AS540 Automatic Voltage Regulator (AVR)

SPECIFICATION, CONTROLS AND ACCESSORIES
# Table of Contents

1. DESCRIPTION ...................................................................................................................... 1
2. SPECIFICATION ................................................................................................................... 3
3. CONTROLS ........................................................................................................................... 5
4. ACCESSORIES ................................................................................................................... 11
1 Description

1.1 Self-Excited AVR Controlled Alternators

1.1.1 Main Stator Powered AVR

The AVR provides closed loop control by sensing the alternator output voltage at the main stator windings and adjusting the exciter stator field strength. Voltage induced in the exciter rotor, rectified by the rotating diodes, magnetises the rotating main field which induces voltage in the main stator windings. A self-excited AVR receives power from the alternator output terminals or a special auxiliary winding in the main stator winding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Main field (rotor)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>AVR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rotating diodes</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Main armature (stator) or auxiliary winding (if fitted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Exciter armature (rotor)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Exciter field (stator)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Rotor shaft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This page is intentionally blank.
2 Specification

2.1 AS540 Technical Specification

- **Sensing Input**
  - Voltage: 95 VAC to 130 VAC 1 phase or 190 VAC to 265 VAC 1 phase\(^1\)
  - Frequency: 50 Hz to 60 Hz nominal

- **Power Input**
  - Voltage: 95 VAC to 265 VAC 1 phase only
  - Frequency: 50 Hz to 60 Hz nominal

- **Power Output**
  - Voltage: maximum 82 VDC at 200 VAC input
  - Current
    - continuous 4 A
    - transient 7.5 A for 10 seconds
  - Resistance: 15 Ω minimum (10 Ω minimum when power input less than 175 VAC)

- **Regulation**
  - +/- 1.0% RMS\(^2\)

- **Thermal Drift**
  - 0.03% per 1 °C change in AVR ambient temperature\(^3\)

- **Typical Response**
  - AVR response in 20 ms
  - Field current to 90% in 80 ms
  - Machine Volts to 97% in 300 ms

- **External Voltage Adjustment**
  - +/-10% with 1 kΩ, 1 W trimmer\(^4\)

- **Under-Frequency Protection**
  - Set point 94% to 98% Hz \(^5\)

- **Unit Power Dissipation**
  - 12 W maximum

- **Build-up Voltage**
  - 5 VAC at AVR terminals

- **Over-Voltage Detection**
  - Set point: 65 VDC\(^6\)

---

1 selected by jumper
2 With 4% engine governing
3 After 2 minutes.
4 Alternator de-rate may apply. Check with factory.
5 Factory set, semi-sealed, slide switch selectable.
6 Factory set, semi-sealed.
- Time delay: 10 s to 15 s (fixed)

- Environmental
  - Vibration
    - 20 Hz to 100 Hz: 50 mm/sec
    - 100 Hz to 2 kHz: 3.3 g
  - Operating temperature: -40 °C to +70 °C\(^7\)
  - Relative Humidity 0 °C to 70 °C: 95%\(^8\)
  - Storage temperature: -55 °C to +80 °C

\(^7\) De-rate output current by 5% per 1 °C above 60 °C
\(^8\) Non condensing.
# 3 Controls

**DANGER**

**Live Electrical Conductors**

Live electrical conductors can cause serious injury or death by electric shock and burns. To prevent injury and before removing covers over electrical conductors, isolate the generator set from all energy sources, remove stored energy and use lock out/tag out safety procedures.

**DANGER**

**Live Electrical Conductors**

Live electrical conductors at output, AVR and AVR accessory terminals, and AVR heat sink can cause serious injury or death by electric shock and burns. To prevent injury, take suitable precautions to prevent contact with live conductors including personal protective equipment, insulation, barriers and insulated tools.

**NOTICE**

Refer to alternator wiring diagram for connection details.
### FIGURE 1. AS540 AVR CONTROLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref.</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Turn potentiometer CLOCKWISE to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AVR [VOLTS]</td>
<td>Adjust alternator output voltage</td>
<td>increase voltage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Link : Hand trimmer 1-2 : No trimmer None : Trimmer fitted</td>
<td>Adjust alternator output voltage</td>
<td>increase voltage by AVR voltage adjustment pot (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AVR [STAB]</td>
<td>Adjust stability to prevent voltage hunting</td>
<td>increase damping effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Link : Supply Link : 110 V/120 V None: 240 V</td>
<td>Select AVR supply voltage</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>AVR [UFRO]</td>
<td>Adjust under-frequency roll-off knee point</td>
<td>reduce UFRO frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Switch : UFRO frequency Switch Left : 60 Hz Switch Right : 50 Hz</td>
<td>Select alternator frequency for UFRO</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Light Emitting Diode</td>
<td>LED lights in UFRO or O/EXC condition</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>AVR [O/EXC]</td>
<td>Adjust over-excitation trip</td>
<td>increase trip voltage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Link : Supply 8-Z2 : Main stator None: Auxiliary winding</td>
<td>Select AVR supply source</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.2 Initial AVR Setup

