

# CT-8000

*digital circuit breaker analyzer*



**Vanguard Instruments Company, Inc.**  
[www.vanguard-instruments.com](http://www.vanguard-instruments.com)



# CT-8000

## digital circuit breaker analyzer

The CT-8000 is Vanguard's fifth generation, stand-alone, microprocessor-driven EHV circuit-breaker analyzer. This easy to use analyzer is available in models with either 3 (CT-8000-3) or 6 (CT-8000-6) dry-contact inputs. Both models feature three digital travel transducer input channels. The CT-8000 can operate either in Time-Travel analyzer mode or in "on-line" timing mode. In Time-Travel mode, the CT-8000 can fully analyze a circuit breaker's performance by testing the contact time, stroke, velocity, overtravel, and contact wipe. Contact motion analysis can be performed for all breaker contact operations (Open, Close, Open - Close, Close - Open, and Open - Close - Open). The CT-8000's timing window is selectable between 1-second, 10-second, or 20-second periods. The 10-second and 20-second timing windows are ideal for timing long duration events such as circuit-switcher contact testing. Using a 200-ampere, built-in, DC power supply, the CT-8000 can also perform dynamic-resistance tests.

### Dynamic Contact Resistance

The CT-8000 can perform dynamic-resistance tests using a 200-ampere, built-in, DC power supply. One channel is available for performing a dynamic contact resistance test. The resistance measuring range is from 1 micro-ohm to 1,999 micro-ohms. Using this test, the contact resistance can be monitored during circuit-breaker operation. This important feature can help detect circuit-breaker contact erosion or other contact problems that cannot be detected in static resistance tests. The CT-8000 can also be used as a 200-ampere micro-ohmmeter to test circuit-breaker contact resistance and bus connections, or can be used for other applications where a low-resistance measurement is required.

### "On-line" Timing Mode

In addition to the conventional off-line timing mode, the CT-8000 also offers an "on-line" timing mode. In this mode, the CT-8000 captures the breaker's trip or close time, the trip/close coil current "fingerprint," and the battery supply voltage while the breaker is still in service. The trip/close time is derived from the time of trip, or close coil initiation, to the breaker's bushing current breaker-make as detected by an AC clamp-on current sensing probe.

The "on-line" timing mode can detect a breaker's operating conditions with little or no down time. In this mode, the first trip operation time of the breaker is captured. If a breaker has been in service for a long period of time and sitting in close position, the first trip time of the breaker may be slow possibly due to a sticky mechanism. The "on-line" mode is very useful in such cases because traditional breaker timing may not detect this condition since several operations may have occurred before the first timing test is conducted.

1

### Contact Timing Inputs

Dry-contact input channels are used for timing breaker contacts. Each contact input channel can detect main contact and insertion-resistor contact times in milliseconds and cycles.

2

### Voltage Monitoring Inputs

One analog voltage input channel, designated as V1, is dedicated to monitoring a circuit-breaker's DC power supply or coil voltage (0 - 255 volts, DC or peak AC). A second voltage input channel, designated as V2, is dedicated to detecting the voltage on/off status (presence or absence) of an A/B switch.

3

### CT Input

One non-contact AC current sensor is used to monitor circuit breaker on-line current for the "on-line" timing mode.

