

Charles Proteus Steinmetz Encyclopedia Article

Charles Proteus Steinmetz

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Charles Proteus Steinmetz

1865-1923

Polish-American engineer who made significant contributions to the field of electrical engineering. Steinmetz studied in Germany but was forced to leave due to his socialist activities. Relocating to the United States, he subsequently developed lightning arrestors for electrical transmission lines, arrived at a law for determining magnetic hysteresis, and invented a simple notation for mathematically describing alternating current circuits. Steinmetz consulted for General Electric for many years before becoming a professor at Union College in 1902.