

**SECTION 26 29 11  
MOTOR CONTROLLERS**

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Delete between  
// ---- // if not applicable to project.  
Also, delete any other item or paragraph  
not applicable to the section and  
renumber the paragraphs.

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION**

- A. This section specifies the furnishing, installation, connection, and testing of motor controllers, including all low- and medium-voltage motor controllers and manual motor controllers, indicated as motor controllers in this section, and low-voltage variable speed motor controllers.
- B. Motor controllers, whether furnished with the equipment specified in other sections or otherwise (with the exception of elevator motor controllers specified in Division 14 and fire pump controllers specified in Division 21), shall meet this specification and all related specifications.

**1.2 RELATED WORK**

- //A. Section 13 05 41, SEISMIC RESTRAINT REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS: Requirements for seismic restraint for nonstructural components.//
- //B. Section 25 10 10, ADVANCED UTILITY METERING: For electricity metering installed in motor controllers.//
- C. Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS: Requirements that apply to all sections of Division 26.
- D. Section 26 05 13, MEDIUM-VOLTAGE CABLES: Medium-voltage cables and terminations.
- E. Section 26 05 19, LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL POWER CONDUCTORS AND CABLES: Low-voltage conductors.
- F. Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Requirements for personnel safety and to provide a low impedance path for possible ground fault currents.
- G. Section 26 05 33, RACEWAY AND BOXES FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS: Conduits.
- //H. Section 26 13 13, MEDIUM-VOLTAGE CIRCUIT BREAKER SWITCHGEAR: Requirements for medium-voltage circuit breaker switchgear used for motor control.//

- I. Section 26 24 19, MOTOR CONTROL CENTERS: For multiple motor control assemblies which include motor controllers.

### 1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Quality Assurance shall be in accordance with Paragraph, QUALIFICATIONS (PRODUCTS AND SERVICES) in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

### 1.4 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submit in accordance with Paragraph, SUBMITTALS in Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS, and the following requirements:

1. Shop Drawings:

- a. Submit sufficient information to demonstrate compliance with drawings and specifications.
- b. Include electrical ratings, dimensions, weights, mounting details, materials, overcurrent protection devices, overload relays, sizes of enclosures, wiring diagrams, starting characteristics, interlocking, and accessories.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Include the following paragraph for projects in seismic areas of moderate-high, high and very high seismicities as listed in Table 4 of VA Handbook H-18-8, Seismic Design Requirements. Coordinate with the structural engineer.

//c. Certification from the manufacturer that representative motor controllers have been seismically tested to International Building Code requirements. Certification shall be based upon simulated seismic forces on a shake table or by analytical methods, but not by experience data or other methods.//

2. Manuals:

- a. Submit, simultaneously with the shop drawings, companion copies of complete maintenance and operating manuals, including technical data sheets, wiring diagrams, and information for ordering replacement parts.
  - 1) Wiring diagrams shall have their terminals identified to facilitate installation, maintenance, and operation.
  - 2) Wiring diagrams shall indicate internal wiring for each item of equipment and interconnections between the items of equipment.

- 3) Elementary schematic diagrams shall be provided for clarity of operation.
  - 4) Include the catalog numbers for the correct sizes of overload relays for the motor controllers.
- b. If changes have been made to the maintenance and operating manuals originally submitted, submit updated maintenance and operating manuals two weeks prior to the final inspection.
3. Certifications: Two weeks prior to final inspection, submit the following.
    - a. Certification by the manufacturer that the motor controllers conform to the requirements of the drawings and specifications.
    - b. Certification by the Contractor that the motor controllers have been properly installed, adjusted, and tested.

