

CAPIEL 

european coordinating committee of manufacturers
of electrical switchgear and controlgear

**What does functional safety
mean?**

What is functional safety?

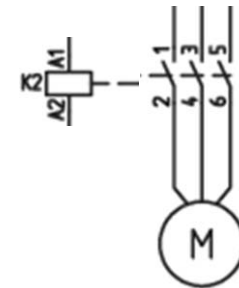
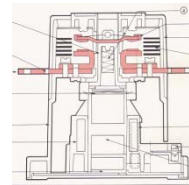
- It is about things working safely and productively
- It is about a methodology for a safe design
- **It is about** how to demonstrate it is safe
- **It is about** implementing a solution that takes into account **technical and economic aspects**



What makes safety specific

- Is a contactor controlling a motor driving a fan a safety device

?



Contactors in its intended application

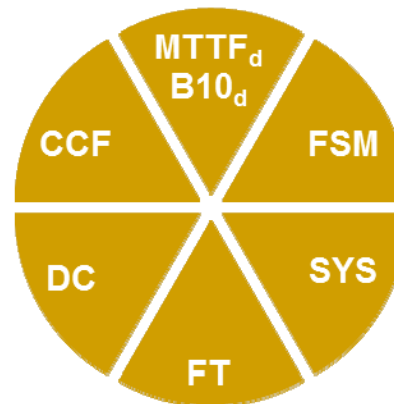
- **What happens if the contactor doesn't work?**
- **How does it fail?**
- **Does the contactor fail in the on/off/unknown state?**
- **Do any of these states represent a dangerous state?**
- **In this case of building ventilation, most of the failures are inconvenient rather than dangerous**



Contactor in machine application

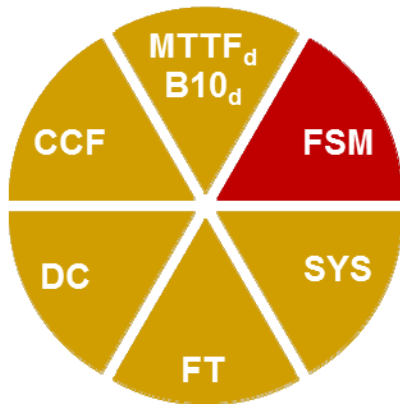
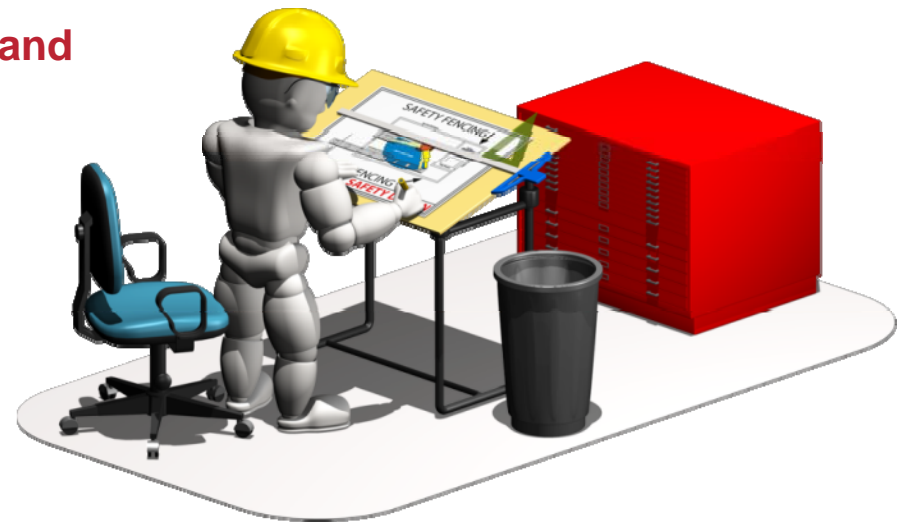
- There is a risk – how high is the risk (occurrence, severity)?
- Is a normal contactor good enough?
- How do we know?
- What do we need to do to check that it is good enough?

We need to apply a functional safety methodology



Who, what, when?

