## **JGB: TBWC TECH TALK**

# WHAT IS A 120/240V HIGH-LEG LOAD AND HOW IS IT METERED?

# **What is a 120/240 V High-Leg System?**

A **120/240 V high-leg delta** is a 3-phase, 4-wire service created by placing a **center tap on one winding** of a delta transformer. The center tap becomes the **neutral**, which provides:

#### ♦ Voltages you get from this system

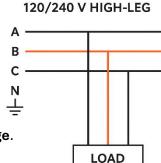
• 120 V: From Phase A → Neutral

120 V: From Phase C → Neutral

• 240 V: Between any two phases (A-B, B-C, A-C)

• 208 V (approx. 208-215 V): From Phase B → Neutral

→ This is the **high leg**, required by NEC to be colored **orange**.



#### ♦ Why the "high leg" exists

Because only **one** transformer winding is center-tapped, the delta geometry causes one phase-to-neutral voltage to be much higher (≈208 V). This leg **must NOT be used for 120 V loads.** 

### ♦ When is a high-leg used?

- Older commercial buildings
- Shops that need both 3-phase 240 V equipment and single-phase 120/240 V
- Locations with legacy delta distribution

Modern systems use 120/208 Y, so use of a high-leg delta is uncommon today.

#### The Dent PowerScout can meter 120/240 V high-leg delta 3-phase, 4-wire loads:

- **Voltage Range:** Their meters accept line-to-line voltages from 90–600 VAC, which covers the 120/240 V systems. [dentinstruments.com]
- **Service Type:** They support 3-phase, 4-wire configurations, including WYE and delta systems with a high leg.
- Installation: Be sure to connect the power / voltage reference leads from the same source as the load to be metered, orient the CTs with the label marked "LOAD" pointed in the same direction of the load being metered. [manualslib.com]

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For more info contact your local distributor or TBWC Sales Representative: (888)974-0111 info@TBWCinc.com

