



# Substation Protective Relay Conversion from Analog to Digital Technology



#### **Objectives**

Discuss benefits of digital technology

Resources available in modern digital devices

- How to reduce copper cables in the substation

  Accurate fault-locating

#### Electromechanical vs. Digital Relays



- Single function devices
- Protection only
- Complex wiring
- Expensive maintenance





- Multifunction protection, control, automation, and monitoring
- Automated tests and selfdiagnostics



### Benefits of system protection, control, and automation with digital relays

- Multifunction
  - Protection, metering, control, automation, integration, monitoring
- Special protection schemes
  - Arcflash, fast-bus tripping, loadshedding, etc.
- Accurate fault location
  - Travelling wave, double-ended impedance-based, etc.
- Oscillography
  - High-resolution, 1 MHz

- Sequential event reporting
- Remote engineering access
- Time synchronization
- Control HMI
  - Dedicated pushbuttons, bay mimic screens, metering, phasors, alarms, etc.
- Self-diagnostics
  - Extended maintenance interval
  - Automated test equipment

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- Reduce initial and
- Improve continuity of service
- Improve reliability

operating costs

Reduce maintenance

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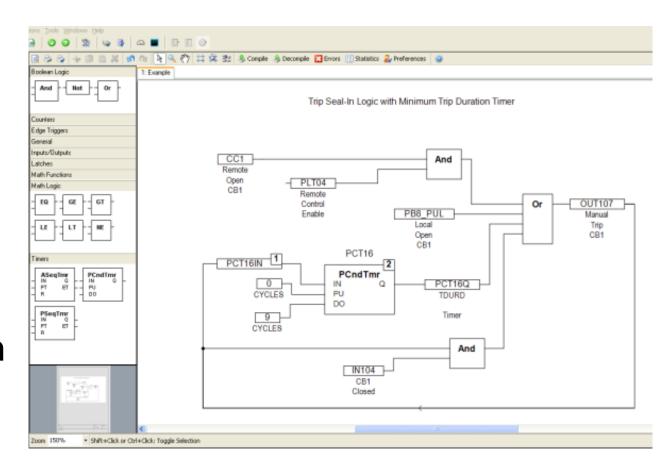
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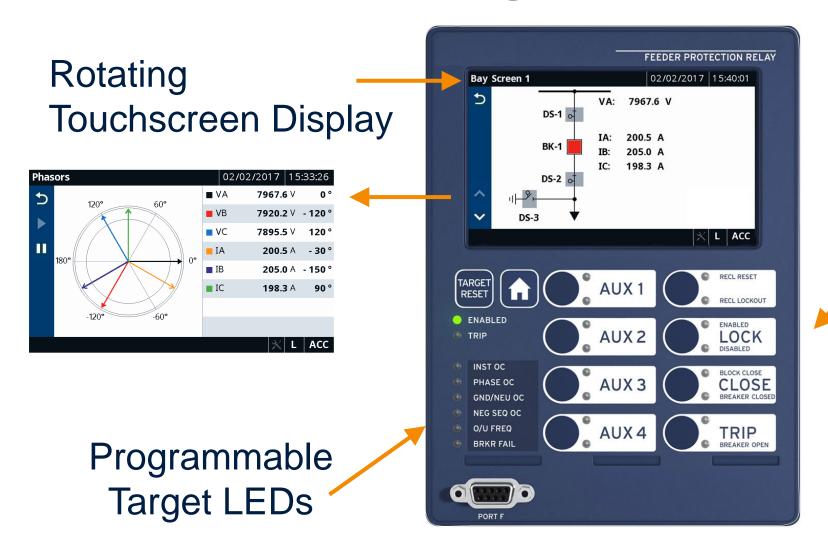
Automated test equipment

#### Digital relays programmable logic

- Reduces panel wiring
- Reduces installation time and costs
- Can be easily tested in laboratory
- Provides flexibility
- Facilitates troubleshooting with relay event reports and SER logs



