



Checks to be carried out on receipt of the actuator

1. If the actuator arrives already assembled onto the valve, the setting of the mechanical stops and of the electric limit switches (if existing) has already been made by the person who assembled the actuator onto the valve. If the actuator arrives separately from the valve, the setting of the mechanical stops and of the electric limit switches (if existing) must be checked and, if necessary, carried out while assembling the actuator onto the valve.
2. Check that the actuator has not been damaged during transport. If necessary, repair all damages to the paint-coat, etc.
3. Check that the model, the serial number of the actuator and the performance data written on the data-plate are in accordance with those described on the order acknowledgement, test certificate and delivery note.
4. Check that the fitted accessories comply with those listed in the order acknowledgement and the delivery note.

Storage

The actuators leave the factory in excellent working conditions and with an excellent finish (these conditions are guaranteed by an individual inspection certificate); in order to maintain these characteristics until the actuator is installed on the plant, it is necessary to observe a few rules and take appropriate measures during the storage period.

1. Make sure that plugs are fitted in the oil connections and in the cable entries. The plastic plugs which close the inlets do not have a weatherproof function, but are only a means of protection against the entry of foreign matter during transport. If long-term storage is necessary and especially if the storage is outdoor, the plastic protection plugs must be replaced by metal plugs, which guarantee a complete weatherproof protection.
2. If the actuators are supplied separately from the valves, they must be placed onto a wooden pallet so as not to damage the coupling flange to the valve. In case of long-term storage, the coupling parts (flange, drive sleeve, insert bush) must be coated with protective oil or grease. If possible, blank off the flange by a protection disk.
3. In case of long-term storage, it is advisable to keep the actuators in a dry place or to provide at least some

means of weather protection. If a hydraulic control unit is present on the actuator, it is advisable, if possible, to periodically operate the actuator with filtered proper oil. After such operations all the threaded connections of the control unit should be carefully plugged by keeping the valves of the unit filled with as much oil as possible.

Assembling the actuator onto the valve

The actuator can be assembled onto the valve flange either by using the actuator housing flange with threaded holes, or by the interposition of an adaptor flange or a spool piece. The actuator drive sleeve is generally connected to the valve stem by an insert bush or a stem extension. The assembly position of the actuator, with reference to the valve, must comply with the plant requirements (cylinder axis parallel or perpendicular to the pipeline axis). To assemble the actuator onto the valve proceed as follows:

1. check that the coupling dimensions of the valve flange and stem, or of the relevant extension, meet the actuator coupling dimensions
2. bring the valve to the position related to the actuator spring operation
3. lubricate the valve stem with oil or grease in order to make the assembly easier. Be careful not to pour any of it onto the flange
4. clean the valve flange and remove anything that might prevent a perfect adherence to the actuator flange and especially all traces of grease, since the torque is transmitted by friction
5. if an insert bush or stem extension for the connection to the valve stem is supplied separately, assemble it onto the valve stem and fasten it by tightening the proper stop dowels
6. bring the actuator to the position caused by the spring operation
7. connect a sling to the support points of the actuator and lift it: make sure the sling is suitable for the actuator weight. When possible, it is easier to assemble the actuator to the valve if the valve stem is in the vertical position. In this case the actuator must be lifted while keeping the flange in the horizontal position
8. clean the actuator flange and remove anything that might prevent a perfect adherence to the valve flange and especially all traces of grease
9. lower the actuator onto the valve in such a way that the insert bush, assembled on the valve stem, enters the actuator drive sleeve. This coupling must take place without

forcing and only with the weight of the actuator. When the insert bush has entered the actuator drive sleeve, check the holes of the valve flange. If they do not meet with the holes of the actuator flange or the stud bolts screwed into them, the actuator drive sleeve must be rotated; feed the actuator cylinder with oil at the proper pressure, until coupling is possible

10. tighten the nuts of the connecting stud bolts evenly with the torque prescribed in the table.

The stud bolts must be made of ASTM A320 L 7 steel, the nuts must be made of ASTM A194 grade 2 steel

Thread size	Recommended tightening torque (Nm)
M 8	20
M10	40
M12	70
M14	110
M16	160
M20	320
M22	420
M24	550
M27	800
M30	1100
M33	1400
M36	1700

11. if possible, operate the actuator to check that it moves the valve smoothly.

