

Using the ECA100/ECA101 With a Thread Detection Probe

The ECA100 or ECA101, in combination with a Thread Detection probe, can detect the presence/absence of threads in a hole in ferrous materials.

Consult the ECA100 or ECA101 User Guide for basic connection and operating instructions.

Setup/Calibration

Overview

The ECA100/ECA101 is adjusted for 1 VDC when inserted in an unthreaded hole, and approximately 4 VDC when inserted in a threaded hole. The output switch threshold voltage is then adjusted to near 2 VDC. This assures that the output switch will be in different conditions (open/closed) for unthreaded and threaded holes.

The procedure will require a threaded and unthreaded sample for the calibration and a voltmeter connected to the ECA100/ECA101 analog output voltage.

Procedure

1. Calibrate ZERO and GAIN
 - a. Insert the probe into an unthreaded hole.
 - b. Adjust the ZERO control on the ECA101 driver for 0.0 VDC output.
 - c. Insert the probe into a threaded hole. Adjust the GAIN control on the ECA101 driver for 3 VDC output.
 - d. The ZERO (unthreaded) adjustment will shift when GAIN is adjusted. Repeat steps 1 and 2 and readjust as necessary.
2. Adjust Switched Output
 - a. Insert the probe into the threaded hole.
 - b. Temporarily adjust the ZERO control for 2 VDC output.
 - c. Adjust the SWITCH control to the point where the LED just switches from Green to Red.
 - d. Readjust the ZERO control for 4 VDC output.
3. Setup Complete

The Switched Output will be closed when the probe is inserted in a threaded hole, and it will be open when inserted in an unthreaded hole.

Mechanical Considerations

The probe must be reasonably well centered within the hole under test. Off-center positioning introduces small errors in the ECA100/ECA101 output voltage which could errantly trigger the switched output.

For details, please consult the Lion Precision TechNote *LT02-0015 ThreadSense Probe Centering Errors* at www.lionprecision.com > click on Technical Library.

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Procedure

4. Calibrate ZERO and GAIN
 - a. Insert the probe into an unthreaded hole.
 - b. Adjust the ZERO control on the ECA101 driver for 0.0 VDC output.
 - c. Insert the probe into a threaded hole. Adjust the GAIN control on the ECA101 driver for 3 VDC output.
 - d. The ZERO (unthreaded) adjustment will shift when GAIN is adjusted. Repeat steps 1 and 2 and readjust as necessary.
5. Adjust Switched Output
 - a. Insert the probe into the threaded hole.
 - b. Temporarily adjust the ZERO control for 2 VDC output.
 - c. Adjust the SWITCH control to the point where the LED just switches from Green to Red.
 - d. Readjust the ZERO control for 4 VDC output.
6. Setup Complete

The Switched Output will be closed when the probe is inserted in a threaded hole, and it will be open when inserted in an unthreaded hole.

Mechanical Considerations

The probe must be reasonably well centered within the hole under test. Off-center positioning introduces small errors in the ECA100/ECA101 output voltage which could errantly trigger the switched output.

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