

**ELECTRIC SWITCHING SYSTEM AND BASE MODULE FOR AN ELECTRIC
SWITCHING SYSTEM**

Description

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The invention relates to an electrical switchgear assembly having a housing and components which are arranged therein and are in the form of a control and/or measuring unit, the components being arranged in modular withdrawable parts, and to a basic module for such a switchgear assembly.

Electrical switchgear assemblies of today's design are predominantly designed using so-called withdrawable part technology, i.e. all of the electrical operating means and devices, for example the control and measuring devices installed as components, are arranged on preferably modularized withdrawable parts.

On the one hand this has the advantage of simplified accessibility by virtue of the fact that, if required, for example in the event of a fault, the withdrawable module in question can be removed easily from the respective housing and therefore repaired, exchanged or replaced without any considerable dismantling work.

On the other hand, the known modularized withdrawable part technology has the disadvantage of requiring a large amount of space since the size of the withdrawable modules usually comes down to the size of the largest component intended to be inserted, with the result that, owing to the smaller size of other components, often unrequired space remains unused in the switchgear cabinets or the switchgear assemblies need to be dimensioned unnecessarily large.

On the basis of this prior art, the object of the invention is to provide an electrical switchgear

assembly as well as a corresponding basic module for such an assembly of the type mentioned at the outset which can be produced easily and furthermore ensure utilization of space which is as effective as possible.

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This object is achieved according to the invention by the characterizing features of the independent claims. Accordingly, at least one basic module is provided which has a module bearing profile, which is formed by
10 a base bearing rail, as well as end-side and lateral walls, one end wall of the basic module, preferably its front side, being formed by a control unit and its opposite end wall being formed by a measuring unit, and the dimensions of the control and measuring units being
15 matched to the module dimensions.

With the aid of this module technology, which, according to the invention, can be matched to the respective size requirements, it is now possible to
20 make best possible use of the space available in the switchgear cabinet in question. This advantage is reinforced by the fact that all of the driving, measuring and signaling functions are integrated in the basic module.

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Improved utilization of space is also based on the fact that, in accordance with an advantageous configuration of the invention, each basic module is held in the housing by means of rails, which are integrally formed
30 on both sides of the module bearing profile.

In this case, provision is advantageously made for guide grooves formed on the module bearing profile and associated rails in the housing to interact and, as a
35 result, the basic module is guided on both sides in the device area, which is provided as a switchpanel, in the housing, in accordance with an expedient development of

the invention the module bearing profile being provided with latching and holding grooves.

5 A further embodiment of the invention provides that the two longitudinal walls of the basic module are formed by two partition walls which can be latched in.

10 In this case, it has proven to be favorable with regard to the desired effective utilization of space that the side walls engage in the latching and holding grooves, which are integrated in each module bearing profile, and form a module housing.

15 Within the sense of improved handling of the above-described electrical switchgear assembly designed according to the invention, a latching ball and/or locking disk is provided which is integrated in the module bearing profile and, by means of latching into a base bearing rail of the housing, thereby jointly forms
20 a defined position.

An advantageous feature of this design has proven to be the fact that the withdrawable-part locking means formed by means of the locking disk or latching ball,
25 the module bearing profile and the cutout in the base plate in conjunction with the respective module front is safe from arcing faults.

30 Likewise in order to improve handling of the respective module of the electrical switchgear assembly according to the invention, a module grip, which makes it possible to pull and push the basic module in question in the switchpanel, is arranged on the front end side of each basic module.

35 These and further advantageous configurations and improvements of the invention are the subject matter of the dependent claims.

The invention, advantageous configurations and improvements of the invention and particular advantages of the invention will be explained and described in more detail with reference to an exemplary embodiment of the invention illustrated in the attached drawing, in which:

figure 1 shows an exploded illustration of a basic withdrawable module with an exemplary configuration,

figure 2 shows a base plate with an exemplary configuration.

Figure 1 shows a basic withdrawable module 10 with an exemplary configuration, in an exploded illustration.

This basic module 10 has a module bearing profile 12 with guide grooves 11 which is guided safely by two rails 14, which are arranged parallel to one another, on the base plate 41 (see figure 2).

The module bearing profile 12, which can be produced, for example, from sheet metal, cast aluminum or else plastic, is provided with a groove-like depression 18, which is molded in along the center and into which circular cutouts 20 are formed at regular intervals, which cutouts are suitable, for example, for fastening and fixing, in an interlocking manner, further components and/or internals, which are not shown in any more detail here. Arranged on both sides of this depression along the center are, orthogonal thereto, slots 22 of the same length and width at a defined distance from one another and from the edge.

These slots 22 are provided in order to ensure optimum ventilation and cooling of the basic module or its

internals. They correspond to the slots 42 (see figure 2) in the respective base plate 41 (see figure 2).