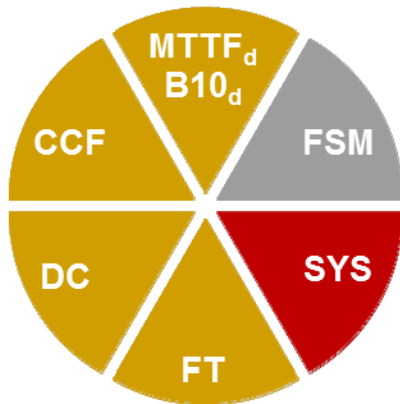
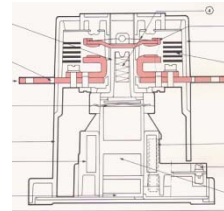
- Is there a need for risk reduction at the machine level?
- Can we achieve this risk reduction with a control system function?
- Do we have sufficient competencies and human resources?
- Is there a clear and documented project plan for safety including Validation?
- Does everyone know what their tasks and responsibilities are?
- Is this all we need???



FSM = Functional safety management

What about systematic failure?

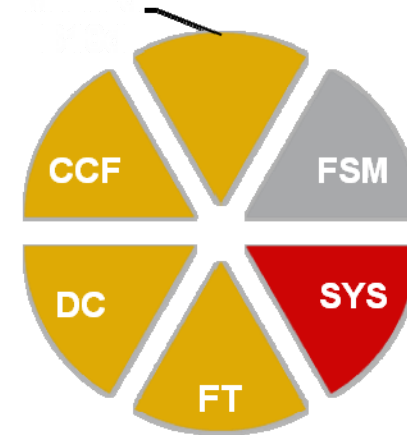
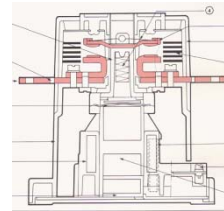
- Is power ratings, utilisation category, vibration, shock, overvoltage, environment, durability and short-circuit coordination taken into account?
- If you change the motor from IE1 to IE3 and install a new transformer, is the contactor still suitable for this application?
- Is this all we need?



SYS = Systematic integrity

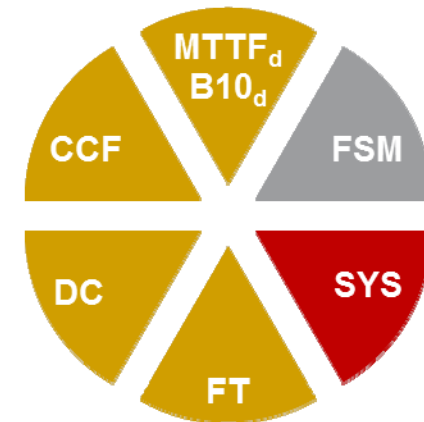
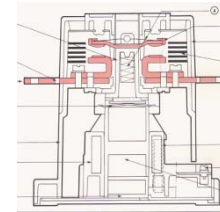
How often will it operate?

- Only when something is wrong and someone pushes the emergency switch
- Every day when the machine is turned off
- Every machine cycle
- On Regular maintenance tests



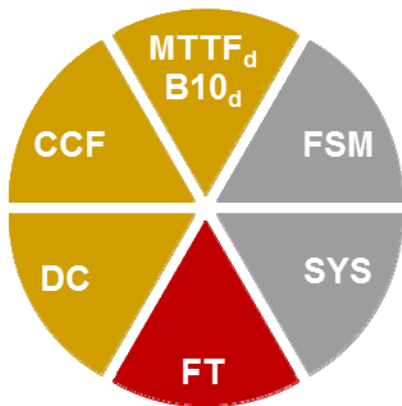
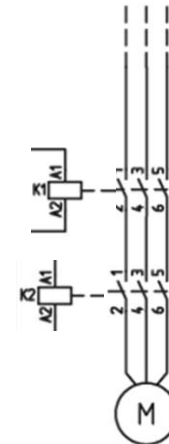
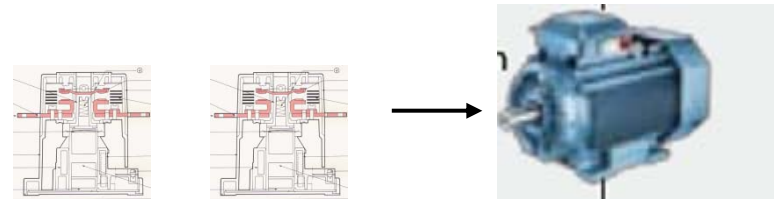
How often will it operate?

- **High demand means more than one operation/year** – main reasons to fault is “wear out” (e.g.: parts break)
- **Low demand means less than once a year** – main reasons to fault is “ageing” (e.g.: lubrication get sticky, plastic get fragile)
- **Continuous mode means safety function is part of normal operation and retains equipment in a safe state**



Do We Need Two?

- Do we need 2 contactors?
- High risk – we might need two...