### Digital relay front-panel HMI enables control and monitoring



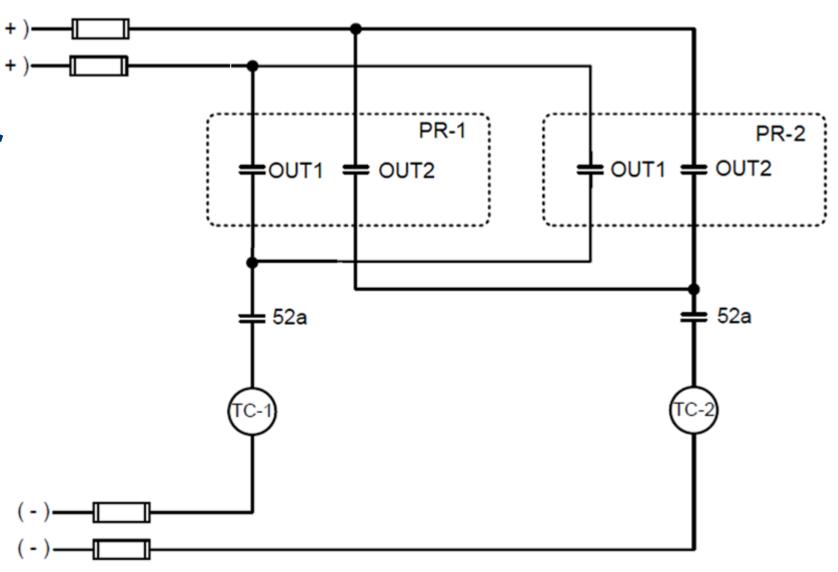
Operator Pushbuttons

#### Advantages of digital relay output contacts

- Digital relays provide many programmable output contacts
  - Allow eliminating auxiliary relays
  - Simplify dc wiring, increase reliability and speed, and reduce cost
- Digital relays provide high-interrupting and high-speed contacts
- Output contacts connected directly to the CB coils

## Single breaker tripping

Breaker with two trip coils



### **Use Fiber Optics Instead of Replacing Old Copper Control Cables**

Is Less Expensive Fits in Crowded Trenches

Performs
Over Long
Distances

Is Resilient to Moisture



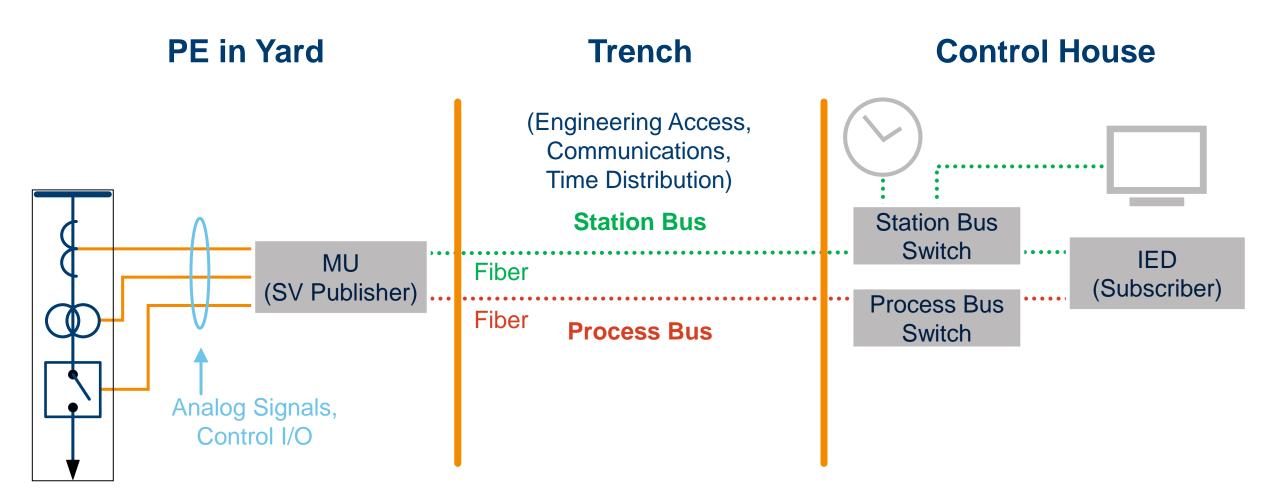
### **Cost Savings and Safety Motivate Adoption**

Other Applications Emerge

- Modernizing substations with full trenches
- Minimize CT saturation
- Avoid control cable failures
- Personnel safety
- Optical CTs



