

Capacitive level sensors RLS – 27

Capacitive level sensors (switches) Riels RLS® are designed for limit level sensing of liquids, bulky solid and powder materials in vessels, containers, silos, tanks, reservoirs, etc. Sensors are made in several modifications of sensing electrodes - short and long rods or rope. The electrodes can be coated what has important sense in case of adhesive, aggressive or electrically conductive media sensing. The process coupling at the housing can be with thread M27x2, M30x1.5, G3/4" or with Tri-clamp coupling. Electric connection is provided by means of permanent cable lead (variant B) or by means of connector (variant C).

Output performances - transistor outputs with open collector (NPN, PNP) - or NAMUR output.

There are next performances available: N – for normal atmospheres, Xd – for use in flammable dust atmospheres, Xi – explosion proof - intrinsically safe for hazardous (explosive) areas, XiM – explosion proof - intrinsically safe for use in mines with methane or flammable dust presence danger (see technical specifications).

- For limit level sensing of liquid, and bulk-solid and powder materials
- Xi version for usage in explosive areas
- Direct mounting into various containers, silos, vessels, tanks, filling inlets, reservoirs, etc.
- Sensitivity and hysteresis fluently adjustable
- NPN, PNP, NAMUR output (EN 60947-5-6)
- Material of housing and electrode from stainless steel



Features of variants

RLS-27_ - 10	Uncoated short bar electrode for sensing non-adhesive bulk-solid (powder) materials (sand, sugar) and electrically non-conductive liquids (oils, diesel, petrol), horizontal mounting. Electrode length 50 mm or 100 mm.
RLS-27_ - 11	Fully coated short bar electrode for sensing electrically conductive liquids (water). Assembly into a side wall of vessel or into a pipe. Electrode length 30 mm.
RLS-27_ - 20	Semi-coated rod electrode for sensing light-bulk solid or powder materials (plastic granulates, flour, cement) and non-conductive liquids (plant oils), horizontal, slant or vertical mounting. Electrode length from 0.1 m to 1 m.
RLS-27_ - 21	Fully coated rod electrode for sensing electrically conductive liquids (water solutions, water), adhesive and aggressive materials, horizontal or vertical mounting. Electrode length from 0.1 m to 1 m.
RLS-27_ - 30	Dismountable rod uncoated electrode for sensing bulk-solid (powder) materials and conductive or non-conductive liquids. Mounting from the top (vertically) or slant from the side. Electrode length from 0.1 m to 3 m.
RLS-27_ - 31	Fully coated rod electrode for sensing aggressive electrically conductive liquids (water, solutions of chemicals), vertical mounting. Electrode length from 0.1 m to 2 m.
RLS-27_ - 40	Uncoated stainless steel rope electrode and weight for general purpose in deeper silos (bulk-solid and powder materials sensing - sand, gravel, cement) or hoppers (liquids sensing), vertical mounting. Electrode length from 1 m to 6 m.

Accessories

Standard – included in the level sensors price

- 1 pcs. Seal (asbestos free)
- 1 pcs. Screwdriver for adjustment (each 5 pcs.)

