DATA SHEET
Interstitial Float Switch
M3769 Series

The M3769 Interstitial Switch is a thin profile device designed for double-wall tanks and pipes. The 3/8" high switch is ideal for underground tanks and piping where the double-wall construction needs to be monitored for product release from the inner tank.

Applications

- Detects high/low levels in a container
- Detection of liquids between walls of dual-wall tanks
- Buna-N is widely used in storage tanks of vehicles, generators, transmissions and hydraulic systems
- Suitable for dilute acids and bases, aromatic hydrocarbons, salt water and more

Features

- Thin profile
- Wide range of electrical voltages
- Full choice of alarms or control systems
- Easy installation

Specifications

- Float Material: Buna-N
- Minimum Media SG: 0.63
- Lead Wires: 120", 22 AWG, 2 conductor, Halar jacketed cable
- Max. Pressure: 50 psi
- Max. Temp: 221°F (105°C)
- Slosh Shield: None
- Switch Rating: 30 watt, SPST
- Note: Electrical Switch Ratings are shown for resistive loadsas tested by UL at different voltages
- Operation: Normally Closed, opens on rising level User can reverse operation
- Approvals: CE, UL

Electrical Ratings

Current Amps (Resistive)	Voltage		
0.14	240V AC		
0.28	120V AC		
0.07	120V AC		
0.28	24V DC		







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General Information

- 1. Switches should be installed rigidly so the float or floats are free to move as the liquid level changes.
- 2. Switches should be mounted in a tank area free of severe turbulence or protected from such turbulence by appropriate and adequate slosh shields.
- 3. Vertical switch stems should be vertical for best results, but satisfactory operation is possible in most liquids with the stem at up to a 30° angle from vertical.
- 4. Side mount switch stems must be mounted with the arrow vertically either up or down depending on switch operation.
- 5. Care should be taken that switches are always operated within electrical ratings.
- 6. Orientation for standard Vertical switches can be changed from normally open to normally closed dry or vice versa by removing the float and reversing it in the stem, except with the M3326.

Maintenance

Maintenance should consist of inspection to see that the float is free to move and not coated with any substance, which would change its weight or volume significantly. If this occurs, the float should be cleaned. This is easily accomplished without disturbing the installation. In addition, the stem may be wiped down to remove any build-up.

The only repair possible in the field is replacement of either the float or stem. Dents or nicks on the float are usually of no consequence to operation.

Cautions

- 1. The pressure, temperature and electrical limitations shown for the specified level switches must not be exceeded.
- 2. The pressures and temperatures must take into consideration possible surges in the temperature and pressure of the system.
- 3. The liquids used must be compatible with the materials of construction. Specifications of materials will be given upon request.
- 4. Life expectancy of the switch varies with applications. Contact the factory if life cycle testing is required.
- 5. Ambient temperature changes can affect switch set points, since specific gravities of liquids vary with temperature. Consult factory for assistance.
- 6. Level switches have been designed to be shock and vibration resistant. For maximum life, both shock and vibration should be minimized. Consult factory for assistance.
- 7. Excessive contaminants in fluid may inhibit float operation, and occasional wipe down may be necessary.
- 8. Level switches must not be field repaired
- 9. Physical damage to product may render product unserviceable.
- 10. Installation in a vessel made from magnetic materials may affect operation.

Level Switch Electrical Considerations and Reed Switch Protection

When using Madison level switches, it is important to consider the application's electrical parameters. Our level switches utilize reed switch technology, which are glass encapsulated, magnetically actuated switches. Madison generally provides electrical ratings for resistive loads; however, where the maximum current of the load permits, the switches are capable of controlling devices such as motors, solenoids or coils that produce capacitive or inductive electrical loads. Where possible, Madison recommends the use of general-purpose/isolation relays or controllers to protect the switch.

Protect your level switch: Protection Techniques and Common Failure Modes

Reed Switch protection is the most successful method of increasing the performance and life of your level sensor. Since every application varies, it is important to understand your protection options. The life of the reed switch is typically 1 million cycles, within rated load conditions. The table below is a guide to suggested protection techniques and common failure modes associated with each load type.

Load	Load Example	Protection	Diagram	Common Failure Modes	Failure Mode Description
Resistive (DC)	Indicator Lamp, Heaters	Current Limiting Resistor	g A	In-rush Current (Switching)	In-rush current exceeds rating and welds switch closed
				Over-Current (Carry)	Carry-current exceeds rating and switch welds or burns open like a fuse
Inductive & Capacitative (DC)	Relay Coil, Solenoids, Motor	Reversing Diode	В	Over-Voltage (Arcing)	Voltage arcing during switching welds contacts closed
Inductive & Capacitive (AC or DC)		Resistor & Capacitor Network	С		
Resistive, Inductive & Capacitive (AC or DC)	Indicator Lamp, Heaters, Relay Coil, Solenoids, Motor	Varistor or MOV	D	Over-Voltage (Arcing)	Transients voltage spikes exceed breadown voltage and weld switch closed

Capacitive Load



Diagram A: Current Limiting Resistor



Diagram C: RC Network

For DC circuits: Insert a 1N4004 diode across the load (i.e.: relay coil) with the cathode end (marked with circular line) connected toward the positive side. This way the diode conducts only when the field collapses. General rule is to use a diode with a voltage rating at least three times the circuit voltage. A 1N4004 has a rating of 1 amp continuous, 30 amp surge, 400V max. Refer to diagram B.

Inductive Load



Diagram B: Reversing Diode



Diagram D: Varistor or MOV

For typical 120V AC circuits: Insert a 50 to 100 ohm, 1/2 watt Resistor in series with a .1 micro farad 400 to 600 volt capacitor across the switch. The capacitor is a high impedance to 60 hertz, but is essentially a short circuit to high frequencies of generated voltages. Alternately, a varistor V130LA10A by itself across the switch will also work for 120V AC. Refer to diagram D.



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