



INVERTED LIMIT SWITCHES



- HELMET ELEMENT 4 'Safety' – Item 8 'Electrical Installations & Machinery'
- RISQ – Chapter 9B, 9.6
- Code of Safe Working Practices 'Accessories for lifting' - 19.2.11
- SIRE 2.0 Questionnaire - 5.9. Lifting and Rigging

INCIDENT

During an onboard Port State Control Preparation, the PAS Auditor observed that the limit switches on the port side provision crane were installed in an inverted position.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Installing a limit switch on a crane in an 'upside down' position can result in considerable safety hazards, operational inefficiencies and regulatory non-compliance. It is imperative to strictly follow the installation guidelines and perform regular inspections to ensure the safe and proper functioning of crane systems onboard.

BEST PRACTICES

- Inspect the limit switch for damage, wear, or corrosion.
- Ensure secure mounting, check for loose connections and damaged wiring.
- Confirm that PMS tests align with manufacturer's specifications.
- Test the limit switch by moving the crane to its limits to ensure proper activation and verify the switch halts movement.
- Ensure that all electrical connections are tight and secure to prevent intermittent signals or failures.
- Follow the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines step by step to ensure the reliability and safety of the limit switches.