**NOTICE**

The AVR must be setup only by authorised, trained service engineers. Do not exceed the designed safe operating voltage, shown on the alternator rating plate.
The AVR controls are set at the factory for initial running tests. Check that the AVR settings are compatible with your required output. Do not adjust controls that have been sealed. To set up a replacement AVR, follow these steps:

1. Stop and isolate the generator set.
2. Install and connect the AVR.
3. Turn the AVR [VOLTS] volts control Section 3.3 on page 7 fully counter-clockwise.
4. Turn the hand trimmer (if fitted) to 50%, the midway position.
5. Turn the AVR [STAB] stability control Section 3.4 on page 8 to 50%, the midway position.
6. Connect a suitable voltmeter (0 to 300 VAC range) between one output phase and neutral.
7. Start the generator set with no load.
8. Adjust speed to nominal frequency (50 to 53 Hz or 60 to 63 Hz).
9. If the LDE is lit, adjust the AVR [UFRO] control Section 3.5 on page 9.
10. Carefully turn AVR [VOLTS] control clockwise until the voltmeter shows rated voltage.
11. If voltage is unstable, adjust the AVR [STAB] stability control.
12. Re-adjust the AVR [VOLTS] control, as needed.

### 3.3 Adjust the AVR [VOLTS] Voltage Control

**NOTICE**

Do not exceed the designed safe operating voltage, shown on the alternator rating plate.

**NOTICE**

Hand trimmer terminals may be above earth potential. Do not ground any of the hand trimmer terminals. Grounding hand trimmer terminals could cause equipment damage.

To set the output voltage AVR [VOLTS] control on the AVR:

1. Check the alternator nameplate to confirm the designed safe operating voltage.
2. Set the AVR [VOLTS] control to 0%, the fully counter-clockwise position.
3. Check that the remote hand trimmer is fitted or terminals 1 and 2 are linked.

**NOTICE**

If a remote hand trimmer is connected, set it to 50%, the midway position.

4. Turn the AVR [STAB] control to 50%, the midway position.
5. Start the alternator and set at the correct operating speed.
6. If the red Light Emitting Diode (LED) is illuminated, refer to the Under Frequency Roll Off AVR [UFRO] adjustment.
7. Adjust the AVR [VOLTS] control slowly clockwise to increase the output voltage.
8. Adjust the output voltage to the desired nominal value (VAC).
9. If instability is present at rated voltage, refer to the AVR [STAB] adjustment, then adjust AVR [VOLTS] again, if necessary.
10. If a remote hand trimmer is connected, check its operation.

The AVR [VOLTS] control is now set.

3.4 Adjust the AVR [STAB] Stability Control

1. Check the nameplate to confirm the power rating of the alternator.
2. Check that the jumper link or rotary switch selection (depending on AVR type) matches the alternator power rating for optimal stability response.
3. Set the AVR [STAB] control to approximately 75% position.

4. Start the alternator and set at the correct operating speed.
5. Verify that the alternator voltage is within safe limits.

6. Adjust the AVR [STAB] control slowly counter-clockwise until the output voltage becomes unstable.
7. Adjust the AVR [STAB] control slowly clockwise until the voltage is stable.
8. Adjust the AVR [STAB] control a further 5% clockwise.

The AVR [STAB] control is now set.
3.5 Adjust the AVR [UFRO] Under-Frequency Roll-Off Control

Below an adjustable frequency threshold (‘knee’ point), the AVR under-speed protection operates to reduce (‘roll-off’) the excitation voltage in proportion to alternator frequency. The AVR LED lights when UFRO operates.

1. Check the nameplate to confirm the frequency of the alternator.

   **NOTICE**

   Power off the AVR before adjusting the slide switch.

2. Check that the slide switch matches the alternator frequency.

3. Set the AVR [UFRO] control to 100%, the fully clockwise position.

4. Start the alternator and set at the correct operating speed.

5. Verify that the alternator voltage is correct and stable.

   **NOTICE**

   If the voltage is high / low / unstable, use method Section 3.3 on page 7 or Section 3.4 on page 8 before proceeding.

6. Reduce the alternator speed to approximately 95% of correct operating speed. i.e. 47.5 Hz for 50 Hz operation, 57.0 Hz for 60 Hz operation.

7. Adjust the AVR [UFRO] control slowly counter-clockwise until the AVR LED lights.

8. Adjust the AVR [UFRO] control slowly clockwise until the AVR LED is just OFF.

   **NOTICE**

   Do not go past the point at which the LED is just OFF.