## ordering information

Part number **CT-8000-3**

CT-8000 with 3 contact channels, cables, and PC software

Part number **CT-8000-6**

CT-8000 with 6 contact channels, cables, and PC software

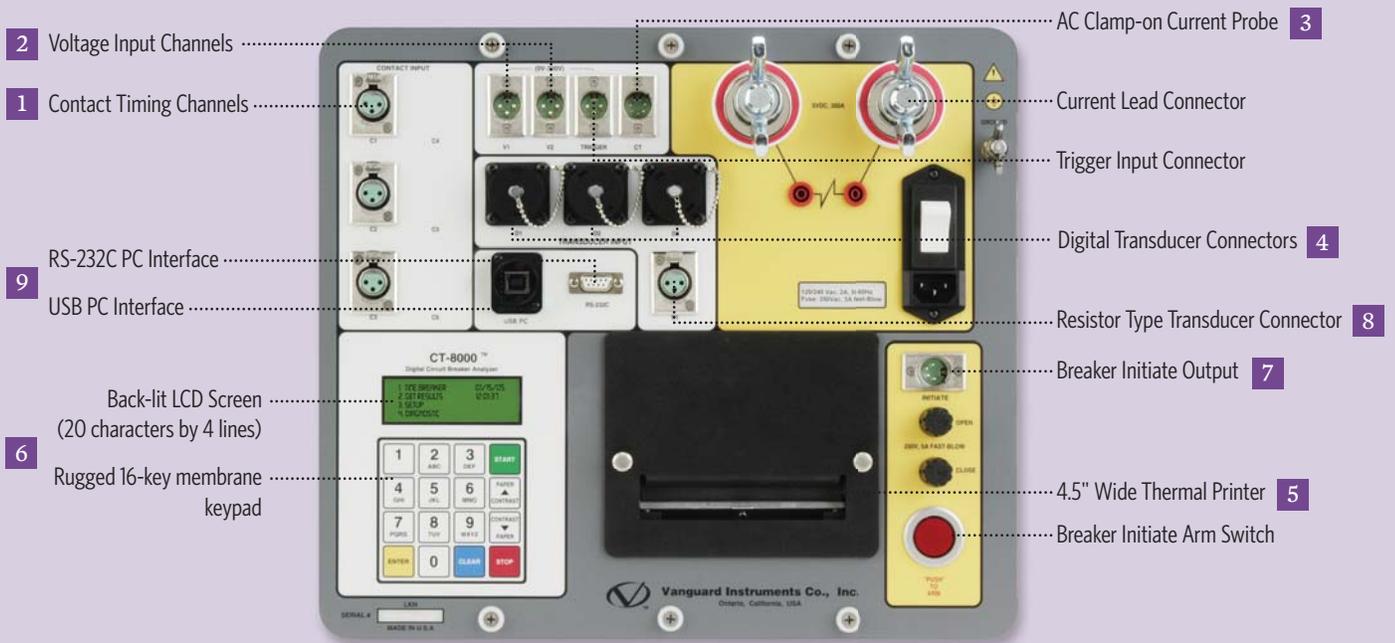
Part number **CT-8000-CASE**

CT-8000 shipping case

Part number **Paper-TP4**

Thermal printer paper

# CT-8000 Controls & Indicators



## 4 Breaker Stroke and Velocity

Three digital travel transducer channels are available on the CT-8000 for measuring circuit-breaker velocity, stroke, over-travel, and bounce-back. Unlike other transducer types, the digital transducer requires neither calibration nor setup. A breaker's contact velocity is calculated based on the contact's travel distance over a period of time. A special feature is also available to "slow-close" test a breaker and obtain a test result report.

## 5 Built-in Thermal Printer

The CT-8000's built-in 4.5-inch wide thermal printer can print the breaker contact analysis results in both tabular and graphic formats.

## 6 User Interface

The CT-8000 features a back-lit LCD screen (20 characters by 4 lines) that is viewable in both bright sunlight and low-light levels. A rugged, 16-key, membrane keypad is used to control the unit.

## 7 Breaker Initiate Features

A built-in solid-state initiate device is used to operate a breaker from the CT-8000. The operational modes include Open, Close, Open - Close, Close - Open, and Open - Close - Open. Multiple operations, such as Open - Close and Open - Close - Open, can be initiated by using programmable delay time or by sensing a breaker's contact condition.

A built-in Hall-effect current sensor records the Trip/Close current level and duration. The breaker's operate-coil current waveform duration (effectively, a performance "fingerprint" or "current profile") can be used as a diagnostic tool for analyzing a breaker's performance.er's contact condition.

