

Installation Planning Guide EZDP-2061 Rev D Brush Condition Monitoring



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1. About Cutsforth

Cutsforth specializes in developing innovative new technologies and services to support the power generation industry. Cutsforth's patented EASYchange® brush holder design, online truing service, InsightCM™ condition monitoring software, and patented shaft grounding and monitoring systems have been installed across the globe in generators of all sizes and in nearly every industry application, including nuclear, natural gas, coal, wind, and hydroelectric.

Cutsforth's knowledge and commitment to excellence drives our innovative solutions for the changing needs of the power industry. Whether it is a quick response to a critical situation or a new way of solving an old problem, our commitment to quality ensures that our customers receive best-in-class products and services—Cutsforth is the Power of Innovation.

Cutsforth started back in 1991 as a small company focused primarily on making replacement brush holders for generators and exciters. Today, after 30+ years in business, Cutsforth's experience and innovative designs have brought its best-in-class excitation brush holder and shaft grounding replacements and collector ring services to some of the world's largest power companies.

1.1. Cutsforth Products

- [EASYchange® Removable Brush Holders](#)
- [EASYchange® Brush Condition Monitoring](#)
- [Cutsforth Shaft Grounding Systems](#)
- [Rotor Flux Monitoring](#)
- [Electro-Magnetic Interference Monitoring](#)
- [InsightCM™ Condition Monitoring Software](#)

1.2. Cutsforth Field Services

Cutsforth provides comprehensive product installations for all product offerings as well as on-site training after the installation. We work efficiently during your outage to ensure a smooth upgrade to our innovative solutions such as Product Installations, Online Collector Ring and Commutator Truing, Spiral Groove Restoration, and Consulting and Emergency Services.

1.3. Cutsforth Automation and Control Services

Cutsforth provides comprehensive Automation and Control services which include data historian integration, InsightCM™ integration, DCS logic, engineered drawings and much more. This further complements our turnkey monitoring system installations.

2. Legal Information

2.1. Limited Warranty

This document is provided 'as is' and is subject to being changed, without notice, in future editions. Cutsforth reviews this document carefully for technical accuracy; however, CUTSFORTH MAKES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY AS TO THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION WITHIN THIS MANUAL AS IT RELATES TO SPECIFIC INSTALLATION. THE CUSTOMER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING INSTALLATION AND OPERATING CONDITIONS AT EACH INSTALLATION LOCATION AND FOR EACH GENERATOR TYPE. Cutsforth warrants that its hardware products will be free of defects in materials and workmanship that cause the product to fail to substantially conform to the applicable Cutsforth published specifications for one (1) year from the date of invoice.

For a period of ninety (90) days from the date of invoice, Cutsforth warrants that (i) its software products will perform substantially in accordance with the applicable documentation provided with the software, and (ii) the software media will be free from defects in materials and workmanship. If Cutsforth receives notice of a defect or non-conformance during the applicable warranty period, Cutsforth will, in its discretion: (i) repair or replace the affected product, or (ii) refund the fees paid for the affected product. Repaired or replaced hardware will be warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period or ninety (90) days, whichever is longer. If Cutsforth elects to repair or replace the product, Cutsforth may use new or refurbished parts or products that are equivalent to new in performance and reliability and are at least functionally equivalent to the original part or product. You must obtain an RMA number from Cutsforth before returning any product to Cutsforth. Cutsforth reserves the right to charge a fee for examining and testing hardware not covered by the Limited Warranty.

This Limited Warranty does not apply if the defect of the product resulted from improper or inadequate maintenance, installation, repair, or calibration performed by a party other than Cutsforth; unauthorized modification; improper environment; use of an improper hardware or software key; improper use or operation outside of the specification for the product; improper voltages; accident, abuse, or neglect; or a hazard such as lightning, flood, or other act of nature.