Optional – for extra charge

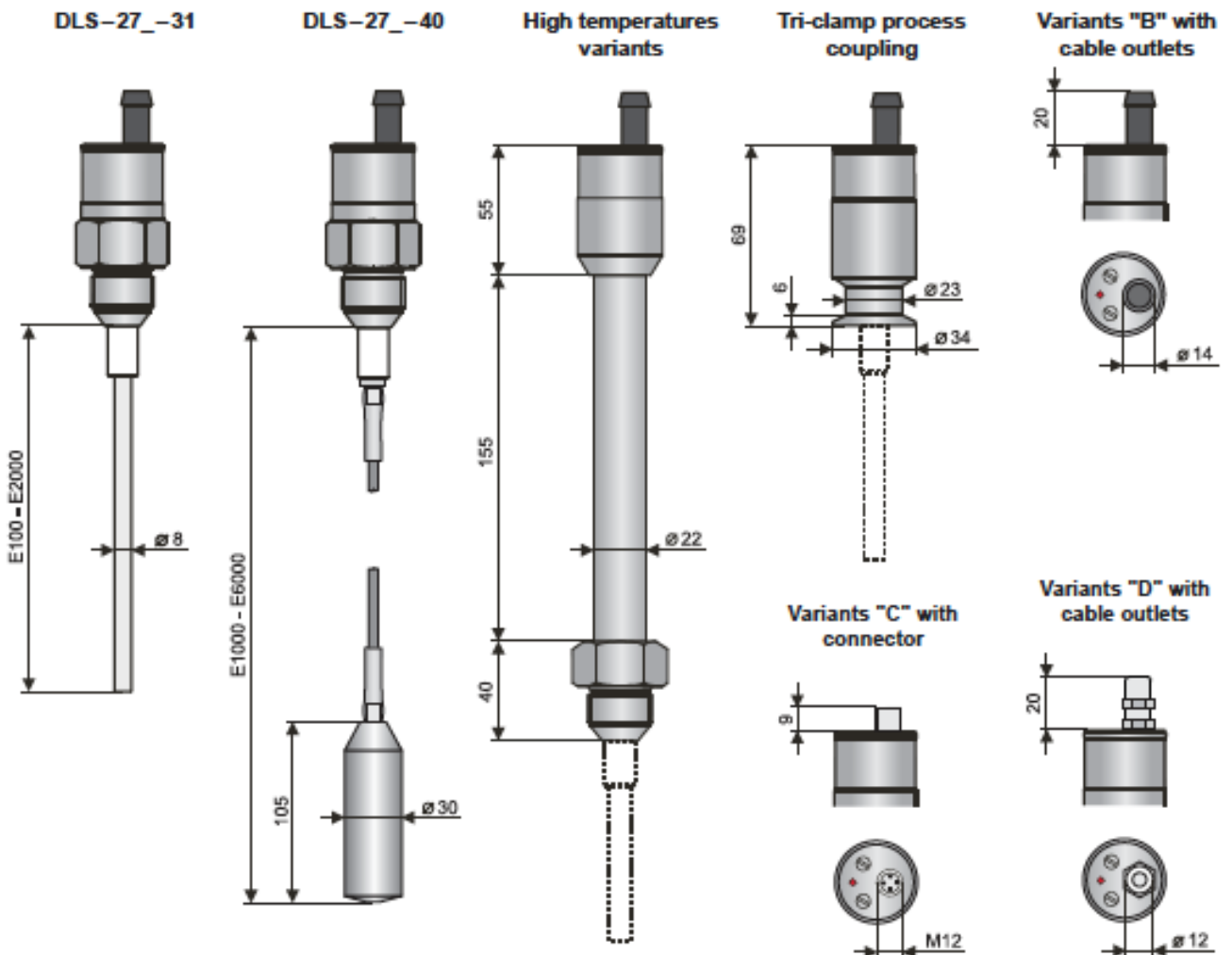
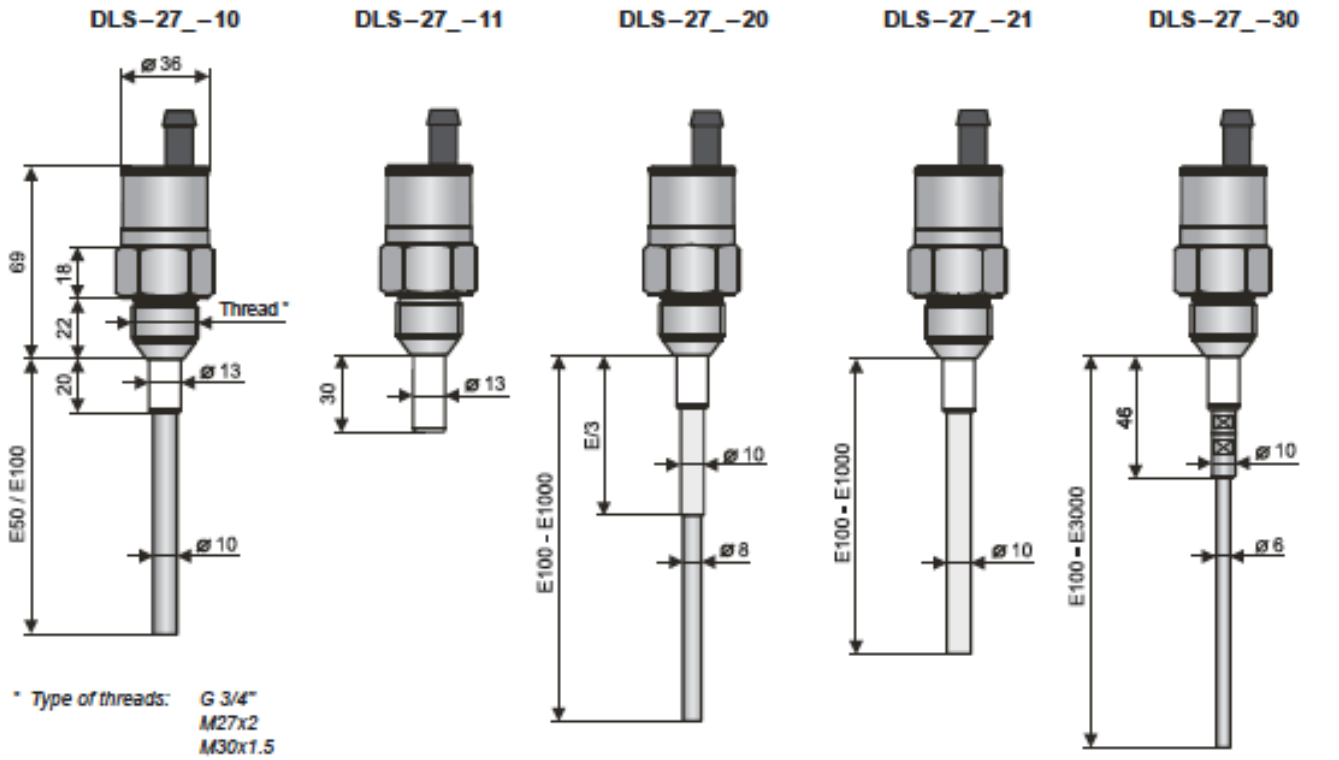
- Extra cables (over the standard length 2 m)
- Connector plug (type ELWIKa or ELKA)
- Normal steel welding flange ON-27 x 2
- Stainless steel welding flange NN-27 x 2
- Stainless steel fixing nut UM-27 x 2
- Other seals (PTFE, Al, etc.)