## 8 Resistor-Type Transducer Input

One resistor type input channel is also available on the CT-8000. This input channel allows the unit to measure circuit-breaker motion by directly interfacing with resistive type transducers. The transducer resistance ranges from 200 ohms to 10K Ohms.

## 9 Computer Interface

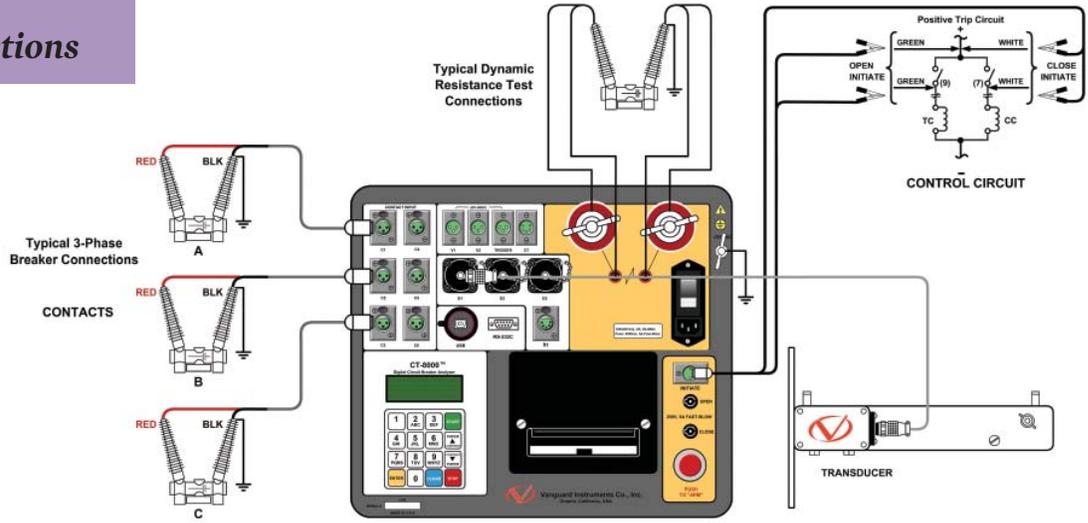
The CT-8000 can be computer-controlled via its RS-232C or USB interface. A Windows®-based Breaker-Analysis software application is provided with each unit. Using this software, circuit-breakers can be timed from the PC. Test records can be retrieved from the CT-8000 and then stored on the PC for future analysis and report generation. Circuit-breaker test plans can also be created on the PC and transferred to the CT-8000. Additionally, test records can be exported in Excel, PDF, and XML formats for further analysis.

## Internal Test Record and Test Plan Storage

The CT-8000 can store up to 150 test records in Flash EEPROM. Test records can be retrieved and printed on the built-in thermal printer, or they can be transferred to a PC via the unit's RS-232C or USB interface.

The CT-8000 can store up to 99 circuit-breaker test plans. Test plans are comprised of all circuit-breaker performance specifications (stroke, velocity, and contact time). A test plan can be used to immediately test a circuit-breaker. A pass/fail report is then generated by comparing actual performance with the specifications in the stored test plan. Test plans can also be generated on a PC and transferred to the CT-8000 via the unit's RS-232C or USB interface.

# CT-8000 connections



# CT-8000 desktop printer output

Desktop printout of tabulated test results



**Vanguard Instruments Company, Inc.**

Filename: GCB-43-CO2.dat Date/Time: 09/07/11 13:29:11  
 Company: BGE Manufacturer: ALSTOM  
 Station: HIGH RIDGE GIS S/N: 1-2-3  
 Circuit: FUTURE 43CKT Operator: YKH  
 Model: B1054 Test: CLOSE-OPEN