Setting of the angular stroke

It is important that the mechanical stops of the actuator (and not those of the valve) stop the angular stroke at both extreme valve positions (fully open and fully closed), except when this is required by the valve operation (e.g. metal seated butterfly valves).

The setting of the open valve position is performed by adjusting the travel stop screw on the left side of the actuator (screwed into the end flange either of the spring container for spring to close actuators, or of the hydraulic cylinder for spring to open actuators).

The setting of the closed valve position is performed by adjusting the travel stop screw which is on the right side of the actuator (screwed into the end flange either of the hydraulic cylinder for spring to close actuators or of the spring container for spring to open actuators).

For the adjustment of the travel stop screw in the end flange of the hydraulic cylinder proceed as follows:

- unscrew the plug from the cylinder end flange
- if the actuator angular stroke is stopped before reaching the end position (fully open or closed), unscrew the stop screw by turning it anticlockwise with

- an Allen wrench until the valve reaches the correct position
- if the actuator angular stroke is stopped beyond the end position (fully open or closed), screw the stop screw by turning it clockwise until the valve reaches the correct position
- screw the plug into the cylinder end flange.

For the adjustment of the travel stop screw in the end flange of the spring container proceed as follows:

- loosen the lock nut
- if the actuator angular stroke is stopped before reaching the end position (fully open or closed), unscrew the stop screw by turning it anticlockwise until the valve reaches the correct position
- if the actuator angular stroke is stopped beyond the end position (fully open or closed), screw the stop screw by turning it clockwise until the valve reaches the correct position
- tighten the lock nut.

Preparation for start-up

1. Hydraulic connections

Connect the actuator to the oil feed and return lines with fittings and pipes in accordance to the plant specifications. They must be sized correctly in order to guarantee the necessary oil flow for the operation of the actuator, with pressure drops not exceeding the maximum allowable value. The shape of the connecting piping must not cause excessive stress to the inlets of the actuator. The piping must be suitably fastened so as not to cause excessive stress or loosening of threaded connections, if the system undergoes strong vibrations. Every precaution must be taken to ensure that any contaminants which may be present in the hydraulic pipework to the actuator are removed to avoid possible damages to the unit or loss of performance. The inside of the pipes used for the connections must be well cleaned before use: wash them with suitable substances and blow through them with air or nitrogen. The ends of the tubes must be well deburred and cleaned. Once the connections are completed, operate the actuator and check that it functions correctly, that the operation times meet the plant requirements and that there are no leakages in the hydraulic connections.

2. Electrical connections

Connect the electrical feed, control and signal lines to the actuator, by linking them up with the terminal blocks of the electrical components. In order to do

this, the housing covers must be removed without damaging the coupling surfaces, the O-rings or the gaskets. Remove the plugs from the cable entries.

For electrical connections use components (cable glands, cables, hoses, conduits) which meet the requirements and codes applicable to the plant specifications (mechanical protection and/or explosionproof protection). Screw the cable glands tightly into the threaded inlets, so as to guarantee the weatherproof and explosionproof protection (when applicable). Insert the connection cables into the electrical enclosures through the cable glands, and connect the cable wires to the terminals according to the applicable wiring diagram. If conduits are used, it is advisable to carry out the connection to the electrical enclosures by inserting hoses so as not to cause any anomalous stress on the housing cable entries. Replace the plastic plugs of the unused enclosure entries by metal ones, to guarantee perfect weatherproof tightness and to comply with the explosionproof protection codes (where applicable).

Once the connections are completed, check that the controls and signals work properly.

Start-up

During the start-up of the actuator, proceed as follows:

- check that the pressure and quality of the oil supply (type, filtering degree) are as prescribed. Check that the feed voltage values of the electrical components (solenoid valve coils, microswitches, pressure switches, etc.) are as prescribed
- check that the actuator controls work properly (remote control, local control, emergency controls, etc.)
- check that the required remote signals (valve position, oil pressure, etc.) are correct
- check that the setting of the components of the actuator control unit (pressure switches, flow control valves, etc.) meet the plant requirements
- check that there are no leakages in the hydraulic connections. If necessary tighten the nuts of the pipe fittings
- remove all rust and, in accordance with the applicable painting specifications, repair the paint-coat that has been damaged during transport, storage or assembly.

