

Safety Considerations: Power Fault Protection

Lisa Leo

lleo@tycoelectronics.com

Potential Safety Hazards for Power via MDI

- **Cable short circuits**
 - ◆ Partial shorts - connections between few of 8 wires
 - ◆ Full shorts - connections between all 8 wires
- **Power supply failures**
- **False detection supplies power to**
 - ◆ Unpowered DTE
 - ◆ Bob Smith terminations
 - ◆ Appliances with low input impedance
- **Misuse**

WW Safety Standards: UL60950, IEC 60950

- **Section 2.5 Limited power sources**

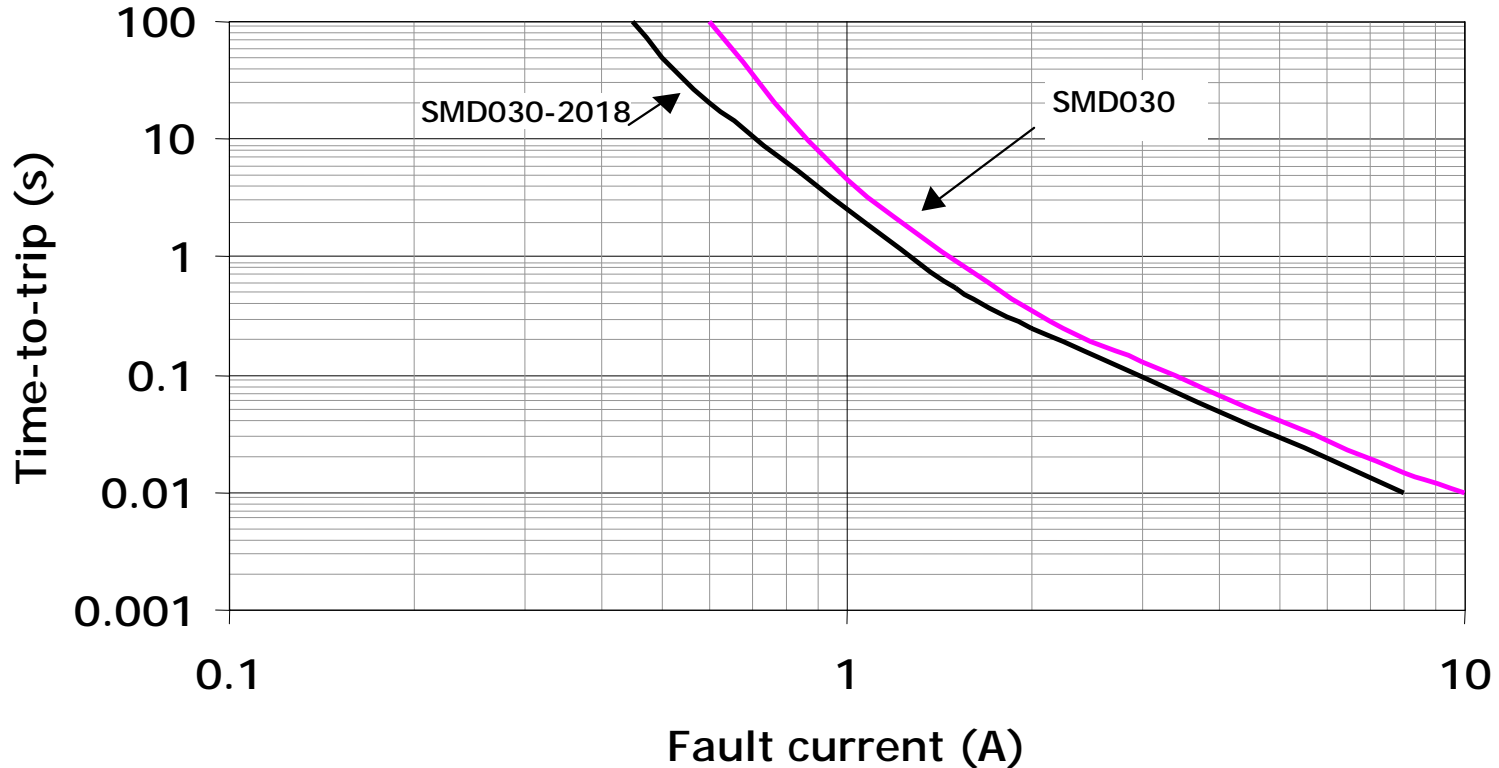
- ◆ **Inherently limited power supply**

- Output current is limited to $150/V_{oc}$ after 60s
 - * e.g. a 50V supply must limit output to 3A in 60s
- Apparent power is limited to 100VA max after 60s
- Limiting may be either inherent in power supply or by impedance

- ◆ **Not inherently limited power supply**

- Output current is limited to $1000/V_{oc}$ after 60s
 - * e.g. a 50V supply must limit output to 20A in 60s
- Apparent power is limited to 250VA max after 60s
- Requires overcurrent protection device rated at $100/V_{oc}$
 - * e.g. a 50V supply requires 2A protection device
 - * Circuit must break within 120s at 210% of current

