

FS10A Flow Switch/Monitor FMEDA Report



Failure Modes, Effects and Diagnostic Analysis

Project:
FS10 Flow Switch/Monitor

Company:
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San Marcos, California
United States

Contract Number: Q13/01-043
Report No.: FCI 13/01-043 R001
Version V1, Revision R3, April 3, 2013
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Management Summary

This report summarizes the results of the hardware assessment in the form of a Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis (FMEDA) of the FS10 Flow Switch/Monitor, hardware revision as defined documents in Table 2.5.1 and software revision v4.02. A Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis is one of the steps to be taken to achieve functional safety certification per IEC 61508 of a device. From the FMEDA, failure rates are determined. The FMEDA that is described in this report concerns only the hardware of the FS10 Flow Switch. For full functional safety certification purposes all requirements of IEC 61508 must be considered.

The FS10 Flow Switch is a universal flow monitor and switch specifically designed for gas and liquid process analyzer sampling systems. The FS10 Flow Switch installs into a standard tube tee fitting or a SP76 (NeSSI) modular manifold.

The FS10 Flow Switch utilizes thermal-dispersion flow measurement. The instrument's wetted parts are 316L stainless steel with Hastelloy-C sensor tips. FS10 Flow Switch electronics are packaged in a fully-sealed, aluminum housing.

The electronics can be integral mounted with the sensor element resulting in unibody, self-contained unit or the electronics can be separated from the sensor for remote. The remote configuration is used when the sensor installation area is subjected to high temperatures, or to mount the front panel and display in a more accessible location.

The instrument provides a top-mounted, flow rate monitoring LED array for visual indication of proper flow rate to the analyzer or sampling system, an alarm/trip indication, and as confirmation that the unit is powered and operating. The flow switch's setpoint is user settable via two push-buttons accessible at the top of the unit, or via its RS232 serial interface. The LEDs, push-buttons and serial interface are not part of the safety function.

A choice of electronic outputs is available. The switch output can be either an open collector (transistor) or a 1A relay. The switch settings are user programmable for trip control of hysteresis and time delay. Optionally available for trending is a 4-20mA output which is settable to represent flow rate in mass flow or standard volume units.

Table 1 gives an overview of the different versions that were considered in the FMEDA of the FS10 Flow Switch.

Table 1 Version Overview

Option 1	relay output, alarm on low flow
Option 2	relay output, alarm on high flow
Option 3	transistor output, alarm on low flow
Option 4	transistor output, alarm on high flow
Option 5	current output, alarm on low flow
Option 6	current output, alarm on high flow



The FS10 Flow Switch is classified as Type B¹ element according to IEC 61508, having a hardware fault tolerance of 0.

The analysis shows the product versions have a Safe Failure Fraction between 90% and 99% (assuming that the logic solver is programmed to detect over-scale and under-scale currents when the current output is used) and therefore meets hardware architectural constraints for up to SIL 2 as a single device.

The failure rates for the FS10 Flow Switch are listed in Table 2, Table 3 and Table 4.

Table 2 Failure rates FS10 Flow Switch- relay output, alarm on low or high flow

Failure Category	Failure Rate (FIT)
Fail Safe Detected	900
Fail Safe Undetected	240
Fail Dangerous Detected	860
Fail Dangerous Undetected	232
No Effect	202
External Leak	10

Table 3 Failure rates FS10 Flow Switch- transistor, alarm on low or high flow

Failure Category	Failure Rate (FIT)
Fail Safe Detected	900
Fail Safe Undetected	220
Fail Dangerous Detected	860
Fail Dangerous Undetected	213
No Effect	205
External Leak	10

¹Type B element: "Complex" element (using micro controllers or programmable logic); for details see 7.4.4.1.3 of IEC 61508-2, ed2, 2010.



Table 4 Failure rates FS10 Flow Switch- current output, alarm on low or high flow

Failure Category	Failure Rate (FIT)
Fail Safe Undetected	217
Fail Dangerous Detected	1784
Fail Detected (detected by internal diagnostics)	1760
Fail High (detected by logic solver)	14
Fail Low (detected by logic solver)	10
Fail Dangerous Undetected	215
No Effect	198
External Leak	10

These failure rates are valid for the useful lifetime of the product, see Appendix A.

The failure rates listed in this report do not include failures due to wear-out of any components. They reflect random failures and include failures due to external events, such as unexpected use, see section 4.2.2.

Table 5 lists the failure rates for the FS10 Flow Switch according to IEC 61508, ed2, 2010.

Table 5 Failure rates according to IEC 61508 in FIT

Device Configuration	λ_{SD}	λ_{SU}^2	λ_{DD}	λ_{DU}	SFF ³
relay output, alarm on low or high flow	900	240	860	232	90%
transistor output, alarm on low or high flow	900	220	860	213	90%
current output, alarm on low or high flow	-	217	1784	215	90%

A user of the FS10 Flow Switch can utilize these failure rates in a probabilistic model of a safety instrumented function (SIF) to determine suitability in part for safety instrumented system (SIS) usage in a particular safety integrity level (SIL). A full table of failure rates is presented in section 4.4 along with all assumptions.

² It is important to realize that the No Effect failures are no longer included in the Safe Undetected failure category according to IEC 61508, ed2, 2010.

³ Safe Failure Fraction needs to be calculated on an element level.