Safety, protections, compatibility and explosion proof

Level sensor RLS-27 is equipped with protection against electric shock on electrode, reverse polarity, output current overload, short circuit and short time over voltages.

Electromagnetic compatibility is provided by conformity with standards EN 55022 / B, EN 61326-1, EN 61000-4-2, -3, -4, -5 and -6. Explosion proof RLS-27Xi, XiM and Xd is examined by FTZÚ - AO210 Ostrava - Radvanice, certificate No. FTZÚ 02 ATEX 0234X and FTZÚ 10 ATEX 0092X.

Dimensions drawings



Technical specifications (variants N, NT, Xd)

Supply voltage	7 ... 36 V DC *	
Current supply (state OFF / ON)	3 / 10 mA *	
Switching current (NPN, PNP output)	200 mA *	
Output time delay	0.2 s	
Input resistance / Electric strength	1 MΩ / 1 kV AC	
Coupling capacity / Electric strength	47 nF / 250 V AC *	
Protection class	IP67	
Cable (version with cable outlets)	PVC 3 x 0.5 mm ² or 2 x 0.75 mm ²	
Weight (exclude electrode)	RLS – 27_	ca. 0.4 kg
	RLS – 27_T	ca. 0.7 kg

* Only for variants "N" and "Xd"

Electrical parameters (variants Xi, XiT, XiM)

Supply voltage	8 ... 9 V DC
Current supply (state OFF / ON) – NAMUR	≤ 1 mA / ≥ 2.2 mA
Max. internal values	U _i = 12 V DC; I _i = 15 mA; P _i = 45 mW; C _i = 60 nF; L _i = 10 μH
Coupling capacity / Electric strength	2.7 nF / 500 V AC

Type of output

Output	Variants
NPN ("NC", "NO")	N, NT, Xd
PNP ("PC", "PO")	N, NT, Xd
NAMUR ("RC", "RO")	Xi, XiM, XiT

Process connection

Type	Size	Marking
Pipe thread	G 3/4"	G
Metric thread	M27x2	M27
Metric thread	M30x1.5	M30
Tri-clamp (standards DN 20)	–	CI

Used materials

Part of the RLS	Type	Standard material	Optional (on request)
Housing	All type	St. Steel W. Nr. 1.4301 (AISI 304)	St. Steel W. Nr. 1.4571 (AISI 316 Ti)
Insulating bushing	All type	PTFE	–
Electrode coating	RLS – 27_ – 11	PTFE	–
Electrode coating	RLS – 27_ – 20, 21, 31	FEP	–

