

TechniComm News N° 25 – DECEMBER 2006

“CRANE HEIGHT WARNING” SYSTEM

A great danger from a point of view of safety during transport of the crane on a truck is the maximum height of the crane itself in transport conditions.

The highway code, in order to avoid problems and accidents due to the height of pedestrian walkways, bridges, access gates etc., requires that the maximum height of the fitted crane must not exceed 4 m, but this may vary according to the directives issued by the relevant body in each of the Countries in which Fassi products are distributed.

The manufacturer's directives regarding the configuration for transport, which are given in the use and maintenance manual, foresee that the crane, in all its configurations, must always be folded in the rest position.

In this standard configuration it is the dealer/fitter who must guarantee, with the crane mounted, that it complies with current regulations in terms of maximum height allowed in the country in question.

On the contrary, when the crane, for various reasons connected to its use, has to travel with the booms horizontal or lying flat on the truck body, it is necessary to foresee a function that informs the operator of the state of the “transport outline” of the crane before the vehicle starts to move.

From a practical point of view, in these cases the orders given by Fassi to its distribution network suggest that the “**crane height exceeded warning**” system be provided automatically in all cranes sold with supplementary functions enabled to activate hydraulic accessories that are destined to be permanently connected to the specific coupling at the boom tip of the crane and which, as a result, are destined to travel with the boom lying horizontally over the truck body.

It is also advisable to offer the system when, during sales negotiations, it comes to light that the future owner of a Fassi crane, for whatever reason, intends to travel with the crane itself open and lying on the truck body.

Fassi fits the “**crane height exceeded warning**” system automatically on crane models “XS” and “AS” destined for transport with the booms lying horizontal on the truck body.

Fassi is therefore able to supply, on request, a warning system that is triggered when the height of the crane is outside the limits or the maximum height foreseen by the regulations.

The system provided comprises a proximity sensor installed in a fixed position on the column, and a support, in an adjustable position on the inner boom, which can be set to the height required.

Disabling of the proximity sensor (failure to read the support) activates an output to be connected to a warning beeper or visual indicator either inside or outside the truck cab (the indicator devices are to be provided by the fitter).

Description:

1. Proximity sensor fitted on the column.
2. Support fixed to the inner boom hinge pin, the angle of which can be adjusted to calibrate triggering of the proximity sensor according to the maximum reference height of the crane in the transport position.

**Advantages for the user:**

- The presence of this safety device makes it possible to ascertain whether or not the crane, in the transport position, is within the legal height limits, so as to avoid potentially dangerous situations when the machine is travelling.
- Before starting a beeper or indicator light warns if the crane in its rest position is outside the height limits.
- On the customer's request, the fitter may combine this device with a system to stop the truck from moving in the presence of a "crane height exceeded" warning.