

Monitoring AC current on railroad crossings

APPLICATION A153

Type of Company: Railroad

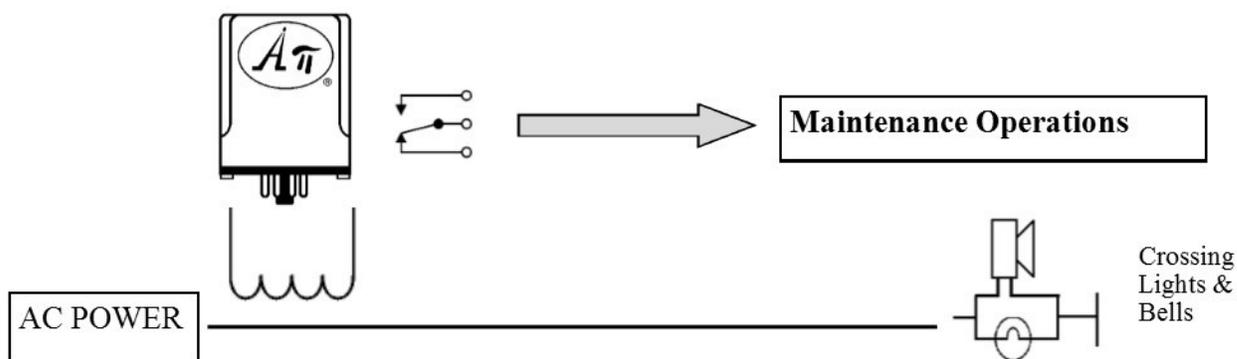
Location: Saskatchewan, Canada

In many countries, railroad crossings on less important roads and railway lines are often "open" or "uncontrolled," usually with warning lights or bells to warn of approaching trains. These ungated crossings represent a safety concern and many accidents have occurred due to failure to notice or obey the warning. Crossings with crossing bells, lights, and/or gates greatly reduce accidents. Approximately 30 seconds before arriving at the crossing, the train trips a track circuit near the crossing, triggering these notifications.



The Engineering Issue

- The engineer has a requirement to monitor the current flowing thru the flashing lights to ensure proper operation in several remote locations.
- If the flashing lights are not operating properly, the maintenance operation center must send someone to repair the system.



The engineer used an API 1600 G. The unit's low alarm was used to notify the maintenance operations center that the light circuitry is not drawing enough current for proper operation. This solution allowed the operation center to reduce maintenance costs by only sending out a crew when necessary.

Problem. Solved.