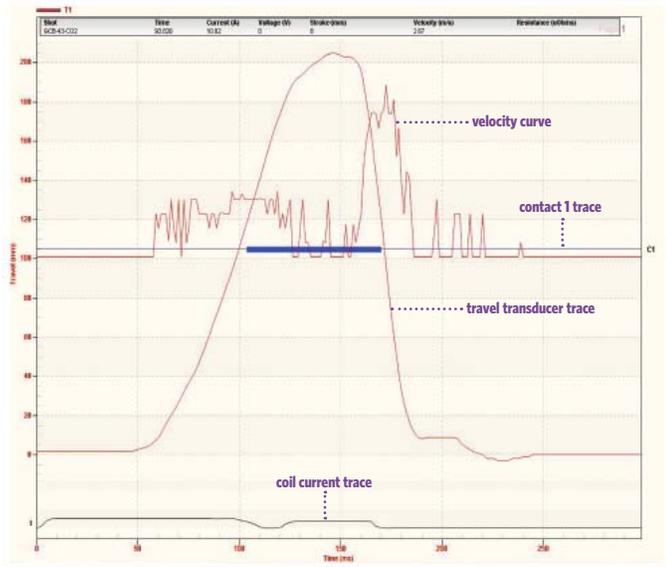
CONTACT (CLOSE)			CONTACT (OPEN)				
CHA	P/F Time(ms)	Cycle	Bounce(ms)	CHA	P/F Time(ms)	Cycle	Bounce(ms)
1	103.550	6.21	2.30	1	170.100	10.21	0.05
2	103.050	6.18	2.25	2	167.900	10.07	0.05
3	104.700	6.28	1.20	3	168.800	10.13	0.10
4	0.000	0.00	0.00	4	0.000	0.00	0.00
5	0.000	0.00	0.00	5	0.000	0.00	0.00
6	0.000	0.00	0.00	6	0.000	0.00	0.00

Delta Time(ms): 1.600 Delta Time(ms): 2.200

Travel Analysis	T1	T2	T3
Peak To Peak (mm)	207.137	208.788	211.455

Initiator Current: 10.988 A V1 Nominal: 1V V1 Min: 0V  
 Shot Length: 1 SEC  
 Insertion Resistor: None  
 Delay: None  
 Trigger: Internal

Desktop printout of graphic test results



# CT-8000 thermal printer output

Thermal printout of tabulated test results

**BREAKER TIMING RESULTS - 60 Hz**

SHOT NUMBER: 13  
 DATE: 12/28/11 TIME: 18:19:24

COMPANY:  
 STATION:  
 CIRCUIT:  
 MODEL:  
 SERIAL OPERATOR:

TEST: OCR OPEN

CONTACT	TIME	CYCLE	BOUNCE	RIPE
<ms>	<ms>	<ms>	<ms>	<ms>
1	98.20	3.08	0.00	31.1
2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0

DELTA TIME <ms>: 0.00

CT CHANNEL ANALYSIS  
 TIME CYCLE  
 <ms> <ms>  
 0.00 0.00

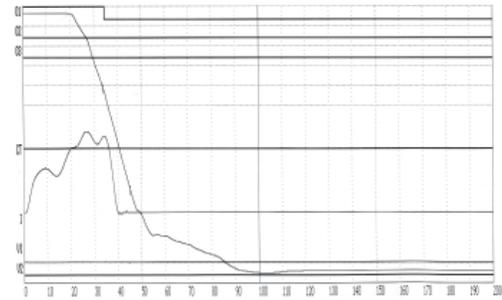
TRAVEL ANALYSIS T1  
 STROKE mm 102.2  
 SPEED mm/s 3.80  
 OVER-TRAVEL mm 1.3  
 BOUNCE BACK mm 0.1

