Transmission and distribution systems are essential to route power to consumers. The mode of transport is generally via overhead lines, which must have maximum in-service availability. The exposed nature of lines makes them fault-prone and protection devices are vital to trip the isolation of any faulted circuit.

Key features
Distance protection:
- High speed operation in less than one cycle
- Load blinder prevents spurious trips cascading through the network in extreme conditions, such as on the verge of a blackout
- Simple to deploy in all applications and at all voltage levels

Power swing alarm and block, plus out of step trip:
- Unrivalled detection principle
- OST to split into asynchronous islands

Comprehensive range of teleprotection schemes:
- Distance, DEF and delta directional comparison

InterMiCOM option for end-to-end protection communication:
- Reliable and secure, saving the investment in external teleprotection equipment
- Readily interfaces with end-to-end communications channels (56/64 Kbps or E1 2 Mbps)

Extensive back-up protection facilities
Multi-shot autoreclosure with check synchronism:
- Single circuit breaker applications (P443 & P445 models)
- Breaker and a half, or mesh feeding with two sets of CT inputs per end with settable independent CT ratios (P446 model)

Improved system stability by CB failure fast reset element (< 0.75 cycle)

Readily interfaces with multiple automation protocols, including IEC 61850
- Redundant Ethernet (IEC 62439 PRP or RSTP) is available as an option

IEC 61850-9-2 process bus interface

Customer benefits
- P443/P446: sub-cycle fault clearance (0.7 to 1 cycle)
- Simple set mode: the relay determines its own settings from protected line data
- Integral teleprotection via MODEM, fibre, or MUX channel
- Compatibility with modern 2 Mbps communication equipment
- IEC 61850-9-2 process bus ready

The MiCOMho provides fast, highly selective line protection. Advanced load blinding and disturbance detection techniques ensure stability when no tripping is required. Selectable mho and quadrilateral characteristics allow versatile deployment as the main protection for all transmission and distribution circuits. Series compensated line application is also supported.

Multiple main protection elements reside inside each relay: distance, delta directional comparison protection and directional earth/ground fault unit protection (DEF). This permits a simplified application and spares holding, as the MiCOMho can be adopted as the standard protection platform.
## Functional overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSI</th>
<th>IEC61850</th>
<th>FEATURES</th>
<th>P446</th>
<th>P443</th>
<th>P445</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OptGGIO</td>
<td>Optocoupled logic inputs</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RlyGGIO</td>
<td>Relay output contacts</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High speed, high break contacts</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTRC</td>
<td>Tripping mode - single or three pole</td>
<td>1 ph</td>
<td>3 ph</td>
<td>3 ph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clockwise and anticlockwise phase rotation</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21P / 21G</td>
<td>Distance zones</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Characteristics Phase Ground Mho and Quad Mho and Quad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CVT transient overreach elimination</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Load blinder</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Easy setting mode</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mutual compensation</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>PSCH Communication-aided schemes, PUTT, POTT, Blocking, Weak Infeed</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accelerated tripping - loss of load, and zone 1 extension</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50/27</td>
<td>PSOF Switch on to fault</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>RPSB Power swing blocking</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Out of step tripping</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delta directional comparison</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67N</td>
<td>OcpPTOC/RDIR Directional earth fault (DEF) unit protection</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 / 51 / 67</td>
<td>OcpPTOC/RDIR Phase overcurrent stages</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50N / 51N / 67N</td>
<td>OcpPTOC/RDIR Earth/ground overcurrent stages</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>SenRef/PDIF High impedance restricted earth fault</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 / 46</td>
<td>NgcPTOC/RDIR Negative sequence overcurrent</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>468C</td>
<td>Broken conductor</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>PTTR Thermal protection</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>PTUV Undervoltage protection stages</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>PhsPTOV Overvoltage protection stages</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59N</td>
<td>ResPTOV Residual voltage protection stages</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50BF</td>
<td>RBRF High speed breaker fail</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>RSYNC Check synchronism</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of breakers controlled</td>
<td>1 or 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alternative setting groups</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>RFLO Fault locator</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fault records</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SOE event records</td>
<td>1024</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDRE</td>
<td>Disturbance recorder, samples per cycle</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of channels in Disturbance recorder Analogue / Digital</td>
<td>16/64</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XCBR</td>
<td>Circuit breaker condition monitor</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IRIG-B time synchronisation</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>InterMiCOM teleprotection</td>
<td>(x)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key (x) - denotes optional
Application

Introduction

Three models are available, the P443 and P446 subcycle relays for transmission systems, and the P445 for simpler application in distribution systems (with smaller cases for easy retrofitting).

The protection functions overview table highlights the functions available.

The P443, P445 and P446 are supplied with a full suite of protection and control functions as standard. The configuration column of the menu is used to control which functions the user requires in the intended application and which can be disabled. Disabled functions are then completely removed from the menu, to simplify setting.

Versatile protection for universal application. The "simple set" mode invokes an inbuilt wizard, to simplify the job of the protection engineer.
Main protection functions

Distance protection
Five zones of protection are provided as shown in Figure 2. Depending on the models, the relay allows mho and quadrilateral (polygon) characteristics to be independently selected for the phase and ground distance elements.