#### **1.5 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS**

- A. Publications listed below (including amendments, addenda, revisions, supplements, and errata) form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by basic designation only.
- B. Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE):
  - 519-14.....Recommended Practices and Requirements for  
Harmonic Control in Electrical Power Systems
  - C37.90.1-12.....Standard Surge Withstand Capability (SWC) Tests  
for Relays and Relay Systems Associated with  
Electric Power Apparatus
- C. International Code Council (ICC):
  - IBC-15.....International Building Code
- D. National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA):
  - ICS 1-00(R2015).....Industrial Control and Systems: General  
Requirements
  - ICS 1.1-84(R2015).....Safety Guidelines for the Application,  
Installation and Maintenance of Solid State  
Control
  - ICS 2-00(R2005).....Industrial Control and Systems Controllers,  
Contactors, and Overload Relays Rated 600 Volts
  - ICS 4-15.....Industrial Control and Systems: Terminal Blocks
  - ICS 6-93(R2016).....Industrial Control and Systems: Enclosures
  - ICS 7-14.....Industrial Control and Systems: Adjustable-  
Speed Drives

ICS 7.1-14.....Safety Standards for Construction and Guide for  
Selection, Installation, and Operation of  
Adjustable-Speed Drive Systems

E. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

70-17.....National Electrical Code (NEC)

F. Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL):

508A-13.....Industrial Control Panels

508C-16.....Power Conversion Equipment

1449-14.....Surge Protective Devices

## **PART 2 - PRODUCTS**

### **2.1 MOTOR CONTROLLERS**

- A. Motor controllers shall comply with IEEE, NEMA, NFPA, UL, and as shown on the drawings.
- B. Motor controllers shall be separately enclosed, unless part of another assembly. For installation in motor control centers, provide plug-in, draw-out type motor controllers up through NEMA size 4. NEMA size 5 and above require bolted connections.
- C. Motor controllers shall be combination type, with magnetic controller per Paragraph 2.3 below and with //circuit breaker// //fused switch// //motor circuit protector// disconnecting means, with external operating handle with lock-open padlocking positions and ON-OFF position indicator.

#### //1. Circuit Breakers:

- a. Bolt-on thermal-magnetic type with a minimum interrupting rating as indicated on the drawings.
- b. Equipped with automatic, trip free, non-adjustable, inverse-time, and instantaneous magnetic trips for less than 400A. The magnetic trip shall be adjustable from 5x to 10x for breakers 400A and greater.
- c. Additional features shall be as follows:
  - 1) A rugged, integral housing of molded insulating material.
  - 2) Silver alloy contacts.
  - 3) Arc quenchers and phase barriers for each pole.
  - 4) Quick-make, quick-break, operating mechanisms.
  - 5) A trip element for each pole, a common trip bar for all poles, and one operator for all poles.//

#### //2. Fused Switches:

- a. Quick-make, quick-break type.

- b. Minimum duty rating shall be NEMA classification General Duty (GD) for 240 Volts and NEMA classification Heavy Duty (HD) for 480 Volts.
  - c. Horsepower rated, and shall have the following features:
    - 1) Copper blades, visible in the OFF position.
    - 2) An arc chute for each pole.
    - 3) Fuse holders for the sizes and types of fuses specified or as shown on the drawings.//
- //3. Motor Circuit Protectors:
- a. Magnetic trip only.
  - b. Bolt-on type with a minimum interrupting rating as indicated on the drawings.
  - c. Equipped with automatic, adjustable magnetic trip. Magnetic trip shall be adjustable up to 1300% of the motor full load amperes.//
- D. Enclosures:
- 1. Enclosures shall be NEMA-type rated 1, 3R, or 12 as indicated on the drawings or as required per the installed environment.
  - 2. Enclosure doors shall be interlocked to prevent opening unless the disconnecting means is open. A "defeater" mechanism shall allow for inspection by qualified personnel with the disconnect means closed. Provide padlocking provisions.
  - 3. All metal surfaces shall be thoroughly cleaned, phosphatized, and factory primed prior to applying light gray baked enamel finish.
- E. Motor control circuits:
- 1. Shall operate at not more than 120 Volts.
  - 2. Shall be grounded, except where the equipment manufacturer recommends that the control circuits be isolated.
  - 3. For each motor operating over 120 Volts, incorporate a separate, heavy duty, control transformer within each motor controller enclosure.
  - 4. Incorporate primary and secondary overcurrent protection for the control power transformers.
- F. Overload relays:
- 1. //Thermal// //Induction//Temperature Probe Thermal Relay //Electronic// type. Devices shall be NEMA type.
  - 2. One for each pole.
  - 3. External overload relay reset pushbutton on the door of each motor controller enclosure.

