PROVIDING **SAFETY**

WIJ BESCHERMEN uw meest belangrijke kapitaal **UW MEDEWERKERS**







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Protecting People, Protecting Productivity

US



The only range of mechanical interlocks independently certified to PLe







Fortress Interlocks designs and manufactures safety equipment, protecting lives in hazardous workplaces. Our interlocks work in sequence to ensure employees are safeguarded from dangerous machinery by eliminating the possibility of human error.

Over the last 40 years, Fortress has become well known in the industry for innovative design, robust engineering and reliability. Headquarters are in Wolverhampton (UK), with supporting offices and manufacturing facilities in the USA, Netherlands, Australia and China, further supported by a global network of trusted distributors and channel partners.

Fortress' current product portfolio includes:

- **mGard** The only range of mechanical interlocks independently certified to PLe
- m) amGardpro Heavy duty safety gate switches with connectivity and trapped key integration certified to PLe
- m amGardS40 Stainless steel IP69K safety gate switches independently certified to PLe
- **tGard** Medium duty interlocks with configurable built-in control functionality independently certified to PLd
- c ncGard A complete range of non-contact safety switches







Introduction to **Gard**

Why Interlocks?

Interlocking is a method of controlling two or more interdependent operations which must take place in a predetermined sequence, if necessary remotely controlled or time delayed. The need for this sequence may be safety to personnel and equipment, or it may be to control processes and productivity.

For Reference-

- ISO 14119 is the interlocking standard that forms part of the machinery directive.
- ISO/TS 19837:2018 is the technical specification relevant to trapped key interlocking.

Why Mechanical?

- One power isolator can be used for multiple doors through the use of a key exchange unit.
- This reduces any fault masking risks and wiring installation required.
- In addition mechanical interlocking is the only method of safeguarding solutions for multiple energy sources.
- Personnel keys can be used to prevent unexpected start up of machinery as per ISO 14118, removing the necessity for escape functions.



mGard is the only range of trapped key interlocks 3rd party approved as being capable of meeting PLe and is perfect for heavy duty applications. Fortress' **mGard** is suitable for us up to SIL3 (EN/IEC 62061), Category 4 and PLe (EN/ISO 13849-1).

Trapped key interlocking is a tried and tested method of mechanically safeguarding dangerous machines and hazardous processes. Mechanical keys eliminate most of the electrical wiring associated with other types of interlocks making it cost effective to install and maintain.



Application Requirement:

This robot welding cell's safety system must only allow operators to enter the cells when power to the cell has been isolated and the machinery has come to a controlled stop after a defined rundown time. After access, the system prevents unexpected start up when multiple operators are performing maintenance, via personnel keys.







Application Requirement:

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Industrial concrete mixers have multiple access hatches that are safeguarded by mechanical interlocks. These access hatches are opened for scheduled cleaning under the protection of the installed safety system. Access is only allowed once the power switch to the mixer has been mechanically isolated.





Access Lock no.1 Key removed, actuator locked



Key trapped, actuator removed



Access Lock no.3 Key removed, actuator locked





Application Requirement:

The double backer machines enclosed in two cells requires extensive safeguarding. A safety system for the cells should ensure operators and maintenance personnel can only enter the areas once power to all of the machinery has been isolated and has come to a controlled stop.





Valves & Pneumatic Interlocks

Fortress supplies a range of valve interlocks suitable for valve applications and for pneumatic isolation. With the incorporation of a mechanical module and key to a valve, Fortress has created a simplified solution for controlling the position of the valve and isolating the valve movement without the need of levers or hand-wheels in other forms of valve interlocking/lockout.



In this application, only one of the tanks can feed into the supply at once. The use of Valve Interlocks insures only one of the lines can be open because the two interlocks share a single key. Each valve can only be opened while a key is trapped to the locked position in the interlock.

Specials and Custom Units for Applications

Over the years, Fortress has produced many special-purpose units designed to meet the specific needs of its customers and applications within their industries. Some of these units include: standalone time delay/voltage sensing, ATEX rated switches/ solenoids and elaborate key sequencing exchange boxes. Some of these units have been added to the mGard range as their popularity in applications has grown throughout the years, but are considered non-standard or specials solutions due to the extended lead time required to design and manufacture.

Fortress has also helped customers create completely custom units that were specific to one individual application. These units were created in collaboration with engineers between both parties to better understand the needs and constraints of the application. Fortress is pleased to offer advice and assist without obligation; although a more simple solution may be proposed through standard mGard units or the other ranges Fortress has to offer.









mGard Range Card



	OORO		Power Isolation		
Control Interlocking				Power Interlocking	
Panel Mounted Key Switch(es)	Panel Mounted Weatherproof	In Enclosure	Knob Operated Switch Control Unit	Mechanical Bolt Interlock	Bolt Interlock with Limit Switch
Mini Solenoid Controlled Key Switch(es)			Key Operated Switch Control Unit	Bolt Interlock with Switch	Circuit Breakers
			Le le le le le		0
Solenoid Controlled Key Switch(es)			Electronic Time Delay Unit	Valve & Pneumatic Interlocks	
ATEX Solenoid Con	trolled Key Switch	TEX Key Switch	Voltage Sensing Unit		
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BM





Key Operated Switch







SS



Power Isolation: Control Interlocking

Mini Solenoid Controlled Key Switch





Power Isolation: Control Interlocking

Time Delay and Voltage Sensing





Solenoid Controlled Key Switch





Intermediate Transfer

Key Exchange Units





Door Locks





Keys and Accessories





Keys and Accessories



Add On Lock Module



Part Number
XMA-CLIN: Mazak Body, No Dustcover
XMA-CLIS: Mazak Body, Dustcover
XMA-CLIL: Mazak Body, Padlockable Dustcover



Stainless Steel Add On Lock Module

Part Number

XMSA-CLSS: Stainless Steel Body, Dustcover

XMSA-CLSL: Stainless Steel Body, Padlockable Dustcover





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