

INTERFLON RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT ALERT

Correct Lubrication Locations on a set of Switches

OFFICIAL

Endorsement

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Introduction

Incorrect lubrication practices often miss critical locations and reduce the performance of the switch system.

Key Message

Lube EP must be applied to all slide chairs of the switch, with particular focus on the **heel of the points**.

Why This Matters

The heel of the switch (rear fixed end) is a critical movement point where the rail pivots during operation. Testing has shown that lubrication at the heel improves rail movement and reduces resistance, even on layouts fitted with rollers

Without effective lubrication at the heel:

- Increased resistance occurs during switch movement
- Load is transferred to other components
- Overall system efficiency is reduced

Risks

- Increased friction and wear at the heel
- Poor switch movement with the flexing of the blade and incomplete travel
- Higher stress on point operating equipment and drive systems
- Increased likelihood of failures

Ref: IRIA003
Issue: 1
Date: 17th of March 2026



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Best Practice

Apply Interflon Lube EP to:

- Slide chairs along the full length of the switch
- Roller plates where applicable
- **Heel area (rear of the switch at the fixed hinge point)**

Ensure:

- Correct quantity is applied
- Lubricant is evenly spread
- Particular attention is given to the heel during every maintenance cycle

Operational Impact

Correct lubrication across the full switch length, especially at the heel, results in:

- Smoother switch operation
- Reduced mechanical load
- Improved reliability and asset life