Overcurrent Protection Using PPTC Devices

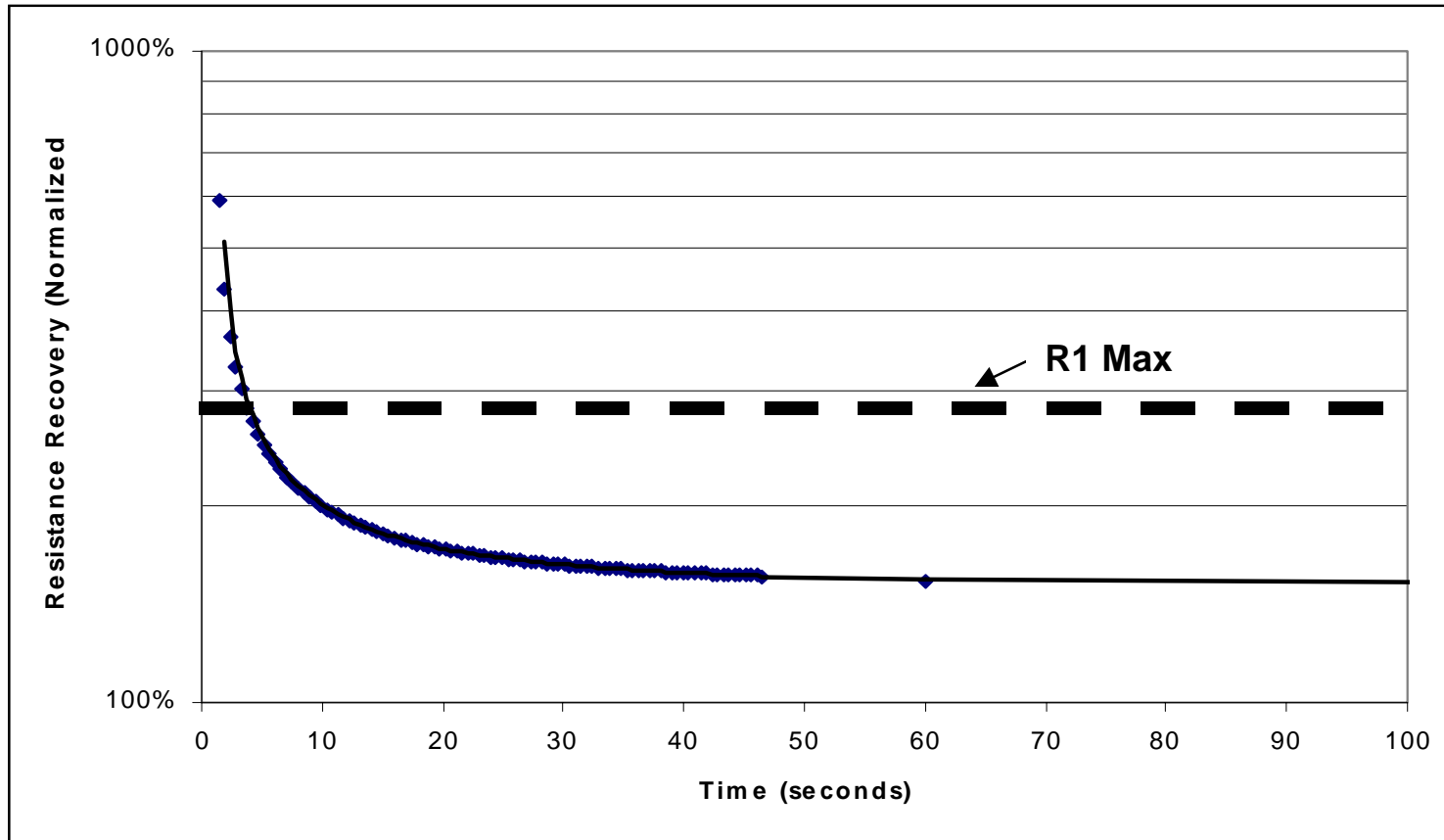


Polymeric PTC devices provide one method of compliance with UL/IEC/NEC product safety requirements

Universal Serial Bus 2.0 Specification

- **Section 7.2.1.2.1 Over-current protection**
 - ◆ **The host and all self-powered hubs must implement overcurrent protection for safety reasons...The over-current limiting mechanism must be resettable without user mechanical intervention. Polymeric PTCs and solid-state switches are examples of methods, which can be used for over-current limiting.**

Typical PPTC Recovery After Fault Condition



- PolySwitch devices will hold rated current when their resistance is at or below the Maximum Resistance (R1 Max) specification
- R1 Max is defined one hour post trip

Recommended Safety Requirements for Power Via MDI

- **The power source to each loop must be independently current limited to a maximum rated output level in compliance with Section 2.5 of UL60950 and Section 2.5 of IEC 60950.**
- **Upon removal of a fault condition, all protection circuitry for the loop power feed must recover automatically without any operator intervention. Polymeric PTCs and solid-state switches are examples of methods which can be used for overcurrent protection.**

Helps Fulfill Power via MDI Objective #3

- **Not cause damage and interoperate with compliant RJ-45 MDI Ethernet devices, including:**
 - ◆ **switch-to-switch connections (both supplying power)**
 - ◆ **cross-over cables**
 - ◆ **common mode termination implementations**
 - ◆ **shorted conductors, pairs or loop-back plug**

Meets Customer Requirements

- **Interoperable with legacy equipment**
- **Low total cost of ownership**
- **High reliability**
- **Provides compliance with UL/CSA, IEC, NEC product safety requirements**