Maintenance

Important: before carrying out any maintenance operation, it is necessary to close the oil supply line and relieve the pressure from the actuator cylinder and from the control unit, to ensure the safety of maintenance staff.

a. Routine maintenance

OLGAS-H actuators have been designed to work for long periods in the severest conditions with no need for maintenance. It is, however, advisable to periodically check the actuator as follows:

- check that the actuator operates the valve correctly and with the required operating times. If the actuator operation is very infrequent, carry out a few opening and closing operations with all the existing controls (remote, local, emergency controls, etc.), if this is allowed by the plant conditions
- check that the signals to the remote control desk are correct
- check that the oil supply pressure value is within the required range
- if there is an oil filter on the actuator, disassemble the cup and wash it; disassemble the filter: if it is a cleanable type (metal fibre or wire mesh element), wash it with nitrate solvent and blow through it with air. If the filter is a throw-away type (element based on inorganic fibres or polyester or paper) it must be replaced when clogged
- check that the external components of the actuator are in good conditions
- check all the paint-coat of the actuator. If some areas are damaged, repair the paint-coat according to the applicable specification
- check that there are no leakages in the hydraulic connections. If necessary tighten the nuts of the pipe fittings.

b. Special maintenance

If there are oil leaks through the seals or a malfunction in the mechanical components, or in case of scheduled preventive maintenance, the actuator must be disassembled and seals must be replaced with reference to the attached sectional drawing and adopting the following procedures:

b1. Replacement of cylinder seals (see sectional drawing)

Disassembly:

- unscrew the plug (27) from the cylinder end flange
- measure the distance of the stop screw (21) with reference to the end flange (26) surface so as to be able to easily restore the setting of the actuator mechanical stop, once the maintenance procedures have been completed

- unscrew the stop screw (21) by turning it anticlockwise with an Allen wrench until the screw is completely withdrawn inside the end flange threaded hole
- unscrew the nuts (28) from the tie rods (19): they must be gradually unscrewed all at the same time
- slide off the end flange (26) and the tube (22)
- if the actuator control unit requires the cylinder chamber head flange side to be also filled with oil, and the piston rod seal rings (51) to be replaced, remove the screws (36) and the cover (35). Unscrew the piston rod (18) threaded end from the adaptor bush (33) of the guide block (14). Slide off the piston rod (18) from the head flange (34)
- disassemble the head flange (34) from the mechanism housing (8) by removing the screws (17) only if the gaskets (46) and (48) have to be replaced because damaged.

Seals replacement

Prior to reassembly check that the actuator components are in good condition and clean. Lubricate all the surfaces of the parts which move in contact with other components by a recommended grease (see paragraph b2). If the O-ring must be replaced, remove the existing one from its groove, clean the groove carefully and lubricate it with a protective oil or grease film. Assemble the new O-ring into its groove and lubricate it with a protective oil or grease film.

- Replace the O-ring (50) and the back-up ring (49) of the head flange (34).
- Replace the O-ring (50) and the back-up ring (49) of the end flange (26).

To replace the piston rod seal rings (51) proceed as follows:

- remove the existing teflon seal ring (51) with its O-ring from their groove
- clean the groove carefully and lubricate it with a protective oil or grease film
- assemble the new O-ring into its groove and lubricate it with a protective oil or grease film
- assemble the new teflon seal ring (51) into the flange groove, inside its rubber O-ring, by bending it: take care that the bending radius is as large as possible to avoid damaging the seal. Then enlarge the seal ring with your fingers so as to restore its round shape: pay attention not to utilise any tools which can damage the seal ring.

To replace the piston seal ring (53) proceed as follows:

- remove the existing teflon seal ring (53) and its O-ring from their groove

- clean the groove carefully and lubricate it with a protective oil or grease film
- assemble the new O-ring into its groove and lubricate it with a protective oil or grease film
- assemble the new teflon seal ring (53) on its rubber O-ring by introducing one side of it into the groove, then enlarge it with your fingers so as to fit it into the groove: take care to enlarge it uniformly without any tools which could possibly damage it. The elastic memory of the kind of teflon the seal ring is made of allows the ring to shrink back to its previous dimension after a short time.