4. Overload relays shall be matched to nameplate full-load current of actual protected motor and with appropriate adjustment for duty cycle.
- //5. Thermal overload relays shall be tamperproof, not affected by vibration, manual reset, sensitive to single-phasing, and shall have selectable trip classes of 10, 20 and 30.//
- //6. Induction overload relays shall have changeable heater elements, manual reset, ambient temperature compensation, sensitivity to single-phasing, and shall have selectable trip classes of 10, 20 and 30.//
- //7. Temperature probe relays shall be connected to thermistors or resistance temperature detectors (RTD) embedded in the motor winding.//
- //8. Electronic overload relays shall utilize internal current transformers and electro-mechanical components. The relays shall have ambient temperature compensation, single-phase protection, manual or automatic reset, and trip classes of 10, 15, 20 and 30. The relay shall provide fault cause indication, including jam/stall, ground fault, phase loss, and overload.//
- G. Hand-Off-Automatic (H-O-A) switch is required unless specifically stated on the drawings as not required for a particular controller. H-O-A switch shall be operable without opening enclosure door. H-O-A switch is not required for manual motor controllers.
- H. Incorporate into each control circuit a 120 Volt, electronic time-delay relay (ON delay), minimum adjustable range from 0.3 to 10 minutes, with transient protection. Time-delay relay is not required where H-O-A switch is not required.
- I. Unless noted otherwise, equip each motor controller with not less than two normally open (N.O.) and two normally closed (N.C.) auxiliary contacts.
- J. Provide green (RUN) and red (STOP) pilot lights.
- K. Motor controllers incorporated within equipment assemblies shall also be designed for the specific requirements of the assemblies.
- L. Additional requirements for specific motor controllers, as indicated in other specification sections, shall also apply.

## **2.2 MANUAL MOTOR CONTROLLERS**

- A. Shall be in accordance with applicable requirements of 2.1 above.
- B. Manual motor controllers shall have the following features:

1. Controllers shall be general-purpose Class A, manually operated type with full voltage controller for induction motors, rated in horsepower.
  2. Units shall include thermal overload relays, on-off operator, //red// //green// pilot light, //normally open// //normally closed// auxiliary contacts.
- C. Fractional horsepower manual motor controllers shall have the following features:
1. Controllers shall be general-purpose Class A, manually operated type with full voltage controller for fractional horsepower induction motors.
  2. Units shall include thermal overload relays, red pilot light, and toggle operator.

### **2.3 MAGNETIC MOTOR CONTROLLERS**

- A. Shall be in accordance with applicable requirements of 2.1 above.
- B. Controllers shall be general-purpose, Class A magnetic controllers for induction motors rated in horsepower. Minimum NEMA size 0.
- C. Where combination motor controllers are used, combine controller with protective or disconnect device in a common enclosure.
- D. Provide phase loss protection for each controller, with contacts to de-energize the controller upon loss of any phase.
- E. Unless otherwise indicated, provide full voltage non-reversing across-the-line mechanisms for motors less than 75 HP, closed by coil action and opened by gravity. For motors 75 HP and larger, provide reduced-voltage or variable speed controllers as shown on the drawings. Equip controllers with 120 VAC coils and individual control transformer unless otherwise noted.

### **2.4 REDUCED VOLTAGE MOTOR CONTROLLERS**

- A. Shall be in accordance with applicable portions of 2.1 above.
- B. Shall have closed circuit transition.
- C. Shall limit inrush currents to not more than 70 percent of the locked rotor current.
- D. Provide phase loss protection for each motor controller, with contacts to de-energize the motor controller upon loss of any phase.

