

## A PLASTIC REPLACEMENT FOR 25KV PORCELAIN INSULATORS IN AREAS OF HIGH VANDALISM

This report describes the plastic coated glass fibre strut insulator developed to combat the problem of vandalism to porcelain insulators, and the tests that have been carried out on them prior to installation on BR.

Each insulator costs approximately double the porcelain equivalent but replacement is an attractive economic alternative to the costly erection of protective screens.

Six prototype insulators have been installed on London Midland Region in areas of high vandalism. Not only should they withstand the impacts of missiles and airgun pellets without failing electrically but will also provide superior performance to MkIII porcelains in their resistance to flashovers and their need for maintenance. Subject to satisfactory service trials it is anticipated that more of these insulators will be installed.