SPEED ANALYSIS  
 POINT 1 = 30.0 mm  
 POINT 2 = 70.1 mm

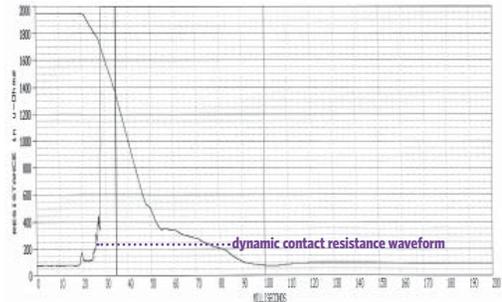
V1 NOMINAL VOLTAGE = 1 VOLTS  
 V1 MINIMUM VOLTAGE = 0 VOLTS  
 INITIATOR CURRENT = 9.9 AMPS

SHOT LENGTH: 1 SECOND  
 INSERTION RESISTOR: NO  
 TRIGGER: INTERNAL

Thermal printout of graphic test results

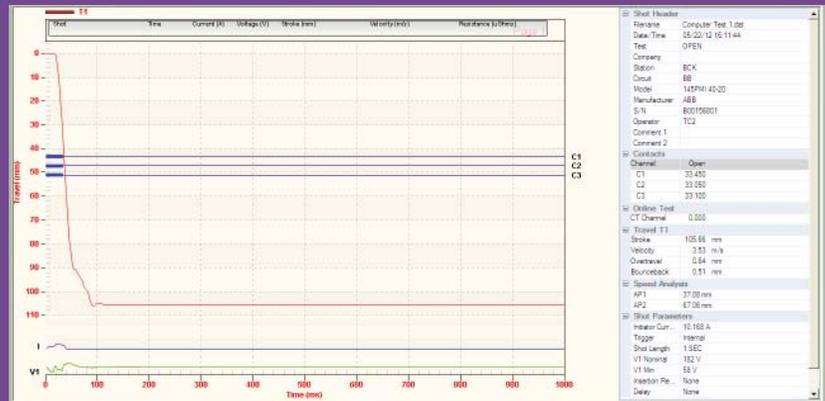


Thermal printout of dynamic test results



# Computer control and analysis with included VCBA S2 Software

The CT-8000 comes with the Vanguard Circuit Breaker Analysis Series 2 (VCBA S2) PC software. The VCBA S2 software can be used to retrieve timing records from the CT-8000, analyze retrieved records, view test results in graphic format, generate timing reports, create breaker test plans, transfer breaker test plans to the CT-8000, and control the CT-8000 from the PC to perform timing tests. The software can also be used to print test results to a desktop printer.