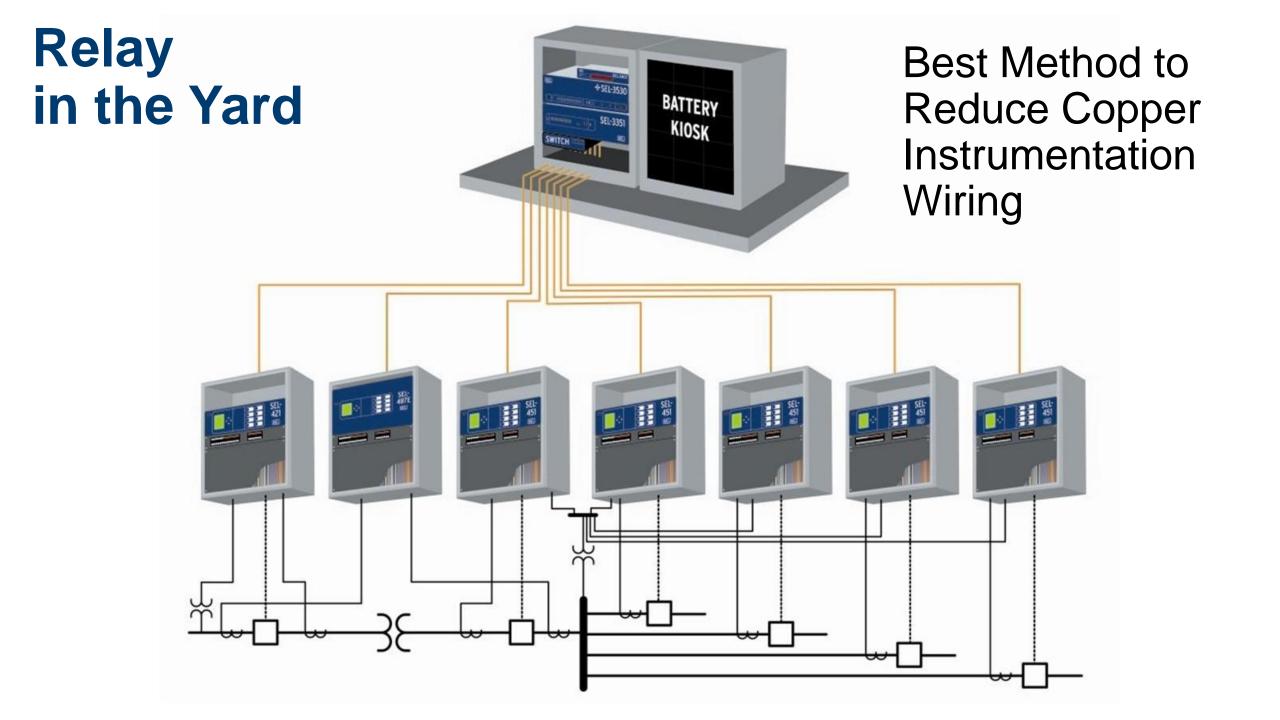
#### Protection scheme with process bus



#### Move Relays to the Yard

- Locate relays closer to equipment
- Run CT, PT, and control wiring to relay
- Digital relays for harsh environments



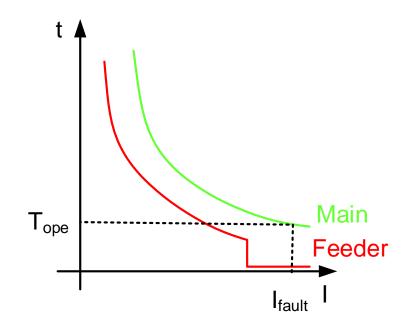


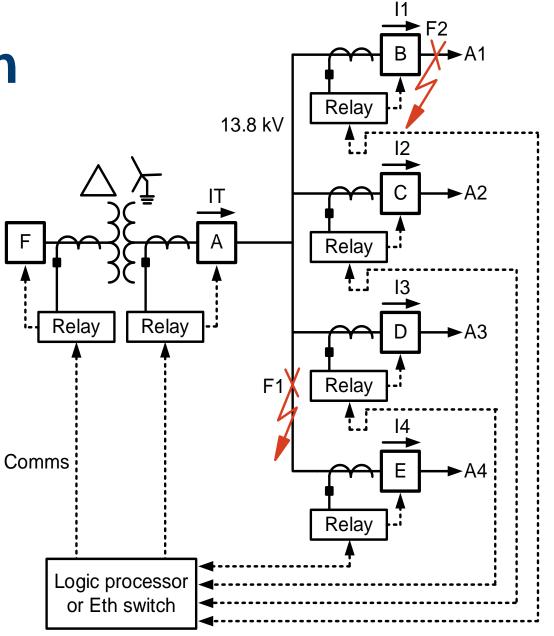
Click on the link below to watch the case study video "IEC 61850 Substation Modernization and Wire Reduction".