THE REMEDIES SET FORTH ABOVE ARE EXCLUSIVE AND THE CUSTOMER'S SOLE REMEDIES, AND SHALL APPLY EVEN IF SUCH REMEDIES FAIL OF THEIR ESSENTIAL PURPOSE.

WARNING REGARDING USE OF CUTSFORTH SHAFT MONITORING EQUIPMENT: CUSTOMER IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING AND VALIDATING THE SUITABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE PRODUCTS WHENEVER THE PRODUCTS ARE INCORPORATED IN THEIR SYSTEM OR APPLICATION, INCLUDING THE APPROPRIATE DESIGN, PROCESS, AND SAFETY LEVEL OF SUCH SYSTEM OR APPLICATION. PRODUCTS ARE NOT DESIGNED, MANUFACTURED, OR TESTED FOR USE IN LIFE OR SAFETY CRITICAL SYSTEMS, OR ANY OTHER APPLICATION IN WHICH THE FAILURE OF THE PRODUCT OR SERVICE COULD LEAD TO DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY, SEVERE PROPERTY DAMAGE OR ENVIRONMENTAL HARM (COLLECTIVELY, "HIGH-RISK USES"). FURTHER, PRUDENT STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO PROTECT AGAINST FAILURES, INCLUDING PROVIDING BACK-UP AND SHUT-DOWN MECHANISMS. CUTSFORTH EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS OF THE PRODUCTS OR SERVICES FOR HIGH-RISK USES.

CUTSFORTH DOES NOT WARRANT, GUARANTEE, OR MAKE ANY REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF OR THE RESULTS OF THE USE OF THE PRODUCTS IN TERMS OF CORRECTNESS, ACCURACY, RELIABILITY, OR OTHERWISE. CUTSFORTH DOES NOT WARRANT THAT THE OPERATION OF THE PRODUCTS WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED OR ERROR FREE. INCIDENTAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING LOSS OF USE, ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM THIS WARRANTY; THE MAXIMUM VALUE OF A WARRANTY CLAIM CANNOT EXCEED THE ORIGINAL VALUE OF THE ASSEMBLY OR COMPONENT.

2.2. Copyright

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2.3. Patents

Please send patent information requests to patents@cutsforth.com.

2.4. Federal Communications Commission Requirements

2.4.1. Brush Condition Monitoring - Primary Controller

Primary Controller: Utilizes Intel RF module 8265NG

FCC ID: PD98265NG

IC ID: 1000M-8265NG

2.4.2. Brush Health Sensor

Part #: EBHS001

FCC ID: 2ARPJ-EBHS001

IC ID: 24545-EBHS001

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

(1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and

(2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.



Caution: User changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.



Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

2.5. ISED Canada Regulatory Compliance Statement

This device contains licence-exempt transmitter(s)/receiver(s) that comply with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada licence-exempt RSS(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause interference.
2. This device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

L'émetteur/récepteur exempt de licence contenu dans le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Innovation, Sciences et Développement économique Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes :

1. L'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage;
2. L'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

3. Safety Information

3.1. Safety Information [English]

Following is important safety information. For safe installation and operation of this equipment, be sure to read and understand all cautions and warnings.

3.1.1. Safety Conventions



NOTE:

Additional information.



ELECTRICAL DANGER

Indicates an action or specific equipment area that can result in personal injury or death from an electrical hazard if proper precautions are not taken.



CAUTION

Indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury or equipment damage.



WARNING

Indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.



ROTATING PART CAUTION

Indicates possible injury from rotating parts.



DANGER

Indicates a hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

3.1.2. General Safety Instructions



ELECTRICAL DANGER

Only qualified personnel who recognize shock hazards and are familiar with the safety precautions required to avoid injury should work with Cutsforth products. Among the many considerations are the following:

- Avoid contact with energized circuits.
- Avoid contact with rotating parts.
- Never install any component that appears not to be functioning in a normal manner.
- Always ensure proper installation of the holder assembly and shaft grounding rope.



