

would not take into account the configuration of the crane. If a crane were to be loaded to only 10% of its capacity for a period of 5 years, with 3000 cycles being recorded by the cycle counter, this would not determine any useful information about the life of the crane itself or which components were affected by that operation.

Data Loggers

Some cranes manufactured in the recent past (approximately 10 years) are equipped with “event recorders” that are commonly misrepresented as “data loggers”. These devices record some of the operational data when an “event” triggers such a recording.

Below is a list of operational characteristics of event recorders:

- Event recorders are not separate devices from the crane’s RCL/LMI/LML system and as such are not able to receive the operator’s name and license number as an input for recording purposes.
- Event recorders cannot be retrofit onto older cranes that were not originally equipped with them.
- When an event triggers a recording, the data is recorded as part of the proprietary program code to the OEM of the RCL/LMI/LML system installed on the crane. Typically, only the OEM of the system can download and interpret the proprietary code.
- Depending on the system, amount of data, etc., the download and interpretation process can take months, if not longer. The data is not instantaneously recognizable/readable.
- The data record is not infinite; there is only a finite amount of data that can remain recorded before the system must reuse the memory by overwriting the oldest recorded data.

If all environmental and jobsite conditions are known for the data that has been retrieved, interpreted and is in review, there may be no logical way to understand what the data shows.

As such, using an arbitrary measure such as age alone to determine when certain activities including major inspections are to be performed would not be recommended. AEM continues to recommend a process of regularly monitoring the crane’s condition and usage to determine when maintenance, service or repair are required. AEM supports the use of CICA’s CraneSafe inspection programs for the regular monitoring of a crane’s condition.

AEM appreciates the strong relationship for your support of your CraneSafe program that continues to improve the safety of the global crane industry.

Sincerely yours,

William Bernhard
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