Innovation Basecamp 2026

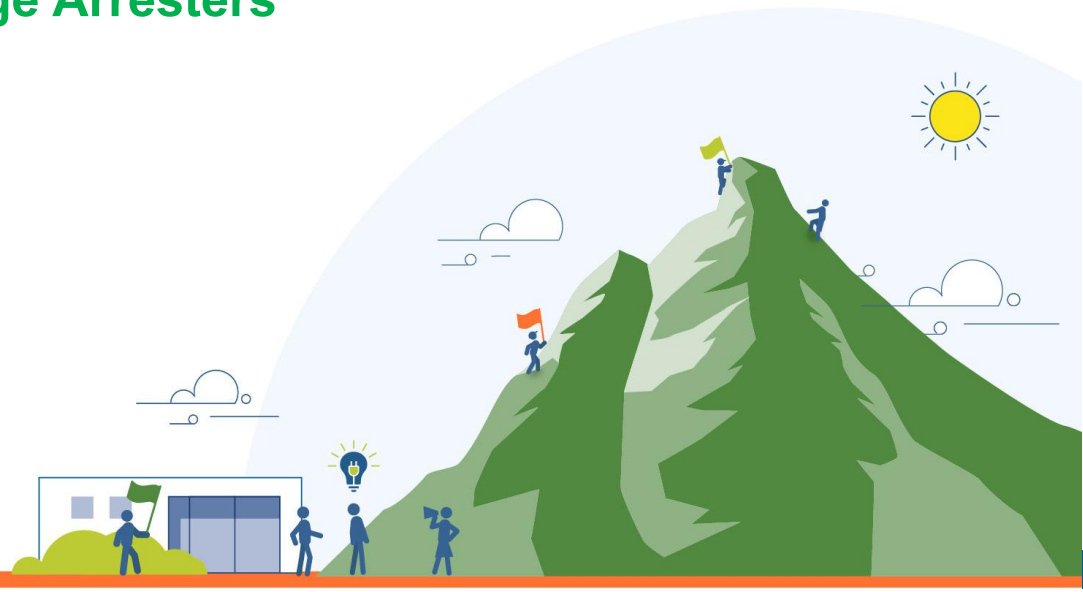
4th February 2026 – Park Plaza, London

Introduction

UK Power Networks

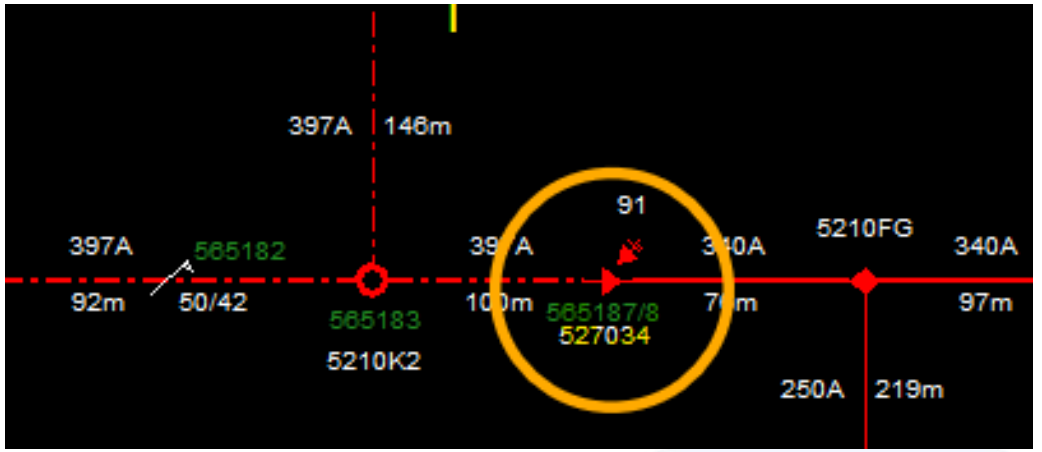
- Peter Lang
- Innovation incubator

- Problem statement – Condition Management of Surge Arresters



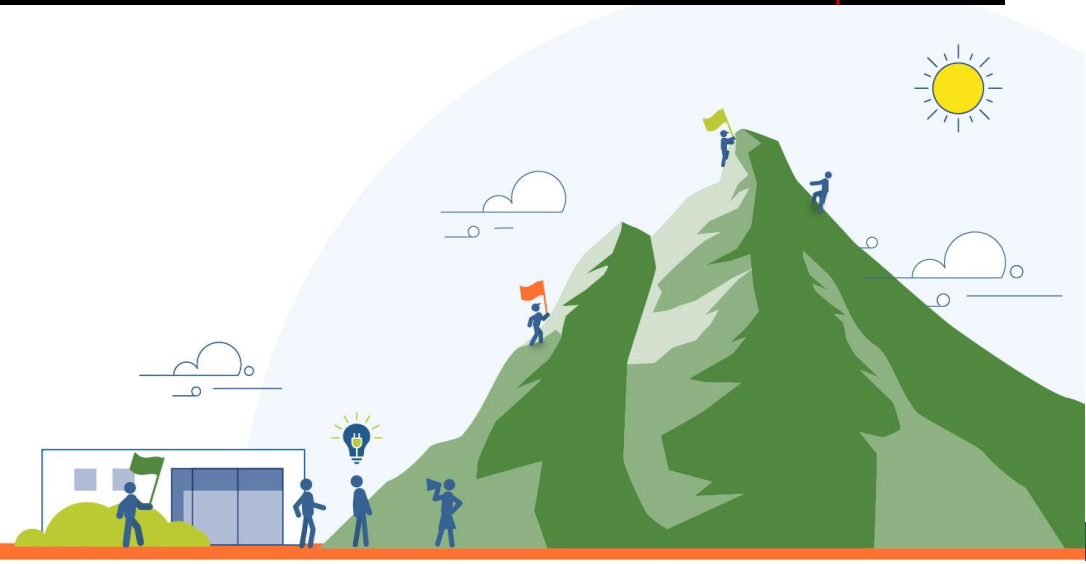
Background Information

- Each underground cable is protected using a set of surge arresters at the transition with the overhead line
- Each time lightning strikes an overhead line the overvoltage is diverted away from the cable.



Key background details and facts:

- Over 13,000 sets installed
- Various vintages, manufacturers and designs



What are the Problems?

What are the key issues?

- Would you want to work near this if it was about to fail?

Why do you think these are the issues?

- Prevents live line work being carried out.

Our Expectations

What are we looking for?

Solution Expectations:

- Looking for a solution that allows the condition of the surge arrestor connected to 11kV networks to be assessed without having a pre-arranged interruption.
- The solution must be suitable for use outdoors in different weather conditions.
- Application of higher test voltages is not acceptable for 11kV assessments.
- The test must be of short duration as there is a risk that the surge arrestor may not be in a good condition.

IMPORTANT

It is important for all innovators to note that we are looking for plans rather than just ideas as solutions.

Key Contacts:

- **For further information / Clarity:**

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- **ANY QUESTIONS?**

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