ELECTRICAL DANGER

Before working on the generator, de-energize, lock out, and tag out all power sources to the generator, shaft, and accessory devices. Electric shock and death may result due to failure to heed this warning.



ROTATING PART CAUTION

High-voltage and rotating parts can cause serious or fatal injury. Installation, operation, and maintenance of this product must be performed only by qualified personnel, in accordance with all applicable safety regulations and guidelines.



WARNING

Never mix different carbon brush grades or brushes from different manufacturers on the same unit.

3.2. Consignes de Sécurité [Français]

Les informations qui suivent sont essentielles afin d'assurer la sécurité de l'utilisateur lors de l'installation et de l'opération de l'équipement. Assurez-vous de bien lire et de comprendre tous les avertissements et mises en garde qui suivent.

3.2.1. Conventions de Sécurité



NOTE:

Informations supplémentaires.



RISQUES DE CHOC ÉLECTRIQUE

Indique que l'action ou la partie de l'équipement concernée peut mener à des blessures par électrisation ou à la mort par électrocution si les précautions adéquates ne sont pas prises.



MISE EN GARDE

Indique la présence d'une situation dangereuse qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, pourrait mener à des blessures mineures à modérées ou à des dommages matériels.



AVERTISSEMENT

Indique la présence d'une situation dangereuse qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, pourrait mener à des blessures sévères ou à la mort.



MISE EN GARDE : PIÈCE ROTATIVE

Indique la présence de pièces d'équipement rotatives pouvant causer des blessures.



DANGER

Indique la présence d'une situation dangereuse qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, pourrait mener à des blessures sévères ou à la mort.

3.2.2. Consignes de Sécurité Générales



RISQUES DE CHOC ÉLECTRIQUE

L'utilisation des produits Cutsforth n'est recommandée qu'aux professionnels qualifiés qui savent comment reconnaître la présence de risques de choc électrique ainsi que les consignes de sécurité à suivre pour éviter les blessures liées à ces risques. Lesdites consignes de sécurité incluent, sans s'y limiter :

- Éviter tout contact avec des circuits alimentés;
- Éviter tout contact avec des pièces d'équipement rotatives;
- Ne jamais installer de composante ne paraissant pas fonctionner normalement;
- Toujours s'assurer que la structure de soutien et le câble de terre de l'arbre de la génératrice sont correctement installés.



RISQUES DE CHOC ÉLECTRIQUE

Avant de travailler sur la génératrice, désalimentez, cadenassez et étiquetez toutes les sources d'énergies liées à la génératrice, à l'arbre et aux appareils accessoires. L'opérateur s'expose à des risques de chocs électriques pouvant causer la mort s'il ne tient pas compte de cet avertissement.



MISE EN GARDE : PIÈCE ROTATIVE

Les pièces d'équipement rotatives et sous haute tension peuvent causer des blessures sévères ou fatales. L'installation, l'opération et la manutention de ce produit ne doivent être faites que par des professionnels qualifiés et en respectant toutes les règles et consignes de sécurité applicables.



AVERTISSEMENT

Ne jamais utiliser de frotteurs de différentes qualités ou venant de différents fabricants sur le même appareil.

4. Installation Planning Guide for the Cutsforth Brush Condition Monitoring System

This document serves as a guide for planning the installation of the Brush Condition Monitoring System (BCM).



This manual does not cover all details or variations in equipment, nor does it consider every possible contingency for installation, operation, or maintenance. If you have questions or concerns that are not addressed in this manual, contact Cutsforth Engineering Support.

5. Installation Strategies

Determine the best component locations for your installation by applying the following strategies.

5.1. Identify a Suitable Installation Location for the Primary Controller Enclosure

The Brush Condition Monitoring System has an operating temperature range of -20°C (-4°F) to 70°C (158°F). Avoid mounting the enclosure in areas that approach the limits of or depart from this temperature range on a regular basis. If possible, avoid mounting the monitoring system in a location that experiences direct sunlight for extended periods of time throughout the day. If sunshine exposure is unavoidable, inquire with Cutsforth about installation of a sun-shield.