Temperature and pressure durability (variants N, Xi)

Variant / Performance	Ambient temperature	Medium operating temperature	Max. operating pressure	Max. operating pressure (variants "T")	
				100°C	180°C
RLS – 27N	-20°C ... +80°C	-20°C ... +85°C	3 MPa	–	–
RLS – 27Xd	-20°C ... +70°C	-20°C ... +70°C	3 MPa	–	–
RLS – 27_T – 10, 11, 20, 30	-20°C ... +75°C	-30°C ... +200°C	–	0.6 MPa	0.1 MPa
RLS – 27_T – 21, 31, 40	-20°C ... +75°C	-30°C ... +120°C	–	0.6 MPa	0.1 MPa
RLS – 27Xi / XiM	-20°C ... +75°C	-20°C ... +85°C	3 MPa	–	–
RLS – 27Xi / XiT/XiM (zone 0)	-20°C ... +60°C	-20°C ... +60°C	0.08 ... 0.11 MPa	–	–

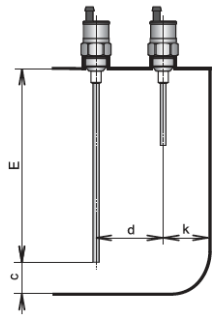
Working areas (according to EN 60079-10, 14 and EN 50281-1-2)

RLS – 27N	Performance for non-explosive areas
RLS – 27NT	High temperature performance for non-explosive areas
RLS – 27Xd	Performance for flammable dust areas ⊕ II 1D Ex tD A20 T77°C IP6X, whole sensor zone 20
RLS – 27Xi	Performance for explosive areas ⊕ II 1GD T76°C Ex ia IIB T6 with ISSU **, whole sensor zone 0 and 20
RLS – 27XiT	High temperature performance for explosive areas ⊕ II 1/2GD T76°C Ex ia IIB T6 with ISSU **, electrode part zone 0 and 20, housing zone 1 and 21
RLS – 27XiM	Intrinsically safe explosion-proof performance for use in mines. ⊕ I M2 Ex ia I with ISSU **

** ISSU - Intrinsically safe supply units

Mounting recommendation

All vertically mounted sensors



$$c \geq 10 + \frac{E}{50}$$

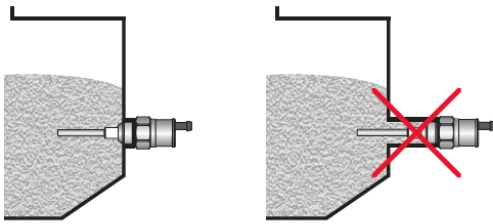
$$d \geq 40 + \frac{E}{40}$$

$$k \geq 20 + \frac{E}{20}$$

E – Electrode length in mm

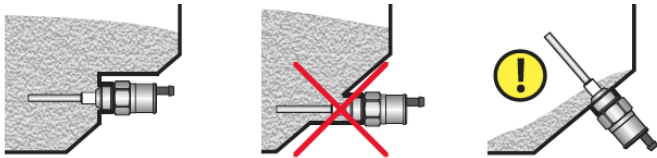
In the case of vertical mounting it is recommended to keep the mentioned distances applied to the length of the electrode (the longer one).

All from side mounted sensors



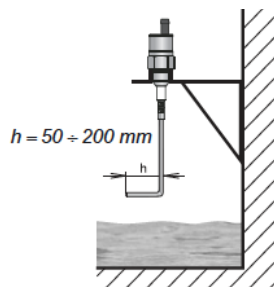
In the case of side wall mounting it is necessary to avoid long fitting tubes, where could the rests of sensed media cumulate - see the right figure. We recommend to mount the sensor so that the whole sensing electrode is inside the container (vessel).

For RLS – 27 – 10, 20



In the case of slant wall mounting it is necessary to eliminate long fittings and reduce the media sedimentation. The wrong example is in the middle figure. Left figure - appropriate mounting on the auxiliary vertical plate. In some cases is allowed the variant shown on the right figure - but only for RLS-27-10 type, and only for not blocking materials.

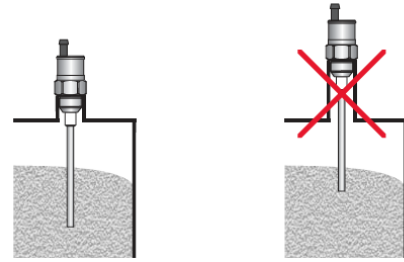
For RLS – 27 – 30



In the case of vertical installation for non-conductive fluids sensing is useful to bend the end of electrode to right angle. We can gain by it the good sensitivity at the end of electrode for various fluids.