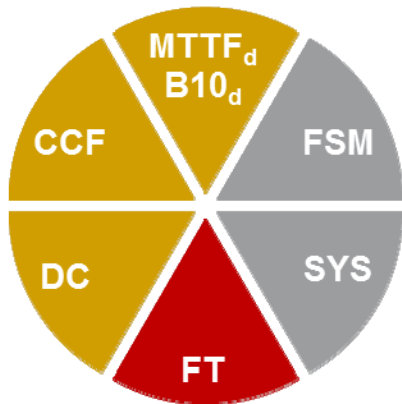
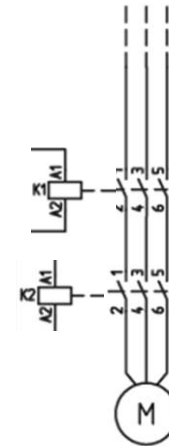
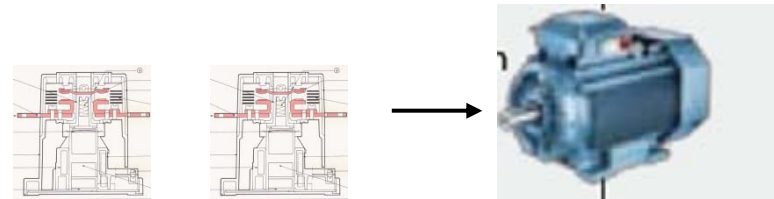


FT = Fault tolerant

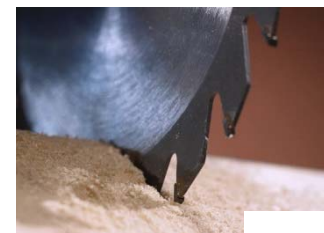


What If One Fails

- If one fails – do we know?
- Do we need to know??
- In this case we have no diagnostics and the fault is not detected
- Without diagnostics we might continue to use the machine until a second fault occurs.



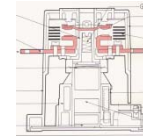
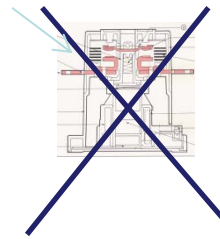
FT = Fault Tolerance



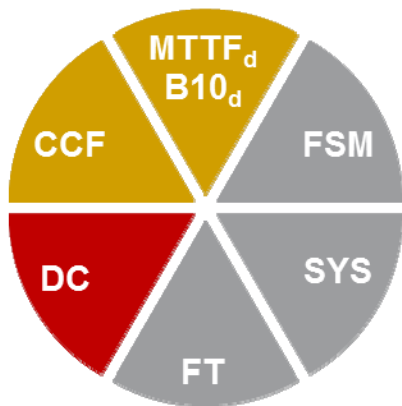
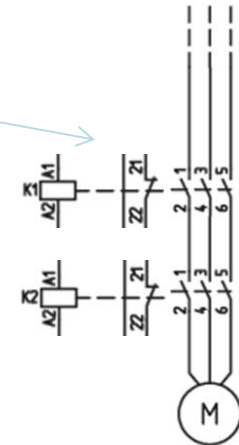
Diagnostic Coverage

- **Diagnostics can detect the first fault**

Contacts welded



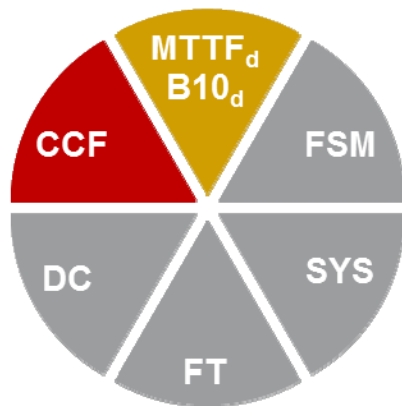
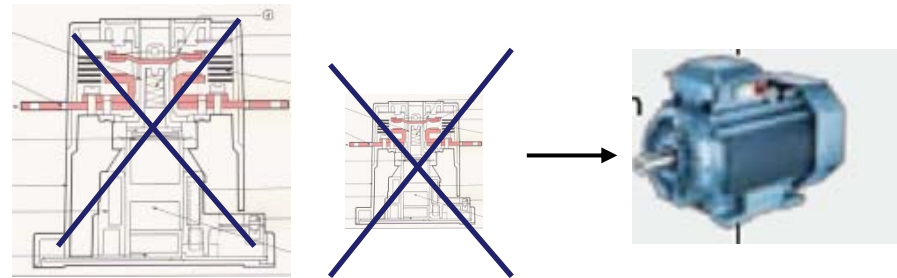
Mirror contacts



DC = Diagnostic Coverage

Common Cause Failure

- What happens if they both fail at the same time?