5 Provided in the module bearing profile 12 is a receptacle for a latching element 13, which is referred to as a latching ball and, in interaction with corresponding cutouts 43 in the respective base plate 41 (see figure 2), ensures a defined positioning of the basic module in relation to the base plate.

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Provided on the longitudinal sides of the module bearing profile 12 are side walls 24, which are provided with openings and likewise adjoin the module bearing profile 12 in an interlocking manner.

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A terminating part 26 in the form of a module rear wall is used on the rear end side of the basic withdrawable module 10 and, for its part, is connected in an interlocking manner to the module bearing profile 12 as well as to the side walls 24. In this case, a measuring device, in particular a measuring device having means for measured-variable detection and/or measured-variable preprocessing, are advantageously integrated in the terminating part.

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The front end side is formed by a front module 28, which is likewise connected in an interlocking manner to the module bearing profile 12 as well as to the side walls 24. In the exemplary embodiment shown, the front module 28 is provided with a control device 30. A toggle switch 32 is used to switch over between different operating states of the basic module, to switch a switching device located in the interior of the module and to actuate the locking disk 15. The locking disk 15, the module bearing profile 12 and the cutouts 44 in the base plate 41 (cf. figure 2) interact with one another and ensure that the basic module 10 latches in the respective device area of the switchgear

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assembly, for example a switchgear cabinet, in a manner which is safe from arcing faults.

A handle 34, which is screwed onto the front module 28,
5 is used to handle the basic withdrawable module 10.

Figure 2 shows a perspective illustration of a base plate 41 with rails 14, which are arranged parallel to one another, for guiding the basic withdrawable module
10 10 or the guide grooves 11 of the module bearing profile.

Furthermore, the cutouts 43 in the base plate 41 are shown which, in interaction with the latching element
15 13, bring about a defined positioning of the basic module in relation to the base plate.

The cutouts 44 in the base plate 41, which interact with the locking disk 15 and the module bearing profile
20 12 and ensure that the basic module 10 latches in the respective device area of the switchgear assembly, for example a switchgear cabinet, in a manner which is safe from arcing faults, are also shown.

CLAIMS:

1. An electric switching system, comprising a housing and components arranged therein as control and/or measuring unit, with the components being arranged in modular racks which comprise a module support profile used as a base part and optionally lateral boundary walls (24) and a base plate (41),
characterized in
that at least one base module (10) is provided with at least one module support profile (12) and with side walls (24) and inserts (26, 28) on the face side, with the base module (10) being securely guided on the base plate (41), a face wall (28) of the base module, preferably its front side, is formed by a control unit and its opposite face wall (26) by a measuring unit, the dimensions of the control and measuring unit are adjusted to the mass of the module, side walls (24) cooperate with holding grooves provided in each module support profile (12) and form a module housing, and a locking ball (13) and/or locking disk is provided as a holding element for a defined position of the base module (10) which cooperates with the module support profile (12) and respective recesses (43) in the base plate (41).
2. An electric switching system according to claim 1, characterized in that each base module (10) is held by means of two rails (14) which are parallel with respect to each other and belong to the module support profile (12).
3. An electric switching system according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the guide grooves (11) belonging to the module support profile (12) cooperate with associated rails (14) on the base plate (41) and thereby the base module (10) is guided on both sides in the component space in the housing provided as a control panel.
4. An electric switching system according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the module support profile (12) is provided with circular recesses (20) and oblong holes.

5. An electric switching system according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the two longitudinal walls (24) of the base module (10) is formed by two snap-in separating walls.
6. An electric switching system according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a locking disk (15), by latching into a recess (44) in the base plate (41) of the housing, jointly forms a slide-in latch.
7. An electric switching system according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the slide-in latch formed by means of the locking disk (15), module support profile (12) and base plate (41) is fault-arc-proof.
8. An electric switching system according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a module handle (32) is arranged on the front face side of each base module, which handle enables the positioning of the respective base module (10) in the control panel.
9. An electric switching system according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that all triggering, measuring and signaling functions are integrated in the base module.
10. A base module with at least one base module (10) with at least one module support profile (12) and with side walls (24) and inserts (26, 28) on the face side, with the base module (10) being securely guided on the base plate (41), a face wall (28) of the base module, preferably its front side, is formed by a control unit and its opposite face wall (26) by a measuring unit, the dimensions of the control and measuring unit are adjusted to the mass of the module, side walls (24) cooperate with holding grooves provided in each module support profile (12) and form a module housing, and a locking ball (13) and/or locking disk is provided as a holding element for a defined position of the base module (10) which cooperates with the module support profile (12) and respective recesses (43) in the base plate (41), for an electric switching system, especially a medium-voltage or low-voltage switching system, according to one of the claims 1 to 9.