## CT-8000 specifications

<b>type</b>	portable digital circuit-breaker analyzer
<b>physical specifications</b>	16"W x 11"H x 14"D (40.6 cm x 29.9 cm x 35.6 cm); Weight: 25 lbs (11.3 kg)
<b>input power</b>	100 – 240 Vac, 50/60 Hz
<b>dry-contact inputs</b>	3 or 6 dry-input channels (depending on model). Each channel detects main and insertion resistor contacts
<b>timing windows</b>	1 second, 10 seconds, or 20 seconds
<b>timing resolutions</b>	±50 micro-seconds @ 1 sec. duration, ±0.5 milli-seconds @ 10 sec. duration, ±1.0 milli-seconds @ 20 sec. duration
<b>timing accuracy</b>	0.05% of reading ±50 micro-seconds @ 1 second duration
<b>dry-contact detection range</b>	closed: less than 20 ohms; open: greater than 5,000 ohms
<b>resistor detection range</b>	50 – 5,000 ohms
<b>ct current sensor</b>	one, non-contact, 0 – 100 amperes
<b>trigger input voltage</b>	open/close: 30 – 300 V, DC or peak AC
<b>voltage sensing input range</b>	V1: analog input; 0 – 255 V DC or peak AC; sensitivity ±1 V V2: voltage presence/absence detector input; 30 – 300 V DC or peak AC
<b>breaker operations</b>	Initiate Open, Close, Open-Close, Close-Open, Open-Close-Open
<b>breaker initiate capacity</b>	25A, 250 Vac/dc max
<b>initiate current reading range</b>	one, non-contact, Hall-effect sensor, 0 – 20 amp range, dc to 5 KHz
<b>digital travel transducer inputs</b>	3 digital travel transducer channels; linear range: 0.0 – 30.0 in (±0.01 in) rotary range: 0 – 360 degrees (±0.36 degrees)
<b>resistor type transducer input</b>	200 ohms – 10 K ohms
<b>contact travel point difference</b>	measures "slow-close" contact-point distances; results can be printed
<b>resistance test current</b>	200 amperes max
<b>dynamic/static resistance range</b>	0.1 – 1,999 micro-ohms; accuracy: ±2% of reading, ±5 micro-ohms
<b>display</b>	back-lit LCD screen (20 characters by 4 lines); viewable in bright sunlight and low light
<b>printer</b>	built-in 4½" wide thermal printer that can print both graphic contact travel waveforms and tabulated test results
<b>internal test record storage</b>	stores up to 150 test records and 99 test plans
<b>computer interfaces</b>	one RS-232C port, one USB port
<b>pc software</b>	Windows® based Breaker Analysis software included with purchase price
<b>safety</b>	designed to meet UL 6101A-1 and CAN/CSA C22.2 No 1010.1-92 standards
<b>environment</b>	Operating: -10°C to +50°C (+15°F to +122°F); Storage: -30°C to +70°C (-22°F to +158°F)
<b>humidity</b>	90% RH @ 40°C (104°F) non-condensing
<b>altitude</b>	2,000 m (6,562 ft) to full safety specifications
<b>cables</b>	furnished with full set of test leads (including 20-foot contact leads and 30-foot contact lead extensions)
<b>options</b>	transportation case (available for the CT-8000 and travel transducers)
<b>warranty</b>	one year on parts and labor

**NOTE :** the above specifications are valid at nominal voltage and ambient temperature of +25°C (+77°F). Specifications are subject to change without notice.

