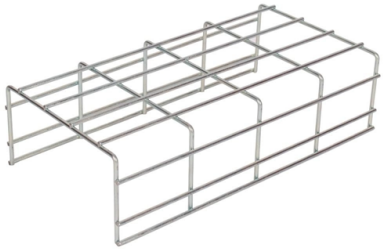
ZITHA TECH SPECIALTY CABLES (Pty) Ltd

Senior Electrician specializing in relay protection



Overview

Senior Relay Technician We are experiencing strong growth and are immediately hiring Senior Relay Technicians with deep expertise in protection and Senior.

Key Takeaways

A Senior Electrician specializing in relay protection is responsible for testing, commissioning, maintaining, and troubleshooting protective relay systems in high-voltage substations, ensuring system reliability and compliance with industry standards.Role Overview

Senior relay protection electricians, often referred to as Senior Relay Technicians or Protection & Control (P&C) Technicians, work primarily in generation, transmission, and distribution substations. They are responsible for the installation, calibration, testing, and maintenance of protective relays, circuit breakers, transformers, and associated control systems. Their work ensures that electrical faults are detected and isolated quickly to prevent equipment damage and maintain grid stability .

Key Responsibilities
• Conduct commissioning, functional testing, and maintenance of protective relays and substation control circuits .

• Perform relay calibration, secondary injection tests, and verification of protection schemes including distance, differential, overcurrent, breaker failure, and bus protection .

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• Maintain and update relay settings, SCADA configurations, and event records for fault analysis .

• Lead and mentor junior technicians, providing guidance on field operations and safety practices .

• Support outage planning, switching coordination, and energization activities in substations .

• Ensure compliance with NERC Reliability Standards, IEEE guidelines, and utility safety protocols .

Required Skills and Qualifications

• Education: Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering or equivalent technical training; advanced degrees preferred for utility transmission roles .

• Experience: Typically 5–10+ years in protective relay testing, commissioning, and substation operations .

• Certifications: NETA Level III or IV, PE licensure, EIT/FE certification, and NERC CIP training are highly valued .

• Technical Skills:

• Proficiency with microprocessor-based relays (SEL, GE Multilin, Siemens SIPROTEC, ABB REL series) and test platforms (Omicron, Doble, Test Universe, Protection Suite), .

• Knowledge of relay coordination software such as ASPEN OneLiner, SKM Power*Tools, CAPE, and ETAP .

• Understanding of substation communications protocols (IEC 61850, DNP3, Modbus) and SCADA integration .

• Ability to read and interpret AC/DC schematics, one-line diagrams, and control logic .

Career Outlook and Employers

Senior relay protection electricians are in high demand due to grid expansion, renewable energy integration, and NERC compliance requirements . Typical employers include:

• Utilities and investor-owned transmission companies

• Independent electrical testing and engineering firms such as Asplundh Electrical Testing, Telex, and LS Power .

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• Engineering consultancies providing protection, automation, and substation design services . Salaries for senior roles range from $85,000 to $140,000+ annually, with higher compensation for PE-licensed engineers or those with extensive field experience . Benefits often include health insurance, retirement plans, paid time off, company vehicles, and training opportunities .
Summary

A Senior Electrician specializing in relay protection combines hands-on field expertise with advanced technical knowledge to ensure the safe and reliable operation of high-voltage electrical systems. The role requires strong problem-solving skills, leadership, and familiarity with industry standards, making it a critical position in the power systems sector. Professionals in this field can advance to principal engineer or senior technical roles, influencing protection philosophy and system reliability across utility networks .

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