### **2.5 MEDIUM-VOLTAGE MOTOR CONTROLLERS**

- A. Shall be in accordance with applicable portions of 2.1 above, and in accordance with applicable provisions of Section 26 13 13, MEDIUM-VOLTAGE CIRCUIT BREAKER SWITCHGEAR.

- B. Interrupting ratings shall be not less than the maximum short circuit currents available as shown on the drawings.
- C. Shall have the following additional features:
1. Metal enclosed, free-standing, vacuum break, reduced-voltage, primary reactor, drawout type combined with non-load break fused disconnect switch.
  2. Shall include the following components:
    - a. Three pole, magnetically held, drawout type, with start/run contactor(s).
    - b. Equipped for the number of motor speeds as shown on the drawings.
    - c. Primary reactor with taps for 50, 65 and 80 percent of line voltage.
    - d. Definite time transfer relay.
    - e. Three current limiting, type "R" power type fuses with 50,000 amperes interrupting capability or as indicated on drawings.
    - f. Control power transformer (CPT), protected with current limiting fuses. The CPT shall be rated //300VA//, //500VA//, //750VA//, //2kVA//, //5kVA// and shall be rated 60kV BIL.
    - g. Three current transformers and overcurrent protective devices.
    - h. Zero-sequence current transformers and associated devices for ground fault protection.
    - i. Under-voltage protection.
    - j. Protection against single phasing.
    - k. Stator thermal protection.
    - l. Indicating-type ammeter and selector switch.
    - m. Red and green indicating lights.
  3. A separate enclosure for each motor controller.
  4. Shall be isolated by an externally operated mechanism. The secondary of the control power transformer shall also be opened by this device.
  5. Suitable and adequate compartments and barriers for medium-voltage components. Isolate the power bus from the normally accessible compartments.
  6. Medium-voltage line connections shall be automatically shuttered closed when the motor controller is in the racked-out position. The disconnection shall be clearly indicated.
  7. Interlocks shall prevent:
    - a. Inadvertent operation of the isolating mechanism under load.



- b. Opening the medium-voltage compartment before the controller is isolated.
- c. Closing of the line contactor while the enclosure door is open.
- 8. Current and potential transformers for operating remote recording watt-hour and demand meters and the indicating meters at the motor controller.
- 9. Provide lock-open padlocking provisions.
- 10. Furnish accessories as recommended by the manufacturer of the motor controllers to facilitate convenient operation and maintenance of the controllers.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Verify that variable speed motor controller is located adjacent to motor served.

#### **2.6 LOW-VOLTAGE VARIABLE SPEED MOTOR CONTROLLERS (VSMC)**

- A. VSMC shall be in accordance with applicable portions of 2.1 above.
- B. VSMC shall be electronic, with adjustable frequency and voltage, three phase output, capable of driving standard NEMA B three-phase induction motors at full rated speed. The control technique shall be pulse width modulation (PWM), where the VSMC utilizes a full wave bridge design incorporating diode rectifier circuitry. Silicon controlled rectifiers or other control techniques are not acceptable.
- C. VSMC shall be suitable for variable torque loads, and shall be capable of providing sufficient torque to allow the motor to break away from rest upon first application of power.
- D. VSMC shall be capable of operating within voltage parameters of plus 10 to minus 15 percent of line voltage, and be suitably rated for the full load amps of the maximum watts (HP) within its class.
- E. Minimum efficiency shall be 95 percent at 100 percent speed and 85 percent at 50 percent speed.
- F. The displacement power factor of the VSMC shall not be less than 95 percent under any speed or load condition.
- G. VSMC current and voltage harmonic distortion shall not exceed the values allowed by IEEE 519.

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Require deration of variable speed motor controllers as necessary for installed conditions. A/E shall the required information below.