The mho is shown in Figure 2 and uses well-proven principles to provide dynamic expansion for faults off the characteristic angle.

The quadrilateral characteristics (Figure 5) provide enhanced fault arc resistance coverage. An adaptive technique is used to tilt the reactance reach line of each zone and eliminate under/over-reaching effects due to prefault load flow.

(Nota**e** that the P445 offers quad characteristics for ground elements only).

A settable Alternative distance scheme initiates all the Zone timers simultaneously and guarantees faster tripping times for evolving faults.

Blinder characteristics (Figure 6) prevent false tripping due to encroachment of heavy loads. A superimposed current phase selector detects the faulted phase(s) and controls which of the distance elements will initiate a trip. Combined with the directional decision from a proven delta principle, secure operation of distance zones is assured. The trip time is typically 0.7 to 1 cycle for the P443 & P446, and 1 to 1.3 cycles for the P445.

High speed - High break contacts
The trip times shown in Figures 3 and 4 relate to a P443 with standard relay contacts, and fully include the contact closure time. When fitted with High Speed-High Break (HSHB) contacts, all trip times are reduced by 3 to 4ms. The trip time for P443/446 becomes 0.5 to 0.85 cycles. HSHB contacts easily rupture repetitive shots of 10A trip or close coil currents.

Power swing blocking (PSB)
The MiCOMhO recognises power swings quickly, by means of the superimposed currents measured by the phase selector. A conventional PSB element based on the impedance band is provided to detect slow power swings. The distance trip time for faults occurring during a power swing remains subcycle.

Out of step tripping - OST (P443 & P446 only)
If severe disturbances risk asynchronism in transmission networks, it may be required to separate into islands, using P443/P446 OST. Predictive mode OST initiates separation before damage occurs.

MiCOMhO Alstom P446: A full-scheme distance relay with subcycle technology, suitable for dual breaker 1/3 ph reclosing applications, 2 x check synch included.
Main protection schemes
Pre-configured distance schemes allow single and 3-phase tripping with or without a signalling channel:
- Basic scheme logic for standalone operation (without a signalling channel)
- Trip on close logic allows accelerated tripping to be selected following manual, or auto-reclose

Carrier aided scheme includes:
- Direct transfer tripping
- Permissive underreach scheme (PUR)
- Permissive overreach (POR) with open breaker, weak infed echo logic and weak infed trip feature
- Blocking scheme
- User-defined custom schemes

The relay provides two independent teleprotection schemes each using a separate communication channel. The distance, directional and DEF functions are thus flexible in configuration, to operate in shared channel logic or in discrete modes.

Delta directional comparison (P443 & P446 only)
Superimposed voltage and current signals are used to make highly-secure fault directional decisions. The respective forward/reverse decisions at each line end can be used in a teleprotection scheme for full line unit protection, as proven in the LFDC product. The advantage is a channel send even faster than for distance-aided schemes.

Directional earth fault (DEF)
The DEF element can be used within the aided schemes to detect high resistance ground faults. The innovative Virtual Current Polaring (VCP) feature even ensures correct operation when the fault generates negligible zero or negative sequence voltage.

The "Virtual Current Polarising" feature could be switched-off when used in non-solidly earthed systems. Traditional relays would have required an extra CT input to cover this scenario - not required for the MiCOMh.

InterMiCOM (optional)
InterMiCOM allows high performance permissive and blocking type unit protection to be configured, plus transfer of any digital status information between line ends. Intertripping is supported too, with channel health monitoring and cyclic redundancy checks (CRC) on the received data for maximum message security.

InterMiCOM provides eight end-to-end signals, assignable to any function within a MiCOM Alstom relay's programmable logic. Default failsafe states can be set in case of channel outage.

Two physical formats for InterMiCOM are possible:
- EIA (RS) 232 for MODEM links
- InterMiCOM® at 56/64kbit/s for direct fibre or multiplexed links.

InterMiCOM® also includes support for 3-terminal applications, employing the same communications topology as in successful LFCB and P540 series products. 850 nm fibre communication is used to interface to multiplexers in IEEE C37.94 format (and to G.703 (64 kbps, E1 2 Mbps), V.35 and X.21 via P539 interfaces). 1300nm channel options are used for direct fibre teleprotection.

In 3-terminal schemes, the communications are self-healing if one leg of the triangulation fails. End-end transfer time of permissive or blocking scheme data is typically just 5ms for InterMicom64.

Backup protection
- Four stages of both phase and earth (ground) fault protection
- Negative sequence overcurrent and SEF (0.5% in sensitivity)
- Phase under/overvoltage protection
- Broken conductor protection
- Two stage high speed circuit breaker failure protection

IEC 61850-9-2 process bus interface
An optional process bus interface is available, allowing the relay to receive current and voltage sampled data from non-conventional instrument transformers such as optical and Rogowski devices. In other digital substation architectures, the -9-2 data is generated by merging units in the yard, which digitise conventional 1A/5A and 100/120V secondaries, for safer and more economical cross-site communication to IEDs by fibre optic. Alstom’s -9-2 implementation has been designed to be especially resilient and reliable in the presence of “noise”, such as latency, jitter or missing/suspect data.

