

SNS College of Technology, Coimbatore-35



19MEE402 Hybrid Technology

UNIT 3-REQUIREMENTS IN HYBRID AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES Cut off switches



Cutoff switches in hybrid vehicles serve to disconnect the high-voltage battery from the rest of the vehicle.

There are typically two types:

Service disconnect and emergency disconnect.

Service Disconnect:

Working: Used during routine maintenance to ensure the safety of technicians. It cuts off power flow between the battery and the vehicle systems.

Advantages: Prevents accidental shocks during maintenance, enhancing safety.

Disadvantages: If not used properly, it can lead to unintended power disruptions and potential data loss in the vehicle's systems.

Emergency Disconnect:

Working: Activated during accidents or other emergencies to isolate the high-voltage system and minimize the risk of electric shock or fire.

Advantages: Enhances safety by reducing the risk of high-voltage accidents in emergency situations.

Disadvantages: If activated unnecessarily, it can leave the vehicle inoperable and may complicate emergency response efforts.

In both cases, proper use is crucial to avoid unnecessary disruptions or compromise to safety systems.

Cutt off switches components

The cutoff switches in hybrid vehicles typically consist of several components:

Switch Mechanism:

Service Disconnect: A manual or automated switch that physically interrupts the flow of electricity between the high-voltage battery and the vehicle systems during maintenance.

Emergency Disconnect: Usually an automated switch triggered by sensors in the event of a collision or other emergency.

Sensors:

For emergency disconnect, sensors detect parameters such as impact force or airbag deployment, signaling the need to cut off power to prevent potential hazards.

Control Unit:

Manages the activation and deactivation of the cutoff switch based on inputs from sensors or manual commands.

High-Voltage Wiring:

Conductors and connectors designed to handle high-voltage currents and provide a pathway for electricity when the switch is engaged.

Safety Interlocks:

Additional features to ensure the cutoff switch operates safely, such as requiring specific conditions (e.g., vehicle stationary, key removed) for the service disconnect to be activated.

Indicator Lights/Signals:

Lights or warnings to indicate the status of the cutoff switch, helping technicians or emergency responders understand whether power is connected or disconnected. These components work together to provide a reliable and safe means of disconnecting the high-voltage system in hybrid vehicles. Regular maintenance and adherence to safety protocols are crucial for the proper functioning of these cutoff switches.