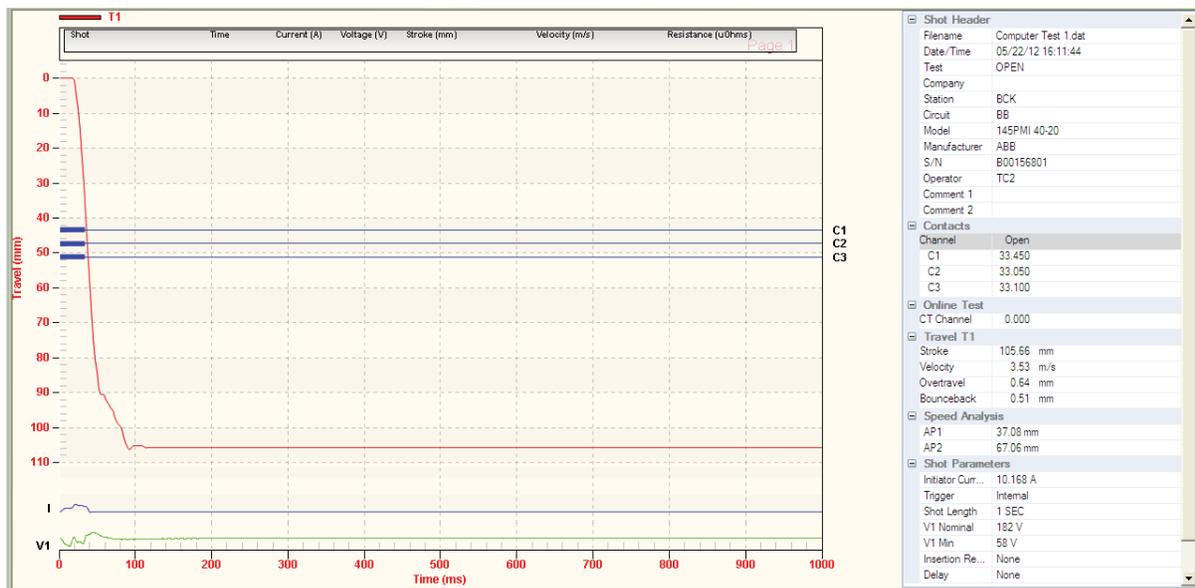
# VCBA S2

## Vanguard circuit breaker analyzer software

The Vanguard Circuit Breaker Analyzer Series 2 (VCBA S2) Windows®-based software is included with all compatible Vanguard Circuit Breaker Analyzers (CT-6500 S2, CT-7000 S2, CT-7500 S2, CT-8000, DigiTMR S2, DigiTMR S2 PC) at no additional cost. This robust application can be used to control the circuit breaker analyzer from a PC to perform CB timing tests. It can also be used to retrieve test records from the circuit breaker analyzer, analyze timing records, and view test results in tabulated and graphical format. Circuit breaker test plans can also be created and transferred to the circuit breaker analyzer.

### Retrieving and Analyzing Test Records

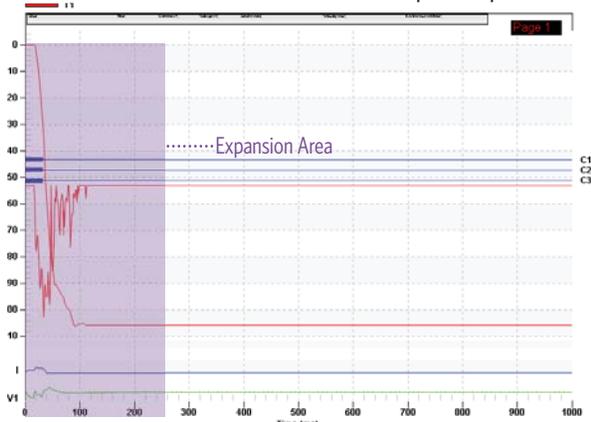
The VCBA S2 software can be used to quickly retrieve test records from a compatible Vanguard circuit breaker analyzer. Test results can be viewed in tabular and graphical format and can be saved on the PC hard drive. Test record header information, such as the company name, station, circuit, operator name, manufacturer, model, and serial number can also be edited.



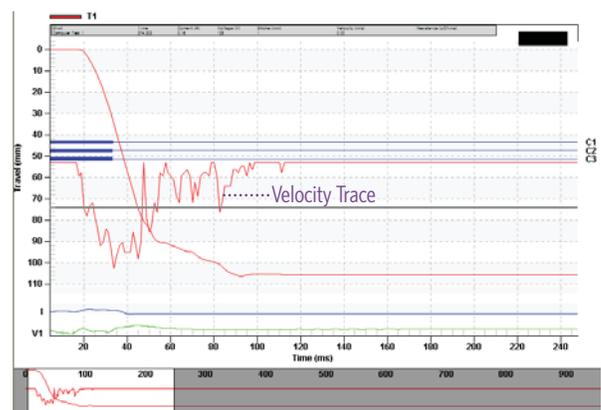
Sample Test Results (OPEN Test)

### Getting a Closer View with Graph Expansions

The VCBA S2 software can be used to expand a portion of the graphical test results for more accurate analysis.



Graphical Test Results



Graphical Test Results Expansion (from 0 to 200ms)

## Timing a Circuit Breaker with the VCBA S2 Software

The VCBA-S2 software can be used to control a CB analyzer and run circuit breaker timing tests. The following tests are supported: OPEN, CLOSE, OPEN-CLOSE, CLOSE-OPEN, OPEN-CLOSE-OPEN, and STATIC RESISTANCE. Also, a test plan for a specific breaker can be used with the test. If a test plan is used, the Pass/Fail indicator will be displayed based on the settings in the test plan.

