There is Zero Upside to Inviting a Lightning Strike

Avoid Inducing Lightning Whenever Possible

September 12, 2023

Toshio Matsumoto Lightning Suppression Systems



Lightning Suppression Systems

Company Overview

Lightning Suppression Systems

Suppressing lightning as a form of contributing to society



The PDCE lightning rod makes it harder for lightning to strike

Wake not a sleeping lion It's never a good idea to invite lightning



ALB (Anti Lightning Ball)

PDCE-Magnum

Address:

#4406, Yokohama Landmark Tower, 2-2-1 Minatomirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama City

Established: March 2010

Capital: 25 million yen

Company motto: Protecting society from lightning strikes

Intellectual property: 120 total, primarily lightning-related



Track record: Over 3,600 units installed (Sept. 30, 2023)

2023年8月31日



2013:	Approx. 200 units
2014:	450 units
2015:	700 units
2016:	1062 units (Oct. 31)
2017:	1582 units (Dec. 30)
2018:	1920 units (Dec. 30)
2019:	2201 units (Nov. 30)
2020:	2706 units (Oct. 30)
2021:	3058 units (Sep. 30)
2022:	3448 units (Dec. 31)
2023:	3584 units (Aug. 31)
2023:	3655 units (Sep. 10)

End of 2023:

4000 units?

Major Clients in Railroad company



PDCE Implementation by Private Rail: 12 of 15 Major Companies!



The Lightning Rod: Wrong for the Era?

Lightning and the lightning rod: History and problems - Two great U.S. inventors



PDCE/Anti Lightning Ball: How it differs from older lightning rods

Older lightning protection systems

Divert lightning with a focus on buildings



Kurashiki, Mizushima, ENEOS Plant Fire: "Lightning strike causes tank combustion"

August 23, 2023. 2:52 PM. Okayama Pref.

On the afternoon of August 23, a fire broke out at an oil refinery tank in the Mizushima Industrial Area of Kurashiki, Okayama Pref., and firefighters were dispatched to the scene.

Modern and future protection systems



Suit with Straw Sandals?

Web2 CGM Web3 NFT Metaverse Blockchain Cryptoeconomy DEFi DEX DApps DAO DeSci Smart factory

IT, IoT, DX, Web2: This young man is riding the cutting edge of the era, but looking at his feet, he's wearing straw sandals from 270 years ago...

All apps should run on sound and stable infrastructure

Caught up in chasing app trends, we forget what sound infrastructure looks like

What's important is the lower body (infrastructure) supporting the upper body (app)

Lightning rod technology should not be left up to the construction industry, which is only concerned with inducing lightning

Instead, it should grow out of the technological expertise of telecommunications, which is actually threatened by the side effects of lightning

Two Modern Problems: Should countermeasures that invite lightning be used?



In terms of grounding resistance, the directly struck side (building) is a Type A grounding (10Ω), while the pole-mounted transformer's low-voltage side is a Type B grounding (around 30Ω).

If potential difference is 30 kA, then $30 \times 10\Omega = 300$ kV, so the insulation (10 kV) on a low-voltage power line will break and reverse flow will occur.

(A 20 kV power line can withstand 300 kV without reverse flow.)

Why are lighting countermeasures important?

Losses from devices destroyed by lightning current \Rightarrow Can be covered by non-life insurance

Insurance Company

- > The first time, they will pay out
- What about the second time? They will ask whether essential countermeasures were taken
- By the third time, the insurance company may refuse coverage

Damage to equipment will have a larger impact on everyday life than what is covered by non-life insurance

Facility repair cost < Impact of facilities being offline

Do not expect too much from emergency power generators Emergency power generator switches do break.

Industrial equipment repairs take time

It is also not easy to obtain replacements (it's not just semiconductors; there are shortages for all materials)

Lighting from cumulonimbus clouds (heat thunderstorm) and frontal thunderstorms (lightning associated with a moving front)



Charge of the ground (Typically negative but may be induced to positive directly beneath a thundercloud)

Lightning: Cannot be prevented because it is beyond human control



Since it occurs due to an interaction with the ground, it's through the ground that it can be avoided



Answer: Pointed ends are better at discharging electricity

		The ground's po <u>negatively charg</u> in the sky	sitive charge is discharged towa ged bottom side of thunder clou	ords the ds high up
		Direction of disc This connects w path for the ligh the thunderclou	charge: Below to above ith <u>leaders</u> , discharge from above tning and then calls down the c id	ve, to form a harge from
		Lightning rod	Does not avoid lightning	X
		Lightning rod	Attracts lightning	0

Why does lightning strike lightning rods?