The monitoring system should be installed in such a way that does not complicate generator disassembly during outages.

The monitoring system should be mounted in a location that does not experience excessive vibrations. Mounting directly to rotating equipment, such as a generator, or other structures with known vibrations, is not recommended. All cabling should be strain-relieved near input connectors. Take care to not directionally bias cable connectors when applying strain relief.

The Cutsforth Brush Health Sensors will be installed on Cutsforth EASYchange® brush holder equipment. This is a pre-requisite for the Brush Condition Monitoring installation. The primary controller and its optional Auxiliary Display are the HMI (Human-Machine Interface) components for the system. It will be important to select a Primary Controller mounting location that is in close proximity to the collector area. A worker performing brush changes will interact with the controller and the brushes on a brush-by-brush basis. Therefore, a mounting location within a few steps of the brush gear makes sense whereas a distant location would not. See below image for example. The Brush Condition Monitoring System enclosures are typically mounted using a Unistrut® frame as shown in the example below.



5.2. (Optional) Determine Auxiliary Display Location

The Auxiliary Display is a fully-functioning duplication of the primary display that can be placed at a secondary location near the brush rigging if desired. A common installation would be on the other side of the shaft from the Primary Controller to provide an HMI at both working locations. The Auxiliary Display should be mounted within a 25ft cable run of the Primary Controller.

5.3. Determine Optimal Antenna Location

Physical barriers may be present between the Brush Health Sensors and the Brush Condition Monitoring System. The ideal antenna placement (**A**) would be one which does not have any physical barriers between the Brush Health Sensors and the antenna. Penetrations may be required in the brush compartment in order to mount the antenna in the optimal position. Cutsforth recommends the antenna be placed inside the exciter enclosure.



5.4. Power Requirements

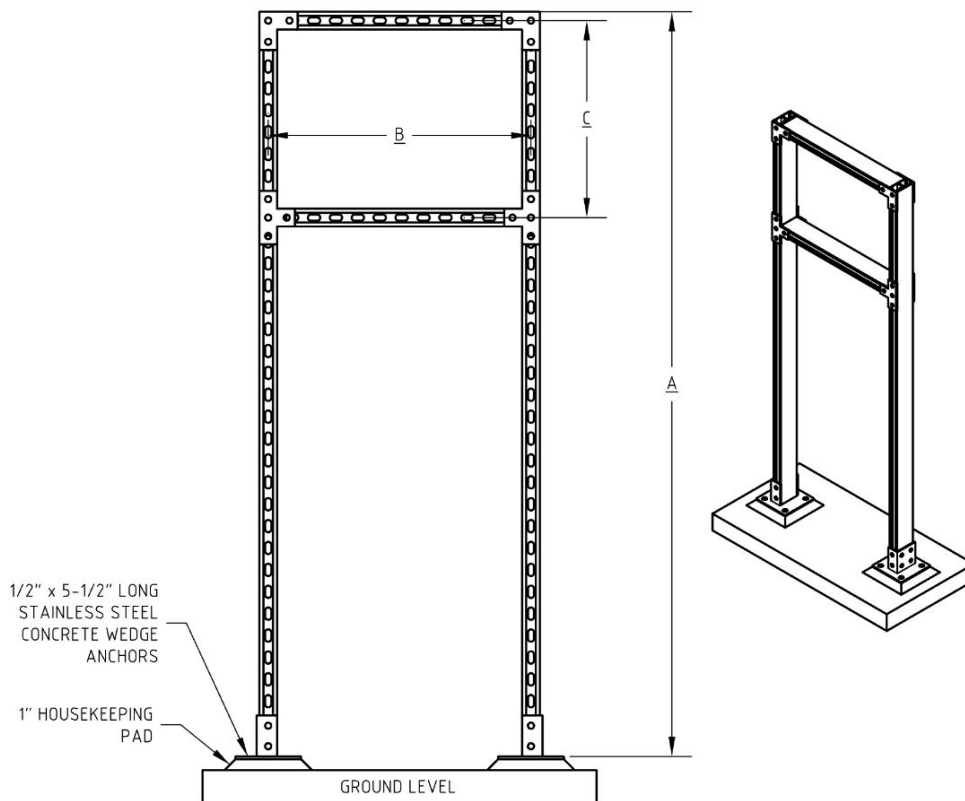
Power Requirement	Value
Voltage	85-264 VAC
Recommended breaker size	20 A
Recommended power cabling wire gauge	12 AWG
Actual operational current draw	~ .5 A at 120 VAC