The screenshot shows the 'Time Breaker' software window. It is divided into several sections:

- File Information:** Test Plan: c:\Vanguard\VCBA-S2\TestPlan\default.set; Save To: C:\Vanguard\VCBA-S2\Shots for Catalog; Filename: Shot. There are checkboxes for 'Add Date' and 'Add '001' to ensure uniqueness'.
- Shot Type:** Radio buttons for 'Open', 'Close', 'Open - Close', 'Close - Open', 'Open - Close - Open', and 'Static Resistance'. A dropdown menu for 'Close - Open' is set to 'Contact #1 Closed'. There are input fields for 'Delay between Open-Close' and 'Delay between Close-Open', both set to 10.
- Timing Window:** Radio buttons for '1 Second', '10 Second', and '20 Second'. '1 Second' is selected.
- Trigger Type:** Radio buttons for 'Internal' and 'External'. 'Internal' is selected.
- Insertion Resistor:** Radio buttons for 'None', '< 1000 ohms', '1000 - 2000 ohms', and '> 2000 ohms'. 'None' is selected. There is a checkbox for 'Dynamic Resistance' which is unchecked.

Buttons at the bottom include 'Resend Shot', 'OK', and 'Cancel'.

Breaker Testing Parameters

## Creating Test Plans for Faster Testing

A circuit breaker test plan is comprised of all circuit-breaker performance specifications (stroke, velocity, and contact time). A test plan can be used to test a circuit breaker. When used with a test record, a Pass/Fail report is generated by comparing the actual performance of the breaker with the specifications in the stored test plan. Test plans can be easily created with the VCBA-S2 software and can be stored on the hard drive or transferred to a CB analyzer.

The screenshot shows the 'Shot Information' and 'Contact Analysis' sections of the software:

- Shot Information:** Fields for Company, Station, Circuit, Manufacturer, Model, Serial Number, Operator, Comment #1, and Comment #2.
- Contact Analysis:** A table of timing parameters in milliseconds (ms):

	Open (ms)	Close (ms)	C-O (LIVE) (ms)	Q-C (DEAD) (ms)
Contact Low:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contact High:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contact Delta:	0.0	0.0		
Resistor On Low:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Resistor On High:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Resistor On Delta:	0.0	0.0		
- Travel Analysis:** Fields for 'Open' and 'Close' stroke, velocity, and overtravel. It also includes 'Open Analysis Point' and 'Close Analysis Point' with dropdown menus for 'Point #1' and 'Point #2' (set to 25% and 50% of stroke respectively). A 'Measure Unit' dropdown is set to 'English' and 'Manual Override' is 'Disabled'. There is a checkbox for 'Enable Rotary Encoder' and a field for '0.000 in./deg'.

Creating a Test Plan



## Instruments designed and developed by the hearts and minds of utility electricians around the world

Vanguard Instruments Company, (VIC), was founded in 1991. Currently, our 28,000 square-foot facility houses Administration, Design & Engineering, and Manufacturing operations. From its inception, VIC's vision was, and is to develop and manufacture innovative test equipment for use in testing substation EHV circuit breakers and other electrical apparatus.

The first VIC product was a computerized circuitbreaker analyzer, which was a resounding success. It became the forerunner of an entire series of circuitbreaker test equipment. Since its beginning, VIC's product line has expanded to include microcomputer-based, precision micro-ohmmeters, single and three phase transformer winding turns-ratio testers, transformer winding-resistance meters, mega-ohm resistance meters, and a variety of other electrical utility maintenance support products.

VIC's performance-oriented products are well suited for the utility industry. They are rugged, reliable, accurate, user friendly, and most are computer controlled. Computer control, with innovative programming, provides many automated testing functions. VIC's instruments eliminate tedious and time-consuming operations, while providing fast, complex, test-result calculations. Errors are reduced and the need to memorize long sequences of procedural steps is eliminated. Every VIC instrument is competitively priced and is covered by a liberal warranty.



### **Vanguard Instruments Company, Inc.**

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