If the discharge distance is 100 m (100 x 1000 mm),

And if the surface area of the point of a lightning rod is 1 mm², Ratio of target size to distance = 1:100,000

Distance if the target's size is taken to be 1:

100,000

1 mm : 100 m (100 x 1000 mm) ⇒ 1: 100,000

A master sniper shooting a 10 cm target from 2 km away (2 x 1000 x 100 cm)



Is nature really that precise? (If lightning simply came down unilaterally, it likely wouldn't hit the mark precisely)

Lightning does not simply come down unilaterally from the sky



Process leading to lightning strike

1) An <u>upward streamer (positively charged)</u> is emitted from the tip of the lightning rod that then is attracted to a <u>leader (negatively charged)</u> from the thundercloud in a three-dimensional space

2) The discharge from the ground and the discharge from the cloud meet and form a path for lightning

3) A large charge shoots along this path

There are many videos of <u>upward streamers</u> rising to connect with <u>leaders</u>

The key to preventing lightning strikes is to eliminate the <u>upward streamer</u>

How Lightning Suppression Works: Timeline



Complex reasons why making it difficult to discharge upward streamers

1. Electrode shape



Discharges first

2. Suppresses as much current from the ground as possible





Top electrode: Few discharge craters



Bottom electrode: Many discharge craters



Discharges first

Real-world example following the same logic: Difference between a traditional lightning rod and PDCE lightning rod



Structures that suppress upward streamers

All are patented



Market Size Assessment and Conclusions (Summary)

Minato Mirai Patent Firm

Objective: Assessment of the market size for Lightning Suppression Systems lightning protection devices and related technologies.

Methodology: Categorized products into 8 groups (A to H) by product type and use, then assessed each group. **Area:** Target market limited to countries in which Lightning Suppression Systems

owns the relevant patents.

Assessment results:

	Product	Description	Valuation 3 years	Valuation 8 years
Produ	ict type			
А	Upper and lower electrode type	Upper and lower electrode-type lightning protection devices (Current model)	1.0 billion yen	-
В	Ball type	Ball-type lightning protection devices (New model)	12.8 billion yen	36.8 billion yen
С	Horizontal type	Linear lightning protection devices installed around the rooftop of a tall building	3.6 billion yen	21.0 billion yen
D	Large capacitor type	Lightning protection devices that utilize the exterior of an existing structure	3.0 billion yen	14.0 billion yen
E	Lightning rod converter	Devices that convert traditional lightning rods into Lightning Suppression Systems lightning protection devices	160.0 billion yen	800.0 billion yen
By us	e			
F	For wind turbines	To suppress lightning strikes over wind turbines	20.0 billion yen	100.0 billion yen
G	For traffic signals	To protect traffic signals using lightning protection devices	0.6 billion yen	10.0 billion yen
Н	Mobile type	Moved to the place of use and then installed	2.3 billion yen	5.6 billion yen
		Total	203.3 billion yen	987.4 billion yen
				4

Two Approaches to New PDCEs and Ball-type PDCEs

1. Coaxial structure helps prevent lightning strikes (Verified in discharge testing)

Rotated horizontally around vertical axis to achieve sphere



New Model Performance

Tested at the University of Pau in France

Standard lightning rod







Super Magnum





© Lightning Suppression Systems

Interior of Anti Lightning Ball



Double ball structure

Outer: Insulated so no conduction to the outside Inner: Grounded

Patented: Japan/ USA/Europe/Chaina

Purpose of Lightning Protection Systems

To safely diffuse lightning current into the ground in the event of a lightning strike

1) The lightning current will be sent to the ground regardless of whether the lightning strikes the upper or lower electrode

2) Made with material that is much thicker than the standard minimum cross-sectional area



Actual Figures Since First Product Launch

How many strikes for how many units? July 30, 2023



202,798 unit-months = 16,900 unit-years

Number of lightning strikes in this period: 9 times

⇒ Approx. 1 time every 1,877 unit-years

Figures current as of July 30, 2023. Updated monthly.

Angel Rodriguez (Creator)

Principality of Andorra



Basic patent not obtained in Japan



Published Unexamined Patent Applications: Application No. 2008-10241 became a matter of public knowledge and thus terminated Published Unexamined Patent Applications: Application No. 2008-34607 became a matter of public knowledge and thus terminated Published Unexamined Patent Applications: Application No. 2009-93936 became a matter of public knowledge and thus terminated

PDCE Lineage





The gap between upper and lower electrodes (red A) is larger than (green B), so discharges occur at the smaller circumference part (green B) and the insulated part is easily broken (A>B)

Difference: Similar appearance but different interior

Whether internal side discharge countermeasures have been taken

The internal discharge prevention plate is patented by LSS

PDCE Lineage



Our Strengths Development, assembly, inventory, and shipping in Japan



Lightning Suppression Products

Assembly plant in Naka City, Ibaraki Prefecture

Quality control ISO 9001 JIS Q 9001-compliant plant

We rapidly perform development / prototyping / testing assembly / inventory / shipping

Products customizable to suit the customer's needs

Tours available

Notes

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