When the supposed media is water the bending has no sense (the sensor react just when the level touches the end of electrode). When the environmental conditions (wind, rain, snow) are present, we recommend to use types with insulated electrode (21 or 31).

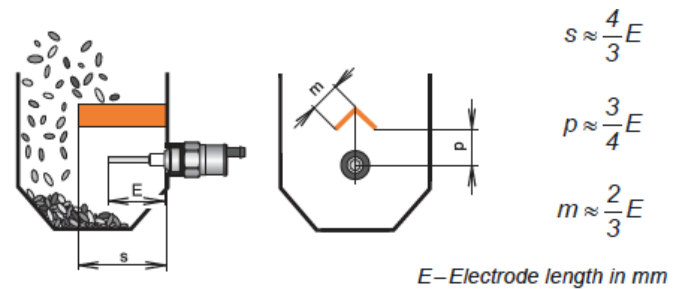
All vertically mounted sensors



In the case of vertical mounting it is necessary to avoid long fitting tubes, where could the vapours condense or some rests sediment. Right figure - wrong, left figure - appropriate.

The similar situation is when the sensing electrode goes through the concrete ceiling of the silo. The hole diameter should be at least 50mm (acc. to the thickness of the ceiling).

For RLS – 27 – 10, 20



$$s \approx \frac{4}{3}E$$

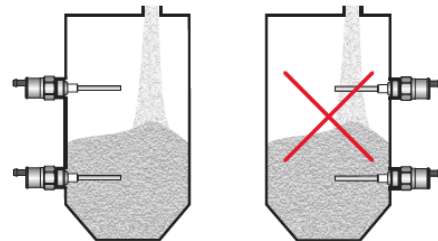
$$p \approx \frac{3}{4}E$$

$$m \approx \frac{2}{3}E$$

E – Electrode length in mm

Protective roof mounting is recommended when vertical movement of material could damage the sensing electrode (abrasive materials, blocks creating solid materials, etc.)

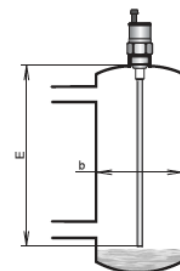
All from side mounted sensors



In the case of side wall mounting it is necessary to place the sensor aside the falling material (liquid or solid).

For RLS – 27 – 20, 21, 30, 31

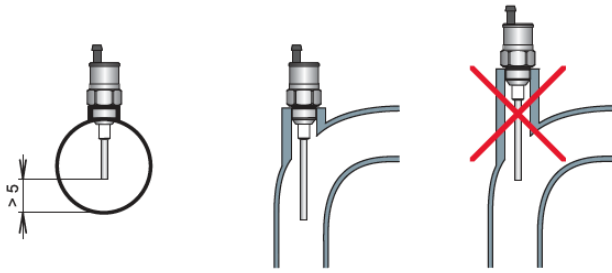
Mounting in a bypass measuring tube.
We recommend to keep the tube diameter:



$$b \geq 40 + \frac{E}{20}$$

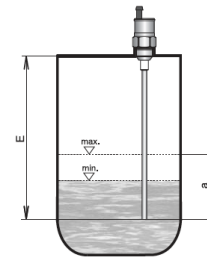
E – Electrode length in mm

For RLS – 27 – 10, 11, 21



In the case of mounting in the pipe it is necessary to provide the minimum distance of the inner walls from the electrode at 5 mm. In some cases (sticky fluids, low permittivity liquids) it is better to mount the sensor to pipe bend.

For RLS – 27 – 20, 21, 31

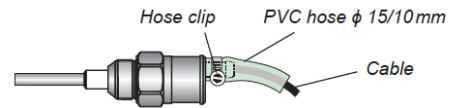


$$a \approx \frac{1}{10}E + \frac{1}{3}E$$

E – Electrode length in mm

In the case of vertical mounting it is possible to use hysteresis setting for simple two state regulation (pump control). The height of the controlled level is done by sensitivity setting, the gap between the min. and max. is defined by hysteresis.

