched with load – reduces concern of overcorrection
- Relatively small in size easy to locate, no additional distribution equipment required

#### When to Use

- Facility load fluctuates
- Many anticipated changes to plant system and loads

### Considerations

- Higher installation cost
   each capacitor must
  be individually installed
- Higher cost per kVA than a single large fixed bank
  - i.e. 1 100kVAR bank is less expensive than 10 – 10kVAR individual units
- Need to adjust motor overloads to compensate for lower currents

![](_page_45_Picture_13.jpeg)

#### FAT-N

## **Automatically switched capacitor banks**

### Advantages

- Single installation
- System is monitored and brings in and out individual capacitors as required

### When to Use

- When ultimate system flexibility is required
- When future or final facility load is unknown or expected to change

### Considerations

- Highest purchase expense compared to fixed and individual capacitors
- Some maintenance required for contactors switching capacitors
- Consider how many steps are desired

![](_page_46_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_12.jpeg)

### LV Switched (Automatic) PFC Capacitors Banks

![](_page_47_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Automatically sense changes in load
  - Automatic Controller
  - Steps of 50 kvar standard

![](_page_47_Picture_5.jpeg)

Smaller wall mounted units are available, and can be a real cost savings

![](_page_47_Picture_7.jpeg)

### **LV Harmonic Filtering Equipment**

![](_page_48_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Provides similar PF correction (as caps)
- Avoid harmonic capacitor interaction problems
- "Filter" harmonics to reduce voltage and current distortion

![](_page_48_Picture_5.jpeg)

### **MV Capacitors**

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Pole Mounted

- These banks have exposed live parts and are typically supported on a wood power pole.
- Rack Mounted
  - These banks have exposed live parts and are supported on a steel structure. These banks are usually located in fenced-in substations.
- Metal Enclosed or Pad Mounted
  - These banks are typically enclosed in a steel enclosure and are usually located within a fenced-in substation or switchgear room.

![](_page_49_Picture_9.jpeg)

### Medium Voltage Metal Enclosed Bank

![](_page_50_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### 1500 kvar + 1500 kvar

![](_page_50_Picture_3.jpeg)

### Careful!!! PF Correction and Energy Savings

- Well known benefit: kW Loss Reduction (real savings)
- Problem: Overstated
- Reality: 1-4% overall savings typical
- Claim: 11-30% savings
- Selling technique: sell to unknowing residential and commercial customers with little or no knowledge of kW vs. kVA (look...current reduced from 10 to 5 Amps, that results in 50% energy savings!)
- Open the "black box" it's full of capacitors... If it looks like a duck and swims like a duck and quacks like a duck....

![](_page_51_Picture_7.jpeg)

### It Happens to the Best of Us....

- 2007 Eaton Fluid Power Plant
- Applied Three (3) Energy Savers (\$65k)
- Claimed 11-30%
- Actual Savings (Year/Year) 15%?
  - What????? (Plant lighting was changed to energy efficient lighting three months prior to application of Energy Saver!)
- Actual Savings <1%!</li>

![](_page_52_Picture_7.jpeg)

### It Happens to the Best of Us....

					kW savings over	Cost savings over	
	kWh	kW	Excess rKVA	Cost	previous year	previous year	
N-07	346,811	664.3	198.5	\$28,856.55	4.3%	4.1%	
Oct-07	329,366	628.5	150.1	\$27,351.46	3.9%	3.2%	
S-07	297,597	571	106.5	\$24,879.59	13.1%	11.5%	
Aug-07	312,736	605.02	22.8	\$26,120.39	15.9%	15.4%	
J-07	331,227	637.5 <sup>-</sup>		<u>100.99 حدث</u>	10.5%	10.4%	
Jun-07	308,103	616.8 Ca	os installed her	° <b>e</b> <u>,607.99</u>	12.2%	9.2%	
M-07	319,200	630	529.7	\$26,920.13	6.3%	5.6%	
Apr-07	369,870	643	130 5	<sup>¢ንጾ</sup> 231.73	16.6%	9.5%	
M-07	<del>354,678</del>	<del>- 664</del> Lig	hts changed he	ere <del>663.34</del>	-4.5%	-4.5%	
Feb-07	400,302	704.4	506.2	\$30,757.42	16.2%	11.7%	
J-07	395,049	708.7	533.6	\$30,808.96	-18.0%	-21.5%	
Dec-06	357,737	718.6	564.6	\$30,444.10			
N-06	384,850	693.9	546.7	\$30,099.75			
Oct-06	354,128	653.9	455.7	\$28,255.68			
S-06	339,933	656.9	560	\$28,109.33			
Aug-06	382,376	719.2	579.4	\$30,869.79			
J-06	361,292	712.5	558.4	\$30,259.63			
Jun-06	345,645	702.44	508.4	\$29,315.43			
M-06	352,918	672	493.8	\$28,505.66			
Apr-06	337,043	771.2	534.1	\$31,194.23			
M-06	347,956	635.3	468.1	\$27,432.08			
Feb-06	387,728	840.9	527.1	\$34,813.36			
J-06	289,015	600.7	458.5	\$25,364.67			

## **Power Systems Experience Center**

Purpose: to demonstrate and test PQ problems and solutions

- Full-scale power system
- Demystify solutions
- "Seeing is Believing"
- Technical vs. Economic Solutions

#### www.eaton.com/experience

### **Equipment (PF/Harmonic Related)**

- Fixed capacitors
- Switched capacitors
- Static switched capacitor Active Filters
- **Broadband Filters**

- Passive (Fixed) Filters
- Passive (Switched) Filters
  HMT Transformers
- Reactors

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Harmonic Filter
- K-Rated Transformers
- Phase shifting transformers ٠

![](_page_54_Picture_20.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_21.jpeg)

### Learning Objectives

- Define power factor (PF)
- Explore other benefits of power factor correction (PFC)
- Identify potential PF charges on your electric utility bill
- Identify solutions available to correct PF
- Summarize how harmonics effect the application of PFC capacitors
- Calculate the financial ROI for PFC
- Determine real savings versus overstated savings

![](_page_55_Picture_8.jpeg)

### What should you do?

- Step 1: Gather 12 months of utility bills.
- Step 2: Examine the bills and evaluate the need for PF correction based on your PF
- Step 3: Discuss your penalty with your Con Ed rep
- Step 4: Size the corrective equipment
- Step 5: Determine the type of PF equipment
- Step 6: Calculate your ROI
- Step 7: Install the PF equipment and start saving!

### .... Eaton is here to HELP!

## **Reference Information**

### **Reference Papers and Presentations:**

- 1. Blooming/Carnovale "Capacitor Application Issues" (IEEE IAS)
- 2. Carnovale/Hronek, "Power Quality Solutions and Energy Savings" (AEE Magazine, EC&M)
- 3. EPRI "Energy Savings: You Can Only Save Energy That Is Wasted"
- 4. PFC Calculator Link <u>http://www1.eatonelectrical.com/calculators/PowerFactorROI/index.html</u>

### **Contact Information:**

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### Website: Power Systems Experience Center

www.eaton.com/experience

![](_page_57_Picture_12.jpeg)

### **Thank You!**

## **Questions?**

![](_page_58_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Picture_0.jpeg)