- H. Operating and Design Conditions:
  - 1. Elevation: // //feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL)
  - 2. Temperatures: Maximum //+90°F// // // Minimum //-10°F// // //

- 3. Relative Humidity: //95%// // //
- 4. VSMC Location: //Air conditioned space// // //

I. VSMC shall have the following features:

- 1. Isolated power for control circuits.
- 2. Manually resettable overload protection for each phase.
- 3. Adjustable current limiting circuitry to provide soft motor starting. Maximum starting current shall not exceed 200 percent of motor full load current.
- 4. Independent acceleration and deceleration time adjustment, manually adjustable from 2 to 2000 seconds. Set timers to the equipment manufacturer's recommended time in the above range.
- 5. Control input circuitry that will accept 4 to 20 mA current or 0-10 VDC voltage control signals from an external source.
- 6. Automatic frequency adjustment from 1 Hz to 300 Hz.
- 7. Circuitry to initiate an orderly shutdown when any of the conditions listed below occur. The VSMC shall not be damaged by any of these electrical disturbances and shall automatically restart when the conditions are corrected. The VSMC shall be able to restart into a rotating motor operating in either the forward or reverse direction and matching that frequency.
  - a. Incorrect phase sequence.
  - b. Single phasing.
  - c. Overvoltage in excess of 10 percent.
  - d. Undervoltage in excess of 15 percent.
  - e. Running overcurrent above 110 percent (VSMC shall not automatically reset for this condition.)
  - f. Instantaneous overcurrent above 150 percent (VSMC shall not automatically reset for this condition).
  - g. Short duration power outages of 12 cycles or less (i.e., distribution line switching, generator testing, and automatic transfer switch operations.)

SPEC WRITER NOTE: Coordinate this requirement with Section 26 36 23, AUTOMATIC TRANSFER SWITCHES. All required conduit and wire must be shown on the drawings.

- //8. Provide automatic shutdown upon receiving a power transfer warning signal from an automatic transfer switch. VSMC shall automatically restart motor after the power transfer.//

9. Automatic Reset/Restart: Attempt three restarts after VSMC fault or on return of power after an interruption and before shutting down for manual reset or fault correction, with adjustable delay time between restart attempts.
- //10. Power-Interruption Protection: To prevent motor from re-energizing after a power interruption until motor has stopped, unless "Bidirectional Autospeed Search" feature is available and engaged.//
11. Bidirectional Autospeed Search: Capable of starting VSMC into rotating loads spinning in either direction and returning motor to set speed in proper direction, without causing damage to VSMC, motor, or load.
- J. VSMC shall include an input circuit breaker which will disconnect all input power, interlocked with the door so that the door cannot be opened with the circuit breaker in the closed position.
- K. VSMC shall include a 5% line reactor and a RFI/EMI filter.
- L. Surge Suppression: Provide three-phase protection against damage from supply voltage surges in accordance with UL 1449.
- M. VSMC shall include front-accessible operator station, with sealed keypad and digital display, which allows complete programming, operating, monitoring, and diagnostic capabilities.
  1. Typical control functions shall include but not be limited to:
    - a. HAND-OFF-AUTOMATIC-RESET, with manual speed control in HAND mode.
    - b. NORMAL-BYPASS.
    - c. NORMAL-TEST, which allows testing and adjusting of the VSMC while in bypass mode.
  2. Typical monitoring functions shall include but not be limited to:
    - a. Output frequency (Hz).
    - b. Motor speed and status (run, stop, fault).
    - c. Output voltage and current.
  3. Typical fault and alarm functions shall include but not be limited to:
    - a. Loss of input signal, under- and over-voltage, inverter overcurrent, motor overload, critical frequency rejection with selectable and adjustable deadbands, instantaneous line-to-line and line-to-ground overcurrent, loss-of-phase, reverse-phase, and short circuit.
    - b. System protection indicators indicating that the system has shutdown and will not automatically restart.