5.5. Conduit and Strut Channel Recommendations

Component	Standard Recommendation	Recommendation for High-Corrosion Environments
Conduit type	Galvanized rigid metal conduit (RMC)	Rigid Aluminum Conduit (RAC)
Conduit fittings type	Malleable	Aluminum
Strut channel type	Hot dipped galvanized, back-to-back	316 Stainless steel
Mounting hardware	316 Stainless steel	316 Stainless steel
Liquid flexible metallic conduit	Type HCX	Type HCX

Cutsforth recommends that a duct seal be used to seal the inside of any conduit entering the Cutsforth monitoring system enclosure(s). The duct seal should be non-permanent in nature to accommodate future equipment or cable maintenance.

5.5.1. Recommended Strut Rack Design



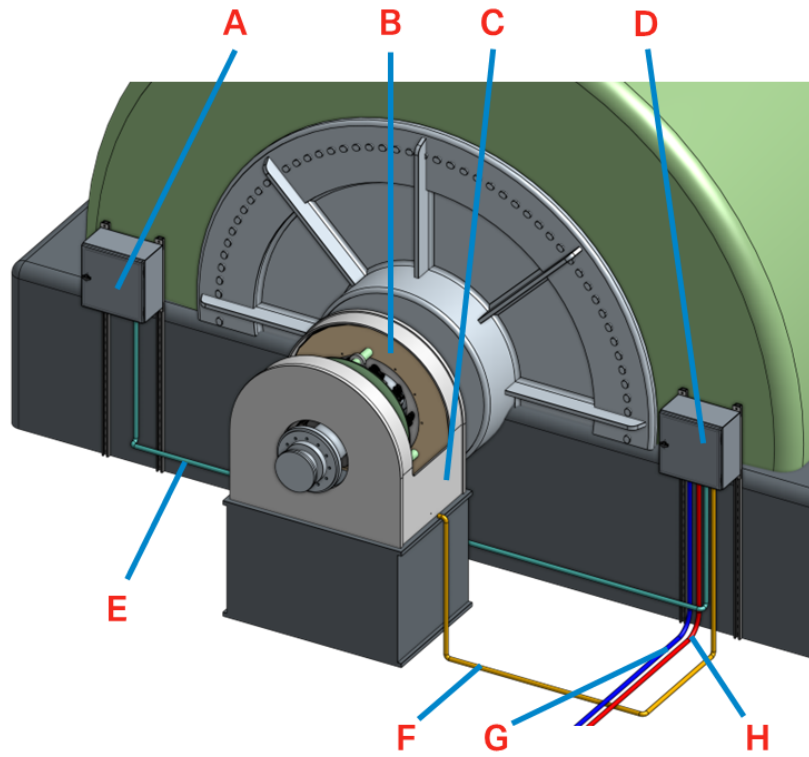
A (in (cm))	B (in (cm))	C (in (cm))
68 (173)	24 (61)	Refer to enclosure mounting feet dimensions