https://video.selinc.com/detail/videos/case-studies/video/700809017001/iec-61850-substation-modernization-and-wire-reduction?autoStart=true&page=1

### Fast-bus tripping and breaker failure protection

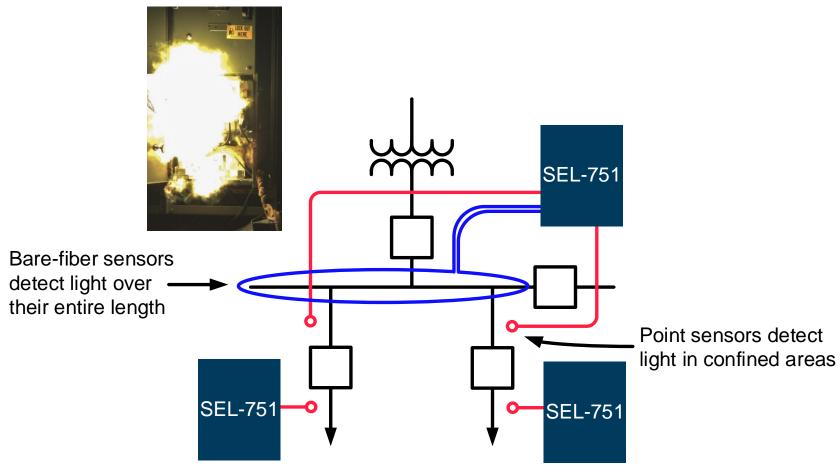
- High-speed communication protocols
- Supervision of comms enables or disables schemes





#### Arc-flash protection with digital relays

#### Saving lives





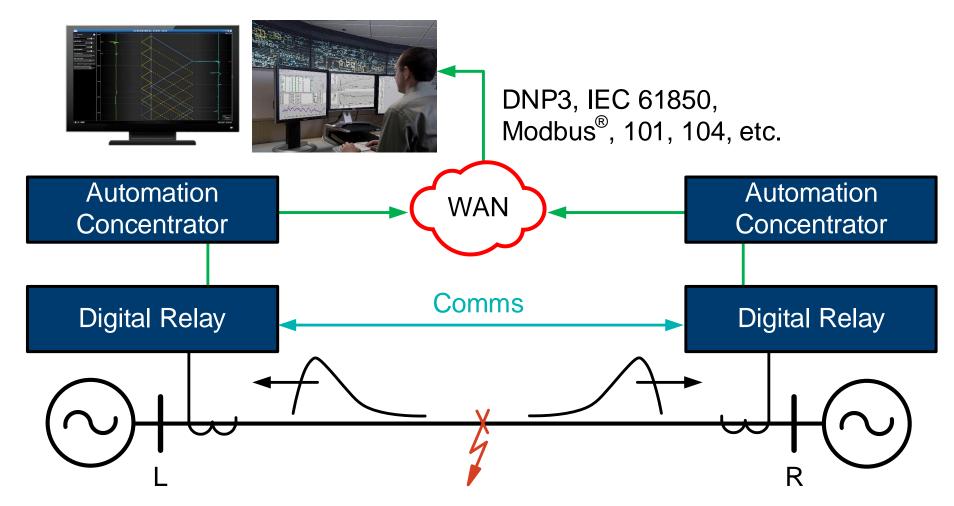
Combination of light sensors and overcurrent protection provides trip security

### Travelling Wave Fault-locating

- Pinpoint faults/events to the nearest tower
- Expedite service restoration
- Reduce outage time and costs
- Identify insulator problems
- Prevent recurring faults

Fault located by SEL-411L Photo source: BPA, 2017

### TW Fault Location Information Promptly Sent to Control Center



Eliminate patrols, reduce downtime, and make system more reliable

### **Summary**

Going from analog to digital technology

- Reduce initial and operating costs
- Improve continuity of service
- Improve reliability
- Reduce maintenance

### Thank you