- N. VSMC shall include two N.O. and two N.C. dry contacts rated 120 Volts, 10 amperes, 60 Hz.
- O. Hardware, software, network interfaces, gateways, and programming to control and monitor the VSMC by control systems specified in other specification sections, including but not limited to Divisions 22 and 23.
- P. Network communications ports: As required for connectivity to control systems specified in other specification sections, including but not limited to Divisions 22 and 23.
- Q. Communications protocols: As required for communications with control systems specified in other specification sections, including but not limited to Divisions 22 and 23.
- R. Bypass controller: Provide contactor-style bypass, arranged to bypass the inverter.
  - 1. Inverter Output Contactor and Bypass Contactor: Load-break NEMA-rated contactor.
  - 2. Motor overload relays.
  - 3. HAND-OFF-AUTOMATIC bypass control.
- S. Bypass operation: Transfers motor between inverter output and bypass circuit, manually, automatically, or both. VSMC shall be capable of stable operation (starting, stopping, and running), and control by fire alarm and detection systems, with motor completely disconnected from the inverter output. Transfer between inverter and bypass contactor and retransfer shall only be allowed with the motor at zero speed.
- T. Inverter Isolating Switch: Provide non-load-break switch arranged to isolate inverter and permit safe troubleshooting and testing of the inverter, both energized and de-energized, while motor is operating in bypass mode. Include padlockable, door-mounted handle mechanism.

### **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

#### **3.1 INSTALLATION**

- A. Install motor controllers in accordance with the NEC, as shown on the drawings, and as recommended by the manufacturer.
- //B. In seismic areas, motor controllers shall be adequately anchored and braced per details on structural contract drawings to withstand the seismic forces at the location where installed.//
- C. Install manual motor controllers in flush enclosures in finished areas.
- D. Set field-adjustable switches, auxiliary relays, time-delay relays, timers, and electronic overload relay pickup and trip ranges.

- E. Program variable speed motor controllers per the manufacturer's instructions and in coordination with other trades so that a complete and functional system is delivered.
- F. Adjust trip settings of circuit breakers and motor circuit protectors with adjustable instantaneous trip elements. Initially adjust at six times the motor nameplate full-load ampere ratings and attempt to start motors several times, allowing for motor cooldown between starts. If tripping occurs on motor inrush, adjust settings in increments until motors start without tripping. Do not exceed eight times the motor full-load amperes (or 11 times for NEMA Premium Efficiency motors if required). Where these maximum settings do not allow starting of a motor, notify //Resident Engineer// //COTR// before increasing settings.
- G. Set the taps on reduced-voltage autotransformer controllers at //50// //65// //80// percent of line voltage.

### 3.2 ACCEPTANCE CHECKS AND TESTS

- A. Perform manufacturer's required field tests in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. In addition, include the following:
  - 1. Visual Inspection and Tests:
    - a. Compare equipment nameplate data with specifications and approved shop drawings.
    - b. Inspect physical, electrical, and mechanical condition.
    - c. Verify appropriate anchorage, required area clearances, and correct alignment.
    - d. Verify that circuit breaker, motor circuit protector, and fuse sizes and types correspond to approved shop drawings.
    - e. Verify overload relay ratings are correct.
    - f. Vacuum-clean enclosure interior. Clean enclosure exterior.
    - g. Verify tightness of accessible bolted electrical connections by calibrated torque-wrench method in accordance with manufacturer's published data.
    - h. Test all control and safety features of the motor controllers.
    - i. For low-voltage variable speed motor controllers, final programming and connections shall be by a factory-trained technician. Set all programmable functions of the variable speed motor controllers to meet the requirements and conditions of use.

**3.3 FOLLOW-UP VERIFICATION**

- A. Upon completion of acceptance checks, settings, and tests, the Contractor shall show by demonstration in service that the motor controllers are in good operating condition and properly performing the intended functions.

**3.4 SPARE PARTS**

- A. Two weeks prior to the final inspection, provide one complete set of spare fuses for each motor controller.

**3.5 INSTRUCTION**

- A. Furnish the services of a factory-trained technician for two 4-hour training periods for instructing personnel in the maintenance and operation of the motor controllers, on the dates requested by the //Resident Engineer// //COTR//.

---END---