6. Diagrams

6.1. Conduit Layout

Color on Diagram (see below)	Conduit Run Description	Conduit Trade Size	Max Run Length	Wire Description	Purpose	Wire Supplied by	Conduit Supplied by
Blue	Plant 120VAC Power to BCM	3/4 in (2 cm)	N/A	AC 85-264 V AC, 47-440 Hz, 10 W20 A Circuit	Power for the Monitoring System	Plant Electrical Contractor	Plant Electrical Contractor
Yellow	Primary Controller to Exciter Housing	1/2 in (1.27 cm)	18ft (5.5 m)	LMR-240 Coax with SMA ends	Brush Health Sensor antenna signal cable	Cutsforth	Plant Electrical Contractor
Teal*	Primary Controller to Auxiliary Enclosure	3/4 in (2 cm)	25 ft (7.6 m)	Shielded 2-conductor; Two CAT5e ethernet cables	Aux display power, video, and touch signals	Cutsforth	Plant Electrical Contractor
Red (Optional)	BCM to Modbus Server	3/4 in (2 cm)	N/A	Ethernet cable	Modbus data outputs	Plant Electrical Contractor	Plant Electrical Contractor

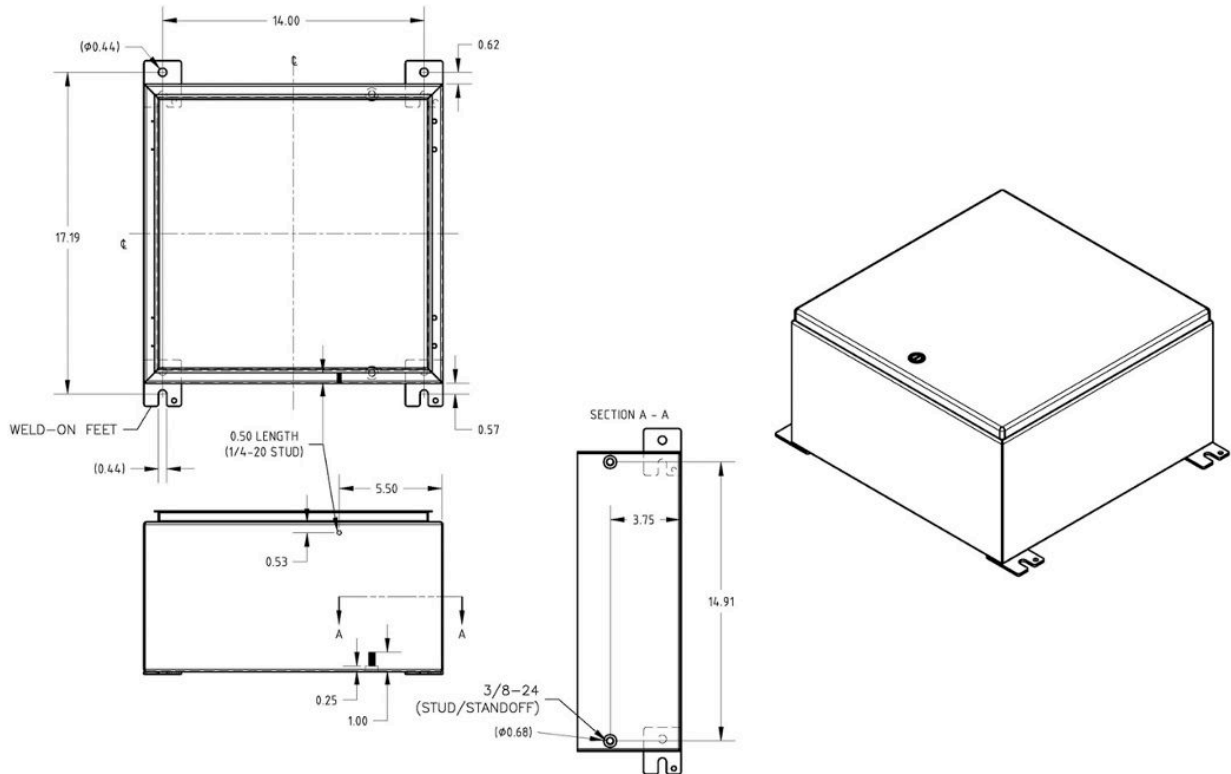
*Only applies when optional Auxiliary Display is being installed.