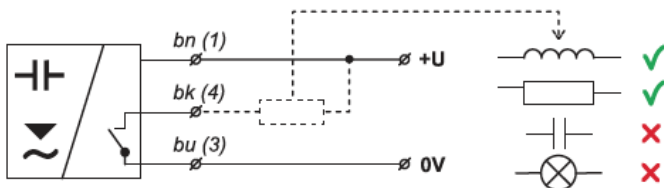
In the case of vertical mounting in outer areas or in the case of high mechanical exertion we recommend to install protective hose on the cable (see figure).



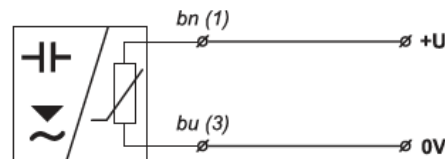
Electrical connection

Sensor with NPN or PNP output is allowed to lead only by resistive or inductive lead. Positive supply voltage (+U) is connected to the brown conductor bn (1), negative (0V) to the blue conductor bu (3) and the leads (only NPN or PNP type of output) to the black conductor bk (4). The capacity loads and low resistance loads (bulb) is evaluated by the sensor as short circuit. It is recommended to lead the cable separately from power distribution leads and strong sources of EMI (pulse converters, electric motors etc.). Version Xd is manufacture only with fixing cable (variants "D" with cable outlets). The end of this cable must be in terminal box with protection class IP6x.

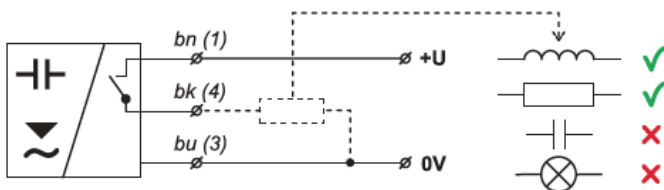
Note: In case of strong ambient electromagnetic interference, paralleling of conductors with power distribution, or for the distribution to distance over 30 m, we recommend to use shielded cable.



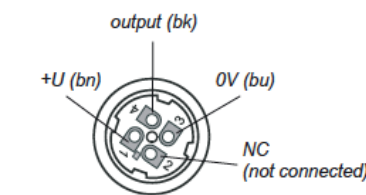
NPN type sensors connection
(version "N", "NT", "Xd")



NAMUR type sensors connection
(version "Xi", "XiM", "XiT")



PNP type sensors connection
(Version "N", "NT", "Xd")



Inside of the connector socket
(Variants "C")

Legend:

(*) – Numbers of terminals inside of the connector socket
bk – Black
bn – Brown
bu – Blue

Sensor setting

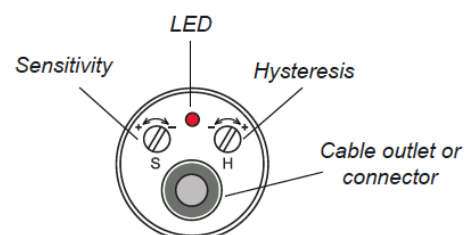
The sensor is factory adjusted for basic sensitivity. The sensitivity is set by trimmer located under the left cover screw on the rear side.

Clockwise turning makes the sensitivity lower, reverse direction turning makes the sensitivity higher.

The hysteresis is set by trimmer located under the right cover screw. Clockwise turning makes the hysteresis higher, reverse direction turning makes it lower.

The lower the hysteresis is, the higher sensitivity is possible to obtain, but the resistance against various disturbances get worse.

For detailed information please read at the instructions manual.



Top view of level sensor

Range of application and installation of main variants

RLS-27_-10

is produced in two versions - with 50 mm or 100 mm length electrode. Short version (E50) is suitable for clean non-conductive liquids level sensing (oils, diesel, petrol, etc.). Longer version (E100) is designed for non-adhesive bulk-solid or non-adhesive powder materials (plastic granulates, sand, sugar, grains, etc.) and other non-conductive liquids (lubricants, plant oils).

Sensor is specified to be mounted directly into a vessel or container wall (horizontal position) by means of welding flange or stainless steel fixing nut. In case of level sensing of low-permittivity media in non-conductive containers it is recommended to mount the sensor on auxiliary metal-plate electrode with min. 200 cm² area.

RLS-27_-11

is specified for limit level sensing of electrically non-adhesive conductive liquids (water and water solutions). It is possible to use it for detection of boundary between different permittivity liquids (e.g. water - oil).

Sensor is mounted directly into the side wall of the vessel or in a pipe (horizontal position) by means of normal or stainless steel welding flange.