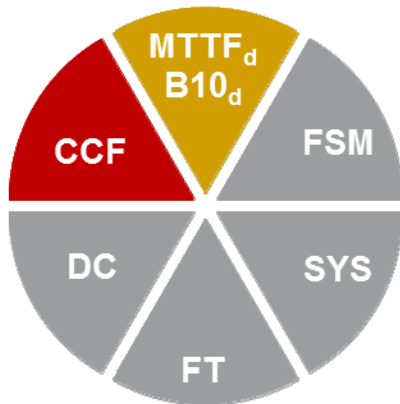
CCF = Common cause failure

Common Cause Failure

- One means of addressing CCF is to adopt diversity and over-dimensioning



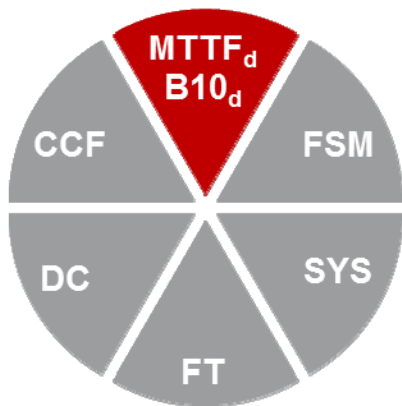
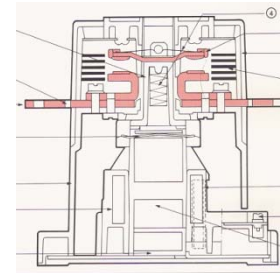
Mirror contacts indicate fault and Safety PLC or safety relay will send signal to CB to open



CCF = Common cause failure

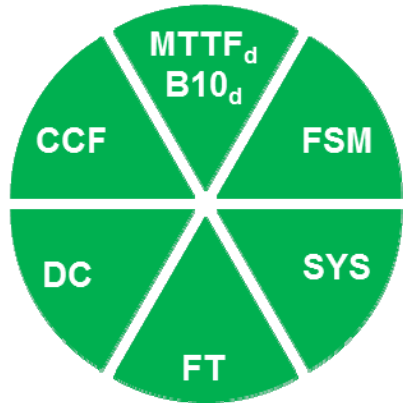
How Good Is It??

- What is the reliability of these contactors?
- Which is the most suitable to my application?
- Component/sub-system standard must address functional safety applications
- See IEC 60947-4-1 Annex K



MTTF_d = Mean time to a dangerous failure

The abbreviations...



If any of the points listed above aren't dealt with properly we could fail to achieve our goal of a functionally safe system.

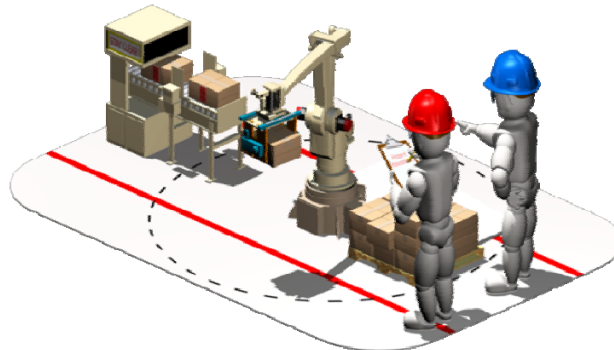
- **B10_d** – Number of cycles until 10% of devices have Dangerous Failure
- **MTTF_d** – Mean Time To Dangerous Failure

$$MTTF_d = \frac{B10_d}{0.1 \times \text{Cycles/year}}$$

- **FT** – Fault Tolerance
- **DC_{avg}** – Diagnostic Coverage
- **CCF** – Common Cause Failure
- **SYS** – Systematic Integrity
- **FSM** – Functional Safety Management

Functional safety benefits

- **Integration of functional safety into the global design leads to:**
 - More safe and productive machine
 - Reduction of the life cycle cost both for the machine and the operation
 - Better integration of the safety control system design within the machine design process



What is necessary for machine builders?

- Definition of the failure modes
- Reliability data e.g. B10 and failure mode ratio, $MTTF_d$
- Maintenance aspects: to be integrated in the instruction manual
- Utilisation categories
- Integration constraint
- Reliability data should be given in accordance with a relevant international standard, e.g. for contactors, IEC 60947-4-1 Annex K
- CAPIEL has published default values for B10 and failure mode ratios and $MTTF_d$ that can be used where more precise data is not given by the manufacturer