Part	Name
A	(Optional) Brush Condition Monitoring Auxiliary Display
B	EASYchange® Brush Holders and Brush Health Sensors
C	Antenna (inside exciter housing)
D	Brush Condition Monitoring System
E	(Optional) Teal: 3/4 in. (2 cm) Conduit from Primary Controller to Auxiliary Display
F	Yellow: 1/2 in. (1.27 cm) Conduit from Primary Controller to Exciter Housing
G	Blue: 3/4 in. (2 cm) Conduit from Plant Power Supply to Primary Controller
H	(Optional) Red: 3/4 in. (2 cm) Conduit for Modbus Output from BCM

6.2. Enclosure Specifications

Catalog Number	Dimensions [in (mm)]	Stainless Steel Type
CSD16168SS6-MODS-A	16.0 (406) x 16.0 (406) x 8.0 (203)	316



UL 508A Listed; Type 3R, 4, 4X, 12; File No. E61997

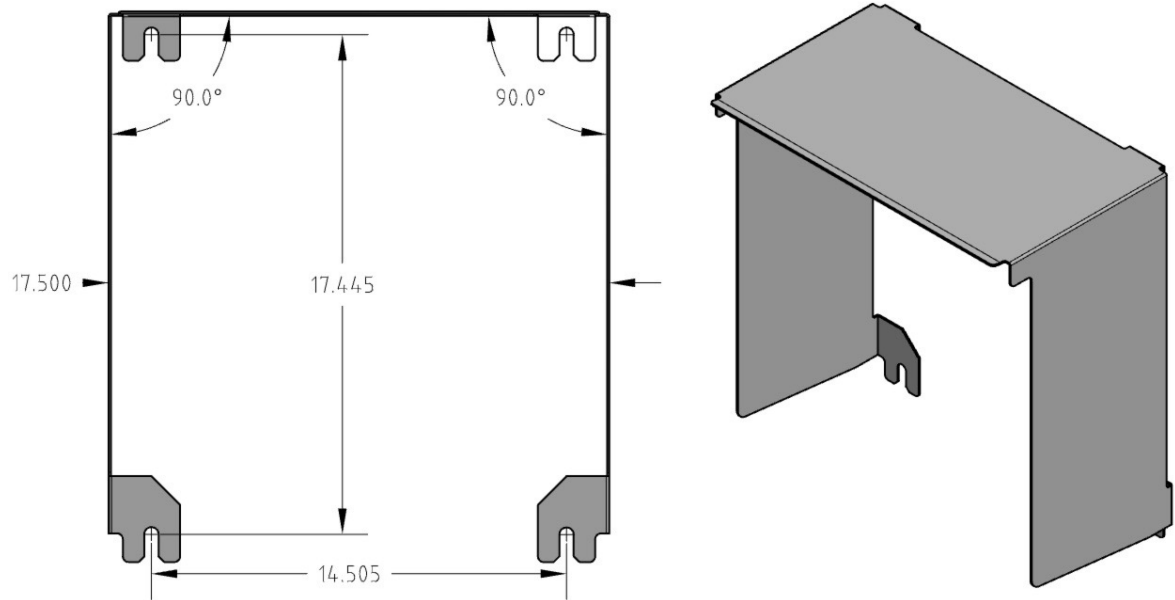
cUL Listed per CSA C22.2 No 94; Type 3R, 4, 4X, 12; File No. E61997

NEMA/EEMAC Type 3R, 4, 4X, 12, 13

CSA File No. 42186; Type 4, 4X, 12

VDE IP66 IEC 60529, IP66

Meets NEMA Type 3RX requirements



EXMC-002: Optional sunshield for outdoor installations.