RLS-27_-20

is designed for limit level detection of light-bulk solid materials (plastic granulates) or powder materials (flour, cement, limestone powder, detergents, etc.) and for materials with variable humidity (feeding mixtures, wood sawdust, etc.). It is possible to use it for non-conductive fluids with up to 2% of water (plant oils, liquid propane, etc.). The sensor with electrode longer than 300 mm is recommended to mount in vertical position only.

Sensor is mounted directly into a vessel or container wall in horizontal (up to E300), slant or vertical position by means of welding flange or stainless steel fixing nut. We should minimize the hollow spaces between the electrode and the wall where the material can sediment (see application notes). In case of level sensing in non-conductive containers it is recommended to mount the sensor on auxiliary metal plate electrode with min. 400 cm² area.

RLS-27_-21

is specified for conductive liquids level sensing (water, water solutions, mud, etc.). It is designed for horizontal (up to E300) or vertical installation directly in the wall of a vessel. It reacts on partial or full immersion of the electrode (dependent on adjusted sensitivity). The less is the sensitivity the better is resistance to an adhered rests of media.

Sensor is mountable directly into wall of a vessel in horizontal or vertical position by means of welding flange.

RLS-27_-30

is designed for universal use in vertical position for limit level detection of liquids (conductive and non-conductive) and bulk-solid and powder materials. It is not recommended to install the sensor into closed vessels where intensive condensation occurs. Electrically conductive liquids are sensed just by touch of the end of electrode. To react to non-conductive liquid or solid material it is necessary 5 ÷ 20% dip into a medium dependently on the permittivity of sensed medium and set sensitivity.

Sensor is mounted directly into a tank, vessel, container or basin in slant or vertical position by means of welding flange or stainless steel fixing nut. In case of level sensing of low-permittivity media in non-conductive containers it is recommended to mount the sensor on auxiliary metal-plate electrode with min. 500 cm² area.

RLS-27_-31

is designed for limit level detection of conductive liquids (water and solutions of chemicals). It is possible to install the sensor into closed vessels, tanks, basins, etc. The sensor reacts to liquid level after 2 ÷ 20% dip into a liquid dependently on the permittivity of sensed medium and set sensitivity.

Sensor is mounted directly into a vessel, tank or open basins in vertical position by means of welding flange or fixing nut. When installed into an open basin it is necessary to ground the housing of sensor or to connect it with sensed liquid.

For this purpose it is possible to use any metallic ever immersed object (pipe, etc.).

RLS-27_-40

is specified for versatile use for limit level detection of liquids (conductive and non-conductive) and bulk-solid and powder materials in depths down to 6 m. It is not recommended to install the sensor into closed vessels where intensive condensation occurs. Electrically conductive liquids are sensed just by touch of the end of electrode. To react to non-conductive liquid or solid material it is necessary 5 ÷ 20% immersion into a material.

Sensor is mounted directly into a vessel, tank or open basins in vertical position by means of welding flange or fixing nut. When installed into an open basin it is necessary to ground the housing of sensor or to connect it with sensed liquid.

For this purpose it is possible to use any metallic ever immersed object (pipe, etc.).

Sensitivity characteristics

Type of sensor	Threshold sensitivity	Hysteresis	Sensitivity adjusting range	Temperature stability	Min. rel. permittivity
RLS-27_-10	0.1 pF	0.1 pF ... 2 pF	min. 8 pF (1 rev = 1 pF)	± 0.004 pF/K	1.4 ... 1.5
RLS-27_-11	0.2 pF	0.2 pF ... 4 pF	min. 20 pF (1 rev = 2 pF)	± 0.007 pF/K	5.0
RLS-27_-20	0.1 pF	0.2 pF ... 3 pF	min. 15 pF (1 rev = 1,5 pF)	± 0.006 pF/K	1.3
RLS-27_-21	0.3 pF	0.3 pF ... 6 pF	min. 30 pF (1 rev = 3 pF)	± 0.01 pF/K	4.0
RLS-27_-30	0.2 pF	0.2 pF ... 4 pF	min. 20 pF (1 rev = 2 pF)	± 0.01 pF/K	1.6
RLS-27_-31	0.3 pF	0.2 pF ... 5 pF	min. 25 pF (1 rev = 2,5 pF)	± 0.01 pF/K	5.0
RLS-27_-40	0.3 pF	0.2 pF ... 6 pF	min. 20 pF (1 rev = 2 pF)	± 0.01 pF/K	2.0