Reassembly:

- assemble the new gaskets (46) and (48) after cleaning the surfaces of housing (8), the flange (47) and the head flange (34), which are in contact
- assemble the head flange (34) and tighten the screws (17) to the recommended torque (see table)
- clean and lubricate the piston rod (18) surface, particularly that of the bevel, with a protective oil or grease film and introduce it into the head flange hole, taking care not to damage the teflon seal rings (51): the piston rod bevel has to smoothly enlarge the seal rings
- carefully clean the threaded end of the piston rod (18) and the threaded hole of the adaptor bush (33) of the guide block (14). Spread some sealant LOCTITE 542, or equivalent, on the rod threaded end and screw it into the adaptor bush (33) threaded hole, then tighten
- carefully clean the inside of the tube (22) and check that the entire surface, particularly that of the bevels, is not damaged. Lubricate with a protective oil or grease film the tube internal surface and the bevels at the ends. Slide the tube onto the piston taking care not to damage the teflon seal ring (53): the tube bevel has to smoothly compress the seal ring; take care also not to damage the head flange O-ring (50)
- assemble the end flange (26) by centring it on the inside diameter of the tube, taking care not to damage the O-ring (50)
- assemble the nuts (28) onto the tie rods (19). Tighten the nuts alternating between opposite corners to the recommended torque (see table)
- restore a generous coating of grease on the contact surfaces of the yoke (11) and the bushings (41), on the yoke grooves, on the sliding blocks (39), on guide bar (9)
- assemble the new gasket (10) after cleaning the surfaces of the housing (8) and cover (35)
- lubricate the O-ring (40) with protective

- oil or grease
- assemble the cover (35) and the screws (36). Tighten the screws to the recommended torque
- screw the stop screw (21) by turning it clockwise with an Allen wrench until it reaches its original position (the same distance with reference to the end flange surface)
- screw the plug (27) into the cylinder end flange
- carry out a few actuator operations to check that movement is regular and that there is no oil leakage through the seals.

b2. Lubrication of mechanism

For normal duty the scotch yoke mechanism of the actuator is lubricated "for life". In case of high load and high frequency of operation it may be necessary to periodically restore lubrication: it is advisable to apply a generous coating of grease on the contact surfaces of the yoke and bushings, on the yoke link grooves, on the sliding blocks, on the guide bar. For this operation it is necessary to disassemble the mechanism cover. In larger actuators the lubrication can be performed through the inspection holes of the cover after removing the plugs.

The following grease is used by BIFFI for standard working temperature and suggested for relubrication:

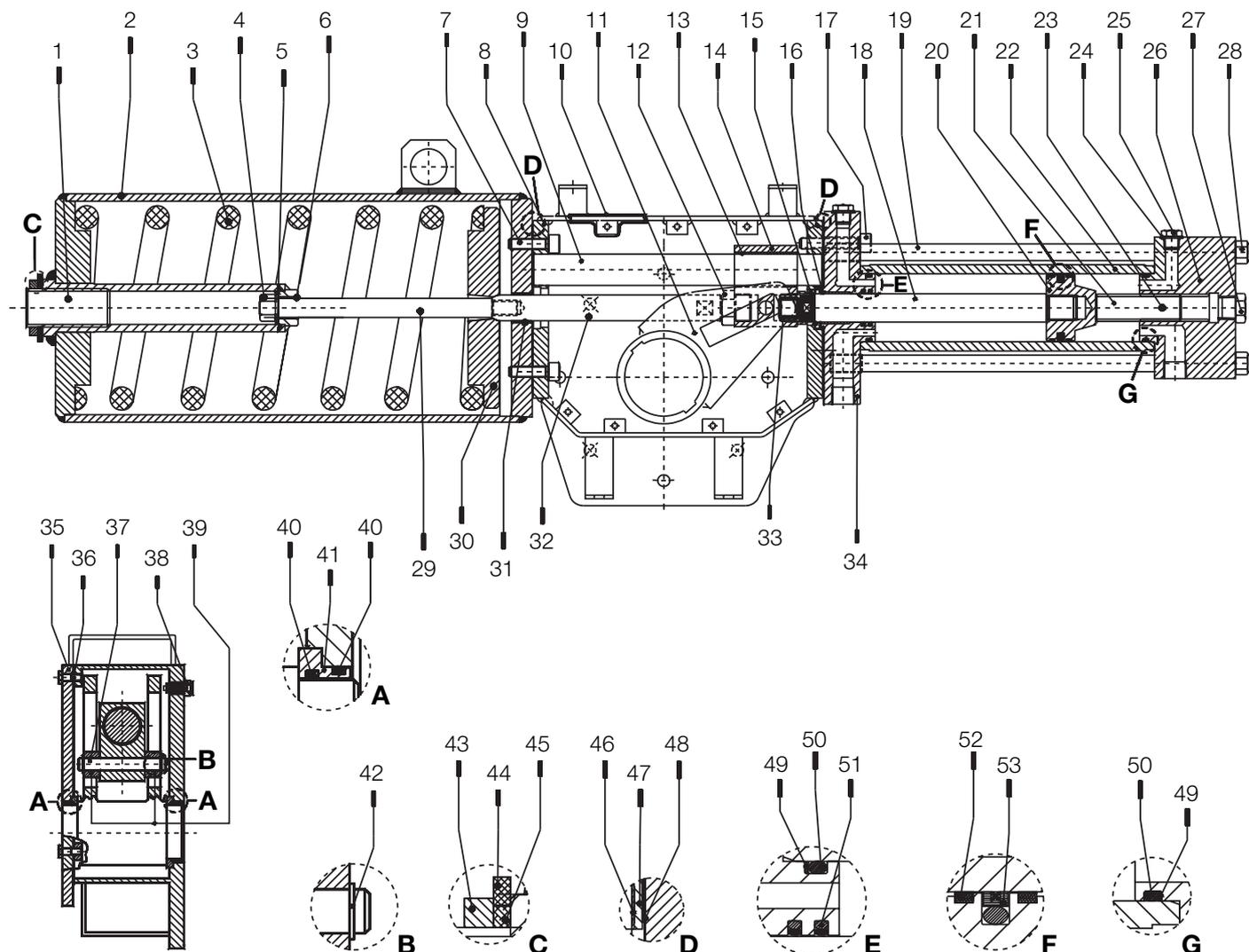
Manufacturer	: AGIP
Type	: GR MU/EPI
NLGI grade	: 1
Worked penetration (dmm)	: 325
Drop point ASTM (°C)	: 185
ISO grade	: X1
Equivalent greases:	
	ESSO BEACON EP1
	BP LTX 1
	SHELL ALVANIA GREASE R1

For special working conditions and for working temperatures beyond the standard range consult BIFFI.

After maintenance operations carry out a few actuator operations to check that movement is regular and that there is no oil leakage through the seals.

OLGAS-H High Pressure Hydraulic Actuator

instruction and operating manual



OLGAS-H high pressure hydraulic actuator

Item	Name	Item	Name	Item	Name
1.	Stop setting screw	19.	Tie rod	37.	Guide block pin
2.	Spring container	20.	Piston	38.	Vent valve
3.	Spring	21.	Stop setting screw	39.	Sliding block
4.	Nut	22.	Cylinder tube	40.	O-ring
5.	Shoulder washer	23.	Friction bar	41.	Yoke bushing
6.	Rod bushing	24.	Washer	42.	Retainer ring
7.	Screw	25.	Plug	43.	Nut
8.	Housing	26.	End flange	44.	Washer
9.	Guide bar	27.	Plug	45.	Sealing washer
10.	Cover gasket	28.	Nut	46.	Gasket
11.	Yoke	29.	Guide rod	47.	Flange
12.	Plug	30.	Spring thrust flange	48.	Gasket
13.	Bushing	31.	Rod bushing	49.	Back-up ring
14.	Guide block	32.	Container rod	50.	O-ring
15.	Washer	33.	Adaptor bush	51.	Piston rod seal ring
16.	Piston rod bushing	34.	Head flange	52.	Guide sliding ring for piston
17.	Screw	35.	Cover	53.	Piston seal ring
18.	Piston rod	36.	Screw		