7. Responsibilities

The following tables summarize the responsibilities of Cutsforth and the Plant during the three project phases.

7.1. Planning Phase

Task	Cutsforth	Plant
Review this planning guide and share it with key plant personnel involved in the project.		✓
Determine enclosure mounting position and conduit routes customized to the generator and ensure that they are within system guidelines.		✓
Select an electrical contractor and coordinate.		✓

7.2. Preparation for Service Phase



NOTE:

The responsibilities listed in the following table are critical to technician safety and proper installation of the Cutsforth equipment. Failure to comply may result in significant delays and additional charges.

Task	Cutsforth	Plant
Determine enclosure mounting position, customize conduit routes to generator, and ensure it is within system requirements.		✓
Mount monitoring system enclosure with supporting strut channel, punch conduit holes in enclosure, and install required conduit, complete with conductors installed.		✓
Install antenna in close proximity to brush gear.		✓
LOTO the following components: Main excitation system, ground detection system, and turning gear. LOTO needs to be in place prior to arrival of Cutsforth technicians.		✓
Provide 120V, GFI-protected power.		✓
Provide adequate working access to installation site including scaffolding, if applicable. Scaffolding must be erected prior to arrival of Cutsforth technicians.		✓
Ensure that the shaft is off turning gear and stationary.		✓
Ensure that the shaft is fully coupled for installation.		✓
Ensure that the bearing caps immediately adjacent to the shaft grounding area are in place.		✓

7.3. Cutsforth Service Phase – Cutsforth Technicians On-site

Task	Cutsforth	Plant
Install antenna wiring in completed conduit raceways	✓	
Make system wiring terminations	✓	
Install Brush Health Sensors on EASYchange® brushes	✓	
System testing and commissioning – Perform pairing of wireless Brush Health Sensors with the Primary Controller	✓	
Provide control room, server, network, and IT readiness required to test data communications beyond the monitoring system.		✓
Complete configuration, acceptance, and validation of data communications between the monitoring system and plant systems (DCS, historian, server, or network).		✓

Cutsforth's onsite testing and commissioning responsibilities are limited to verifying proper operation of the Brush Condition Monitoring System and confirming that valid data outputs are available at the monitoring system interface.

End-to-end validation of data communications to plant-owned systems (including servers, DCS, historians, networks, cabling, and permissions) requires that all plant systems be fully installed and operational at the time of service. If these systems are not ready during the site visit, Cutsforth technicians will complete system verification using internal tools and conclude the onsite work. Any remaining integration or data communications is the responsibility of the plant and may require additional services.

8. Glossary

antenna	A device, typically mounted inside the exciter enclosure, which helps facilitate wireless communications between the Brush Condition Monitoring System and the Brush Health Sensors.
antenna placement mode	An optional mode included in the Brush Condition Monitoring System which displays the wireless signal strength of each sensor in or order to assist in successful placement of the antenna.
attenuation	The reduction of the amplitude of a signal due to excessive cable length.
auxiliary display	An optional, secondary enclosure of the Brush Condition Monitoring System which consists of a fully-functioning duplicate display of the primary controller.
AWG	American Wire Gauge
Brush Condition Monitoring System	A Cutsforth EASYchange® monitoring system that performs automated measurements and brush health analytics that allow plant operators to improve the efficiency of technicians' daily and weekly tasks by dispatching them to the collector when maintenance is actually needed.
Brush Health Sensor (BHS)	A wireless sensor integrated into the brush spring which communicates with the Brush Condition Monitoring System.
DCS	Distributed Control System
LOTO	Lockout/Tagout
Modbus RTU	Modbus Remote Terminal Unit
Modbus TCP	Modbus Transmission Control Protocol
primary controller	The main enclosure of the Brush Condition Monitoring System, which contains the computer and power supply as well as the main touchscreen interface.