9. Adjust the alternator speed back to 100% nominal. The LED should be off.

The AVR [UFRO] control is now set.
3.6 Adjust the AVR [EXC] Over-Excitation Control

**NOTICE**

The AVR [EXC] control is set and sealed at the factory to protect the alternator from over-excitation, usually caused by overload. Incorrect AVR [EXC] control setting could damage the alternator rotor components.

The AVR protects the alternator by removing excitation if it senses that the excitation voltage exceeds a threshold set by the AVR [EXC] control.

1. If the excitation voltage exceeds the over-excitation trip setting, the red LED on the AVR turns on.
2. After a short time, the AVR removes the excitation voltage and the red LED flashes (which can also indicate an over-voltage trip or UFRO operation).
3. Stop the alternator to reset the over-excitation condition.
4 Accessories

4.1 Diode Failure Detector

4.1.2 Description

The STAMFORD Diode Failure Detector (DFD) senses ripple current in the exciter output caused by diode failure in short or open circuit, and switches an internal relay if it persists for 7 seconds. The changeover contacts of the relay can be wired to provide a warning indication of diode failure or initiate an automatic shutdown.

Where the DFD triggers a warning, monitor the exciter field current or voltage and reduce load as necessary, so that the generator set can continue to run until a planned controlled shutdown to replace the diode.

Key features include:

- Robust and reliable solid-state electronics
- Built-in test function
- Selectable power supply
- Simple connection to the alternator.

4.1.3 Specification

- **Sensing Input**
  - Voltage: 0 VDC to 150 VDC
  - Input resistance: 100 kΩ
  - Sensitivity: 50 V peak

- **Power Supply**
  - Voltage: 12 VDC to 28 VDC
• Voltage: 100 VAC to 140 VAC
• Voltage: 200 VAC to 280 VAC
• Current: 0.2 A maximum

• Output
  ◦ Single pole changeover relay rating: 5 A @ 30 VDC, 5 A @ 240 VAC
  ◦ Isolation: 2 kV
  ◦ Volt-free contacts

• Time Delays
  ◦ Response time: 7 s (approximately)

• Environmental
  ◦ Vibration: 30 mm/s @ 20 Hz to 100 Hz, 2 g @ 100 Hz to 2 kHz
  ◦ Relative humidity: 95%
  ◦ Storage temperature: -55 °C to +80 °C
  ◦ Operating temperature: -40 °C to +70 °C.

4.1.4 Controls

⚠️ DANGER
Live Electrical Conductors
Live electrical conductors can cause serious injury or death by electric shock and burns.
To prevent injury and before removing covers over electrical conductors, isolate the
generator set from all energy sources, remove stored energy and use lock out/tag out
safety procedures.

⚠️ DANGER
Live Electrical Conductors
Live electrical conductors at output, AVR and AVR accessory terminals, and AVR heat
sink can cause serious injury or death by electric shock and burns.
To prevent injury, take suitable precautions to prevent contact with live conductors
including personal protective equipment, insulation, barriers and insulated tools.

⚠️ NOTICE
Refer to alternator wiring diagram for connection details. Mount the DFD on a
switchboard or bedplate, not in the alternator terminal box.

9 Non-condensing
### FIGURE 2. DIODE FAILURE DETECTOR CONTROLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref.</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Link : Test &lt;br&gt;T1-T2</td>
<td>Test DFD function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sensing Input &lt;br&gt;XX, XX</td>
<td>Connect F2 in series between exciter stator and AVR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Output relay contacts &lt;br&gt;11-14 : Normally-open &lt;br&gt;11-12 : Normally-closed</td>
<td>Connect to external warning or shutdown system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Link : Supply voltage &lt;br&gt;COM-DC : 12 VDC to 28 VDC &lt;br&gt;COM-120 : 100 VAC to 140 VAC &lt;br&gt;COM-240 : 200 VAC to 280 VAC</td>
<td>Select VDC or VAC supply voltage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Power Supply &lt;br&gt;DC : VDC positive (VDC supply)&lt;sup&gt;10&lt;/sup&gt; &lt;br&gt;C : VDC negative (VDC supply) &lt;br&gt;AC : P2 from PMG (VAC supply) &lt;br&gt;C : P3 from PMG (VAC supply)</td>
<td>Connect VDC or VAC power supply</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>10</sup> Disconnect to reset DFD
4.2 Hand Trimmer (for remote voltage adjustment)

A hand trimmer can be fitted in a convenient position (typically in the generator set control panel) and connected to the AVR to provide fine adjustment of the alternator voltage. The hand trimmer value and the adjustment range obtained is as defined in the Technical Specification. Refer to wiring diagram before removing the shorting link and connecting the hand trimmer.