

# Surge Protection Hall of Fame



**Rodney M Doone**

June 2009

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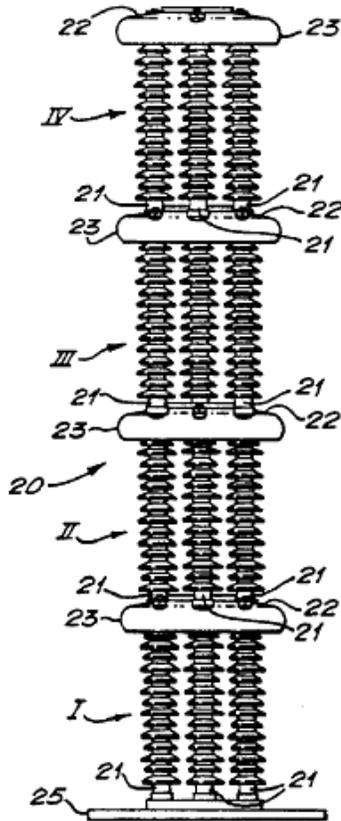
Inventor of the External Multi Column  
Series Parallel Arrester

Rod Doone, a long term arrester designer from the UK is best known as the inventor of the External multi-column arrester. This design continues to grow in popularity especially in the very high voltage range. Rod was issued patent 5,218,508 in 1993 which he had applied for in 1990. Using disks in parallel was not a new concept, but putting them outside a single housing was quite unique. Not only did it allow for smaller diameter disks to be used for higher class applications, but it also reduced the size of

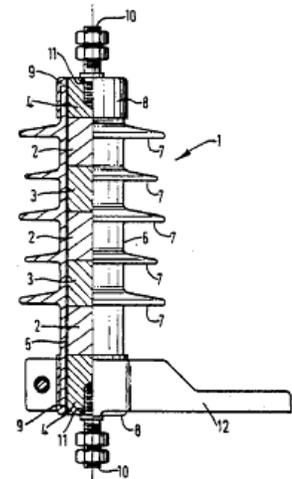


Rodney Doone holding a model of his parallel column arrester

the grading ring required for similar voltage rated arresters. When the columns are arranged in a triangular form, they also provide increased strength over similar height arresters.



Also credited to Rod Doone is an early polymer housed arrester patent filed in 1986 and granted in 1989.



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Rod M Doone is currently a self-employed engineering consultant specializing in the field of insulation co-ordination, lightning and switching transients. He is retained by several clients to advise on system design and performance relating to LV to EHV power and data systems.

He is currently a member of British Standards committees for HV and LV surge arresters and a working group member for International Standards IEC TC 37 MT4 and MT12.

From 1985 until 2000 he was Technical Director of Bowthorpe EMP manufacturers of MV, HV and EHV surge arresters. During this period he was Chairman of British standards Committee PEL 37/1 and 37/2 high and low voltage surge arresters.

He has had over 12 technical papers published in technical journals and has chaired several international conferences.