VL Circuit Breakers

Motor Circuit Protectors

Selection

General

Protection of Motor Circuits

Molded case circuit breakers are used in motor circuits as a disconnecting means and for short-circuit protection. They should be used in conjunction with motor-running, over-current protection devices, and should permit the motor to start without nuisance tripping from motor-inrush current. The circuit breaker should have a continuous current rating of not less than 115% of the motor full-load current.

The recommended motor circuit protectors listed have continuous-current ratings of at least 115% of motor full-load currents. The trip setting positions are approximately 11 times motor full-load current. The suggested trip settings may need to be adjusted upward to no higher than 1300% of full-load current for non-design E type motors, and no greater than 1700% of full-load current for design E motors, to allow for motor startup due to in-rush current.

Breaker Mounted Immediately Ahead of Motor Starter

Siemens motor circuit protectors are recommended for use in combination motor starters to provide selective short-circuit protection for the motor branch circuit. The adjustable instantaneous trip feature of the Siemens motor circuit protector provides for a trip setting slightly above the peak motor in-rush current. With this setting, no delay is introduced in opening the circuit when a fault occurs. This circuit breaker has no time-delay trip element. Therefore it must be used in conjunction with, and immediately ahead of, the motor-running overcurrent protection device.

Important: The information below does not apply to all motor applications: it is recommended that the user refer to the National Electrical Code (NEC) for specific needs.

Table 1 (When Breaker is Mounted Immediately Ahead of Motor Starter)

3-Phase Induction Type Motors (Siemens motor circuit protectors for branch circuit use with alternating-current combination, full voltage motor starters)

Motor Full Load Amperes	Trip Setting (A)	Catalog Number①
35-50	450	HDP3L150L
42-60	540	
48-70	630	
55-80	720	
62-90	810	
69-100	900	
58-83	750	HDP3M150L
69-100	900	
81-117	1050	
92-133	1200	
104-150	1350	
115-150②	1500	
96-139	1250	HDP3H150L
115-150②	1500	
135-150②	1750	
135-150②	2000	
135-150②	2250	
135-150②	2500	
46-67	600	HFP3L250L
55-80	720	
65-93	840	
74-107	960	
83-120	1080	
92-133	1200	
77-111	1000	HFP3M250L
92-133	1200	
108-156	1400	
123-178	1600	
138-200	1800	
154-222	2000	
135-194	1750	HFP3H250L
162-210	2100	
188-220	2450	
215-241	2800	
242-250②	3150	
242-250②	3500	

Motor Full Load Amperes	Trip Setting (A)	Catalog Number①
96-139	1250	HJM3L400
115-167	1500	
135-194	1750	
154-222	2000	
173-250	2250	
192-278	2500	
154-222	2000	HJM3M400
185-267	2400	
215-311	2800	
246-356	3200	
277-400	3600	
308-400②	4000	
154-222	2000	HLM3J600
185-267	2400	
215-311	2800	
246-356	3200	
277-400	3600	
308-444	4000	
212-306	2750	HLM3Y600
254-367	3300	
296-428	3850	
338-489	4400	
381-550	4950	
423-600	5500	
250-361	3250	HMM3M800
292-422	3800	
335-483	4350	
385-556	5000	
442-638	5740	
500-722	6500	
385-556	5000	HNM3M120
462-667	6000	
538-778	7000	
615-889	8000	
692-1000	9000	
769-1111	10,000	

① Motor circuit protectors rated 150A and 250A are supplied with line and load lugs installed. If lugs are required on 400A to 1200A motor circuit breakers, order required lugs separately.

② These settings are provided for starting currents greater than 11X but not to exceed 17X. Full Load Amps (FLA) not to exceed ampere rating of MCP.