



Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis

**Magnetrol Model TGx  
Thermal Dispersion Switch**

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## A. Description

This report describes the results of the Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis (FMEDA) of the Magnetrol Model TGx Series Thermal Dispersion Switch. The FMEDA performed on the Model TGx Series includes all electronics and related hardware. For full certification purposes the Model TGx software along with all requirements of IEC61508 must be considered.

## B. Management Summary

This report summarizes the results of the Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis (FMEDA) of the Magnetrol Model TGx Series Thermal Dispersion Switch. The FMEDA was performed to determine failure rates, and the Safe Failure Fraction (SFF), which can be used to achieve functional safety certification per IEC61508 of a device.

Version overview:

Model TG1	Intrinsically safe Thermatel electronics with standard LED flow indication
Model TG2	Intrinsically safe Thermatel electronics with LED flow indication per NAMUR NE 44

The Model TGx Series is a **Complex Device** classified as **Type B** according to IEC61508, having a hardware fault tolerance of 0. The Model TGx Series Thermal Dispersion Switch is a 24 Vdc power device that provides relay and 4-20 mA outputs. The 4-20 mA output supplies a general measure of the flow rate and is not intended to be a control output to a safety instrumented function. For this FMEDA the 4-20 mA function of the Model TGx was not considered part of the safety instrumented function.

The Model TGx failure rates are:

$$\lambda^{\text{Fail-Safe}} = 188 \text{ Fits}$$

$$\lambda^{\text{DU}} = 115 \text{ Fits}$$

Note  $\lambda^{\text{Fail-Safe}} = \lambda^{\text{SD}} + \lambda^{\text{SU}} + \lambda^{\text{DD}}$

The Fail-Safe State of the Model TGx has the relay de-energized. The relay contact positions with the relay de-energized is the Fail-Safe output of the TGx.

**Table 1: Model TGx IEC 61508 Format Failure Rates**

Failure Category	$\lambda^{\text{SD}}$	$\lambda^{\text{SU}}$	$\lambda^{\text{DD}}$	$\lambda^{\text{DU}}$	SFF
TGx	188	255	0	115	79.4%

$\lambda^{\text{SD}} + \lambda^{\text{SU}} + \lambda^{\text{DD}}$  failures cause the relay to de-energize. Therefore, those three types of failures all look the same to the logic solver.

These failure rates can be used 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 more complete listing of failure rates is provided in Table 2.

## C. Failure Modes, Effects, and Diagnostic Analysis

### 1. Standards

This evaluation is based on the following:

**IEC 61508: 2000** Functional Safety of Electrical / Electronic / Programmable Electronic Safety Related Systems

*SILVER* (FMEDA Tool V4R0.6a), a failure rate database developed by *exida.com*

The rates used in Silver have been chosen in a way that is appropriate for safety integrity level verification calculations. Actual field failure results with average environmental stress are expected to be superior to the results predicted by these numbers. The user of this information is responsible for determining the applicability to a particular environment.

### 2. Definitions

FMEDA	A Failure Modes Effect and Diagnostic Analysis is a technique which combines online diagnostic techniques and the failure modes relevant to safety instrumented system design with traditional FMEA techniques which identify and evaluate the effects of isolated component failure modes.
Fail-Safe State	The Fail-Safe state is equivalent to the condition of the output of the device if it lost power. For relay outputs this is the de-energized state of the relay contacts.
Safe Failure	A failure that causes the device or system to go to the defined fail-safe state without a demand from the process. Safe failures are either detected or undetected. Relay is de-energized.
Dangerous Failure	A failure that does not respond to a demand from the process (i.e. is unable to go to the defined fail-safe state). Dangerous Failures are either detected or undetected.
No Effect	Faults that have no impact on the safety function of the device.
Hardware Fault Tolerance	The ability of a component / subsystem to continue to be able to undertake the required SIF in the presence of one or more dangerous faults in hardware.

### 3. Assumptions

- The failure categories listed are only safe and dangerous, both detected and undetected.
- The Fail-Safe State of the TGx is the relay contact position with the relay de-energized.
- Failure of one part will fail the entire unit.
- Failure rates are constant; normal wear and tear is not included.
- Increase in failures is not relevant.
- Components that cannot have an affect on the safety function are not considered in the analysis.
- The average temperature over a long period of time is 40°C.
- The stress levels are typical for an industrial environment and can be compared to the Ground Fixed classification of MIL-HNBK-217F.
- The failure rates of the device supplying power to Magnetrol's device are not included.

### 4. Failure Rates

Note: Fail detected (internal diagnostic) and Fail Fail-Safe (inherently) failures cause the relay to de-energize. Therefore, both these types of failures look the same to the logic solver when just monitoring the relay contacts. Fail detected (inherent diagnostic) failures can be determined by monitoring both the relay and the 4-20 mA output. A fault indication in the 4-20 mA loop circuit is >22mA or <3.6mA.

**Table 2: Model TGx Failure Rates**

Failure Category		Failure rate (in Fits)
Fail Fail-Safe (detected by logic solver)		188
Fail detected (internal diagnostic)	45	
Fail Fail-Safe (inherently)	143	
Fail Dangerous Undetected		115
No effect		255

### 5. Safe Failure Fraction

**Table 3: Model TGx Safe Failure Fraction**

Model	SFF
TGx	79.4%

Because the SFF is greater than 60%, and the TGx is a Type B device, it is suitable for SIL 1 with a Hardware Fault Tolerance of 0.