Supervisory functions
VT supervision (fuse fail)
Voltage transformer supervision is provided to detect loss of one, two or three VT signals for line VTs.

CT supervision
Current transformer supervision is provided to detect loss of phase CT input signals.
Control

Function keys
Trip and close commands are facilitated from front panel hotkeys, to allow direct CB control without the need to navigate to a menu. Other in/out, on/off and enable/disable controls are easily programmed (up to 10 F-keys).

Single breaker autoreclose
With check synchronism (P443 & P445), the user may select a single, two, three or four shot autoreclose cycle.

Dual breaker autoreclose
With check synchronism (P446 only), the following additional features are offered in P446, to permit two breaker reclosing in a leader-follower scheme:
- Two CB Control - CB1 and CB2 are assigned. The user selects which is the leader and which is the follower breaker
- Individual selection of recloser on or off
- Follower action - Follows successful close of the leader
- Reclosing after a settable delay

Alternatively the follower may:
- Wait to be closed manually
- Independent lockout and reset per breaker

Programmable scheme logic
Powerful graphical logic allows the user to customise the protection and control functions (See Figure 8).

The gate logic includes 32 timers, OR, AND, MAJORITY and set/reset latch logic gate functions, with the ability to invert the inputs and outputs and provide feedback. The system is optimised to ensure that the protection outputs are not delayed by the PSL operation.

The programmable scheme logic is configured using the graphical S1. PC software, as shown in Figure 8. The relay outputs may be configured as latching ("Lockout") or self-reset.

All aspects of MiCOM P40 IED configuration are managed using the MiCOM S1 Agile software (see Figure 9).

Measurement and recording facilities
All event, fault and disturbance records are time tagged to a resolution of 1ms. An optional IRIG-B port is available for accurate time synchronisation.

Power system measurements
Instantaneous and time integrated voltage, current and power measurements are provided. These may be viewed in primary, or secondary values.

![Figure 8 Programmable scheme logic](image8.png)

![Figure 9 MiCOM S1 Agile a powerful and intuitive PC toolsuite](image9.png)

![Figure 7 IEC and IEEE/ANSI IDMT](image7.png)
Post fault analysis
Fault location
A fault location algorithm provides distance to fault in miles, kilometres, ohms or percentage of the line length. This proven algorithm tolerates pre-fault loading and fault arc resistance.

Event records
Up to 1024 time-tagged event records are stored in battery backed memory.

Fault records
The last 15 faults are stored:
- Indication of the faulted phase
- Protection operation
- Active setting group
- Fault location (distance to fault)
- Relay and CB operating time
- Pre-fault and fault currents, voltages and frequency

Disturbance records
The oscillography has 16 analogue channels, 64 digital and 1 time channel - all at a resolution of 48 samples/cycle. Disturbance records can be extracted from the relay via the remote communications and saved in the COMTRADE format.

Plant supervision
Circuit breaker condition monitoring
- Monitoring the number of breaker trip operations
- Recording the sum of broken current quantity (interruption duty)
- Monitoring the breaker operating time

Quality Built-in (QBí)
Alstom Grid’s QBí initiative has deployed a number of improvements to maximise field quality. Harsh environmental coating is applied to all circuit boards to shield them from moisture and atmospheric contamination. Transit packaging has been redesigned to ISTA standard, and the third generation of CPU processing boosts not only performance, but also reliability.

Communications with remote operators and substation automation
The wide range of communications options, including IEC 61850, provides interfacing with almost any type of Substation Automation System or SCADA system.

The following protocols are available:
- Courier/K-Bus
- IEC 60870-5-103
- DNP 3.0 (EAI-485 or ethernet)
- IEC 61850

Redundant Ethernet is available, optionally managed by the market’s fastest recovery time protocols: ‘self-healing’ ring and ‘dual homing’ star, allowing bumpless redundancy. IEC 62439 PRP and RSTP are also available, offering multi-vendor interoperability.

Second rear Courier port
The optional second port is designed typically for dialup modem access by protection engineers/operators, when the main port is reserved for SCADA traffic.

Case size
- P446 relays are housed in full 80TE cases, for 19” rack or flush mounting.
- P443 relays are housed in full 80TE cases, for 19” rack or flush mounting.
- P445 hardware A is housed in a narrow 40TE (8”) case to retrofit in any compact or vertical case footprints.
- P445 hardware B, C and D are supplied in 60TE (12”) case widths.

Figure 10 P445 in Case Size 40TE (8“)
Device track record - High speed distance protection

- Micromho subcycle distance protection deployed on EHV systems since 1983 - over 2500 relays supplied. Very fast mho characteristic relay
- Quadramho distance protection launched in 1984, adding quadrilateral characteristics to the range
- Optimho universal mho and quadrilateral relays launched in 1989. Over 11500 units delivered
- Numerical implementation and phase selection proven in sub-cycle LFDC and LFZR relays
- Approximatively 34,000 P44x family distance relays delivered since launching in 1999
- 56/64 kbit/s teleprotection proven in over 30,000 LFCB and P540 series units delivered